

ENTERPRISE IN MANN LIMITED

Charity Needs Your Support

Press Release – 4 December '98

Since its foundation 12 years ago, Enterprise in Mann ("EIM") has helped some 300 new business start-ups. Over 95% of these new businesses have been successful. These businesses bring economic benefit to the Isle of Man in two very important ways. First, they now employ more than 1,000 people and, second, some of them generate external income for the Island through exports. But now, EIM needs help from others.

EIM offers initial counseling as well as practical help and training to budding entrepreneurs, and gives support to existing small businesses. It helps applicants define a product or service and analyse market potential, prepare a business plan, find suitable premises and arrange appropriate financing. It can also assist with patent applications and other official matters, if necessary. Over the years, EIM has helped over 1050 existing and potential new businesses. Of the 800 or more new business opportunities it has reviewed, over one third were helped to commence trading, and it is these that now employ more than 1000 people here on the Island.

Staffed entirely by volunteer advisors, each with many years' senior management, business and manufacturing experience, EIM is a registered charity and depends entirely on donations and sponsorship for its funding. Without this support, EIM could not provide the level of service it has offered, for free, over the years. In the past, its sponsors have provided financial and other resources. For instance, over recent years, its premises have been kindly made available by the Water Authority, whilst much of its working capital has been funded by the financial community.

Now, however, due to growing space requirements at the Drill Hall site, EIM will shortly be without a home. It needs only 350-500sq.ft. of reasonable office accommodation in Douglas (for access) to be able to continue to operate (although it will go into "deep freeze" over the holiday season). It would also welcome offers of additional financial support from new (and existing) sponsors. If you might be able to help, please contact Pat Windle at EIM on 626 393 as soon as possible.

3 December, 1998 - GJ