

CULTURE EAST MIDLANDS – CHAIR APPOINTMENT

Patricia Coleman has been appointed as Chair of Culture East Midlands. Her term of appointment will run from 16 July 2007 to 15 July 2011.

Patricia Coleman is a senior manager and consultant who has acted as a conference speaker, writer, adviser to government ministers and the local government for many years. Currently she is a consultant, mainly to local authorities, where she is involved in supporting improvement programmes in poorly performing organisations, leadership development and peer review. She worked with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to support and monitor progress on improving performance in local authorities. Previously, she was Regional Associate Director, Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government where she established a programme of peer support for under performing local authorities. Before that, she was Deputy Chief Executive of Manchester City Council responsible for a budget of 450 million and 25000 employees, and Director of Library Services at Birmingham City Council. Patricia was a member of the Art Council's Literature Panel and president/chair of many professional associations including the Federation of Local Authority Chief Librarians. She has been a trustee of Leadmill Arts Centre in Sheffield and of the Progress Trust in Manchester

Patricia has undertaken no political activity in the past 5 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 are strategic bodies working in partnership across their regions to champion the cultural sector and help improve the delivery of cultural services. In October 2004 the Consortiums changed from being advisory bodies to executive Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPB's).
3. Culture East Midlands represents and engages a broad cross section of interests covered by the DCMS, including: the arts, sport, physical activity, leisure and recreation, tourism, creative and cultural industries, film and media, heritage, museums, galleries and libraries and archives. Culture East Midlands aims to ensure that culture plays a central role in regional development, and is built on a partnership of DCMS sponsor bodies and other regional interests.
4. This appointment 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.