

January 2007

CULTURE WEST MIDLANDS - CHAIR REAPPOINTMENT

David Lammy MP, Minister for Culture has reappointed **Brian Woods-Scawen** as Chair of Culture West Midlands, the Cultural Consortium for the West Midlands region, for a second term of four years from 9th January 2007 to 8th January 2011.

Brian Woods-Scawen is Chairman of the West Bromwich Building Society and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. He is also a member of the Committee on Standards in Public Life and a Non-Executive Board Member at the Department of Trade and Industry and Government Office for the West Midlands, where he has particular responsibility for corporate governance. He was formerly Chairman of the PricewaterhouseCoopers Supervisory Board and chaired Birmingham's bid to be European Capital of Culture. He was awarded honorary Doctorates by the Universities of Birmingham and Central England and received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales for his contribution to business and public life in the West Midlands.

Brian has undertaken no political activity in the past five years.

Notes to Editors:

1. In 1999 the Department for Culture, Media and Sport established a Regional Cultural Consortium in each of the English regions outside London to champion the whole spectrum of cultural and creative interests in the regions, including tourism and sport.
2. The consortiums have responsibility for implementing their regional cultural strategy and have a role in central policy making, regional data collection and research. In October 2004 the Consortiums changed from being advisory bodies to executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPB's).
3. Brian Woods-Scawen's first term as Chair of the board ran from 9th January 2003 to 8th January 2007.
4. This reappointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.