



January 2007

Dr Catherine Johns is reappointed as a member of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art & Objects of Cultural Interest

David Lammy, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Dr Catherine Johns is reappointed as a member of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art & Objects of Cultural Interest. Her term of appointment will run from 18 February 2007 to 17 February 2011.

Biographical notes

Dr Johns served as a curator in the Roman Britain section of the Prehistoric and Romano-British Department, British Museum from 1967 to 2002. Previous academic posts include Academic Assistant in the Rheinisches Landesmuseum, Bonn, Germany, and in the Department of Archaeology, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff (1962 to 1967). She has taught on the Oxford University Department of Continuing Education/ Open University Diploma course in British Archaeology, and regularly lectured on the Sotheby's Institute course on the history and design of jewellery. She has served as a member of the Board of Directors of British Museum Publications Ltd, in the role of staff representative, and has been involved in a number of internal British Museum committees. She has been a Trustee on the Roman Research trust, a small independent grant-giving body. She is the author of several books and numerous papers in learned journals. Dr Johns has not undertaken any political activity in the past five years.

Background

The Reviewing Committee is a non statutory, independent advisory body whose main role is to advise the Secretary of State whether a cultural object which is the subject of an export licence is of national importance under the 'Waverley criteria' which cover its i) connection to the UK's history and national life, ii) outstanding aesthetic importance, and iii) outstanding significance for the study of some branch of art, learning or history.

If the Committee finds that an item meets at least one of the Waverley criteria, it will recommend that the Secretary of State defers a decision on the export licence for a specified period in order to provide UK institutions and private individuals with a chance to raise the money to purchase it to enable it to remain in this country.

The RCEWA members give their services on an honorary basis but reasonable expenses are reimbursed.



department for
culture, media
and sport

This reappointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Reappointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.