

3 October 2005

Extension of Peter Dean's term of office as Chairman of the Gambling Commission, and appointment of Jenny Williams as a Commissioner

The Rt Hon Richard Caborn, Minister for Sport, announces today the extension of Peter Dean's chairmanship until 31 December 2007, to continue to lead the transition from the Gaming Board for Great Britain to a fully operational Gambling Commission by September 2007. At the same time Jenny Williams, the Chief Executive of the new body, has been appointed a Commissioner for a term of five years from 1 October 2005.

Biographical notes:

Peter Dean CBE joined the Gaming Board in 1998. He was Deputy Chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission from 1990 to 1997, and from 1996 to 2001 served as the Investment Ombudsman appointed by the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (IMRO) to handle complaints against IMRO-regulated companies. Before that he was an Executive Director of Rio Tinto plc for over 10 years. He has a legal background. Mr Dean is a former Chairman of the International Association of Gaming Regulators.

Jenny Williams became the Chief Executive of the Gaming Board with effect from November 2004. She is a Non-executive Director of Northumbrian Water Group plc. She was previously a Director General and board member at the Lord Chancellor's Department (now the Department for Constitutional Affairs). Before that she held a variety of policy and project management posts as a senior civil servant in the Inland Revenue, the Departments of Environment and Transport, and the Home Office.

Neither has undertaken any political activity in the last five years.

Note for editors:

The Gambling Commission was established on 1st October 2005 under the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 as an independent regulator for all commercial gambling in Great Britain. When fully implemented by September 2007, the Act will replace most existing gambling law and put in its place an improved, modern and more comprehensive structure of gambling regulation. The Commission covers the whole industry (except National Lottery and spread betting) and has taken over all the former responsibilities of the Gaming Board for Great Britain as well as assuming new responsibilities for regulating betting and remote gambling. The Gambling Commission is an NDPB, but from early 2007 it will mainly be funded through licence fees plus some grant-in-aid from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Commissioners are appointed by the Secretary of State. The current remuneration is £58,472 per annum for the Chairman's role, for which the time commitment is expected to be four days per week on average. The Commissioner role carries no remuneration beyond the Chief Executive's normal salary.

The current Gambling Commission board members are:

Peter Dean (Chair)
Robert Lockwood JP
Gill Milburn JP
Ben Gunn CBE QPM

Roy Penrose OBE QPM
Michael Steen
Eve Salomon
William Knight

Press Enquiries: 0207 211 6269

Out of hours telephone pager no: 07699751153

Public Enquiries: 020 7211 6200

Internet: <http://www.culture.gov.uk>