

April 2006

## **Rebecca O'Brien appointed to the board of the UK Film Council**

James Purnell, Minister for Creative Industries and Tourism, announced today that Rebecca O'Brien has been appointed to the board of the UK Film Council. Her term of appointment will run for four years from 3 April 2006.

### **Biographical Notes**

Rebecca is an independent film producer with over 20 years of experience. Rebecca has produced several films directed by Ken Loach including 'Sweet Sixteen', 'My Name is Joe', and 'Land and Freedom' which was European Film of the Year in 1995. She is currently producing 'The Wind that Shakes the Barley' which is due for release in 2006. Rebecca also produced the Working Title production 'Bean'. She has also worked on a number of documentary projects including 'Dispatches – The Doughty Street Papers', and Ken Loach's documentary 'The Flickering Flame'. She produced 'Princesa' with Brazilian director, Henrique Goldman. Prior to being a producer Rebecca worked as a production manager and as a location manager.

Rebecca holds no other public appointments and has not undertaken any political activity in the last five years.

### **Background**

1. The UK Film Council is the lead agency for film in the UK ensuring that the economic, cultural and educational aspects of film are effectively represented at home and abroad. It invests Government grant-in-aid and Lottery money in film development and production; distribution and exhibition; training and skills; life-long learning; and cinema heritage. It is Chaired by Stewart Till CBE.
2. The appointments do not attract remuneration but board members may claim reasonable travel and subsistence.
3. The appointments process was carried out in accordance with the Code of Practice of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.