Moray Economic Strategy Inward Investment and Business Growth Group meeting 31st October 2014, 2.30pm Board Room, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) Moray, Forres

Meeting note

Attendees	David Oxley (DO), Steven Hutcheon (SH) and Nicole Green (NG) – HIE; Gordon Sutherland (GS) and Jim Grant (JG) – Moray Council; Mike Ramsay (MR) – Scotland Electronics International Limited; Giles Hamilton (GH) – Accunostics; James Johnston (JJ) – Moray Strategic Business Forum.
Apologies	Andrew Anderson (AA) – HIE; Cllr Douglas Ross (DR) – Moray Council.

1) Update on Spaceport proposition

Timescales look to be changing with the bidding process now likely to begin in January 2015.

Consultants being re-commissioned next week, by Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE), to look at stakeholder engagement for all four sites in the HIE area, developing a regional proposition. From this, the MEP can form a supportive local proposition.

The need for an engagement / communications strategy was stressed and various UK and Scottish press contacts discussed. GS to invite DO to scheduled catch up meeting with Platform PR, to discuss. Suggestion made to possibly have a speaker attend Moray Business Week. Engagement with Kinloss and Findhorn Community Council should begin soon, with Forres Community Council to follow. DO meeting with Angus Robertson MP and Richard Lochhead MSP at the end of November.

Input from other groups within the Moray Economic Strategy to be encouraged. DO to attend group meetings where possible to discuss. JJ and/or GS to update Programme Managers at the Programme Managers meeting on the 20th of November.

Next steps for the group – start developing a local communications and engagement plan. Push forward with press contacts.

2) Date of next meeting

Week commencing 10th November, to discuss local communications and engagement plan.