

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LIBRARIES

DCMS Ministers have reappointed Catherine Blanshard, Jane Hall, Patsy Heap, Peter Marchant, Martin Molloy and Pam Usher to the Advisory Council on Libraries until 31 July 2005.

#### Background

1. The ACL is the Secretary of State's statutory advisory body on library matters. Appointments to the ACL are made by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport under the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964.
2. None of the above posts are remunerated.
3. These appointments have been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice.

#### Biographical Details

**Catherine Blanshard** is Leeds City Council's Head of Library and Information Services. She is responsible for the overall leadership of this Service which covers 56 public libraries and other library facilities and services. Previously she was at Hertfordshire County Council, most recently as its Assistant Director (Development). Amongst her professional activities, Ms Blanshard is President of the Society of Chief Librarians.

**Jane Hall** is Sunderland City Council's Assistant Head of Culture and Tourism with responsibility for libraries, heritage and information. She was formerly Sunderland's Head of Libraries, Arts and Information. Ms Hall's professional activities include being immediate past Chair of the North East Chartered Institute of Librarians and Information Professionals and Vice-Chair to the Northern Chief Librarians. Her interests include the role libraries play in the learning agenda and the importance of staff development.

**Patsy Heap** is the Head of Birmingham Libraries' Children's, Youth and Education Library Services. Her responsibilities include the Centre for the Child, the Childcare Information Bureau, the Schools Library Service and the delivery of services to children and young people through 40 Community Libraries. Ms Heap's professional activities have included being Chair of the Association of Senior Children's and Education Librarians, and President of CILIP's Career Development Group.

**Peter Marchant** is Head of Libraries with Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council. His interests include the creation of electronic services best able to meet the requirements of the local community, including helping engage excluded young people, increasing educational attainment, and assisting people back into employment. Mr Marchant was formerly Senior Librarian with Oxfordshire County Council. His professional activities include being Secretary of the North-West branch of the Society of Chief Librarians.

**Martin Molloy OBE** is Director of Cultural and Community Services at Derbyshire County Council. He is responsible for the County's archives, arts museums Trading Standards service and nearly 60 static and mobile libraries. Previously Derbyshire's Principal Assistant County Librarian, Mr Molloy senior professional appointments include the past Presidency of the SCL. He is President elect of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) and Chair of the Board of the Reading Agency.

**Pam Usher** is the Head of the London Borough of Barnet's Cultural Services. Within her portfolio she has responsibility for Barnet's public libraries, arts service, museums, local studies, archives and leisure services, encompassing over 200 staff. Mrs Usher was previously Divisional Librarian at the London Borough of Ealing. Amongst other professional activities, Mrs Usher is a member of Association of London Chief Librarians having served formerly as its President and as an Executive Committee member.