

BIG LOTTERY FUND: APPOINTMENT OF UK CHAIR

The Secretary of State has today announced that Sir Clive Booth will be the Chair of the new Big Lottery Fund Board, which is being created following the passage of the National Lottery Act 2006. Sir Clive will take up the new position when the Big Lottery Fund Board is formally established later this year for a period of four years. In the meantime, he will continue to Chair the coterminous New Opportunities Fund and Community Fund Boards.

Biographical Notes

Sir Clive Booth is the Chair of the coterminous New Opportunities Fund and Community Fund Boards since June 2004. Sir Clive is also the Chair of Centrex, the Central Police Training and Development Authority and the Chair of the South East Regional Delivery Board of the National Offender Management Service.

Sir Clive's previous appointments include: Chair of the Teacher Training Agency; Deputy Chair of South East of England Development Agency; Director and then Vice-Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University following a background in the Civil Service.

Background

The Big Lottery Fund is a new National Lottery distributor, committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need, created through an administrative merger of two existing Lottery Distributors, the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund. The administrative merger has been completed and Parliament is currently considering legislation to set up the Big Lottery Fund as a statutory Non-Departmental Public Body (as the two existing Lottery distributors are).

Between them, the two existing distributors have made Lottery awards of over £6 billion, money that has helped change the lives of disadvantaged and socially excluded people throughout the UK. The Big Lottery Fund will allocate funds of some £2.3 billion between now and 2009, approximately £600 million a year, to its new funding programmes which have all been announced in the four countries of the UK, as have the UK-wide programmes. At present, the sole source of income for the Big Lottery Fund is its share of good cause proceeds from the National Lottery.