

July 2009

Sir Moir Lockhead OBE re-appointed as Board Member of VisitBritain

Barbara Follett, the Minister for Tourism, has re-appointed Sir Moir Lockhead OBE to the board of VisitBritain. His appointment is for the four years from 11 July 2009 to 10 July 2013.

Sir Moir Lockhead OBE

Sir Moir is Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive of FirstGroup plc, and was Chairman of Scottish Enterprise Grampian from 1998 to 2001. He was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 1996, and received a knighthood in 2008. Moir is a past President of the Confederation of Passenger Transport. He was first appointed to the Board of VisitBritain in July 2005. He holds no other public appointments.

Background

VisitBritain was created on 1 April 2003 by the merger of functions of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourism Council. It promotes Britain to new and existing markets as a tourist and business destination, capitalising on opportunities such as the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012. It works in close partnership with VisitEngland, which became a separate body in April 2009. VisitBritain also provides advice to Government on matters affecting tourism, and builds partnerships with the private sector and the Devolved Administrations, local government, and national and regional tourist organisations.

Appointments and re-appointments to the Board of VisitBritain are made by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, and follow the OCPA Code of Practice. Board members receive £9435 per year, on the basis that they will devote approximately two days per month to the task. All public appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for defined political activity in the last five years (if any declared) to be made public. Sir Moir has declared no such political activity.