



June 2007

### **Mr Chris Wilkinson is appointed as an English Heritage Commissioner**

David Lammy, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Mr Chris Wilkinson has been appointed as a Commissioner of English Heritage. His term of appointment will run from 9<sup>th</sup> July 2007 to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

### **Biographical notes**

Chris Wilkinson is a principal of Wilkinson Eyre Architects, which he founded in 1983 and has nurtured to become one of the UK's leading architectural practices. Chris was awarded the OBE in the Millennium Honours for services to Architecture, elected to the Royal Academy in 2006 and made an Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 2007. He was voted Designer of the Year by FX Magazine in 2001 and by the CSD and Design Council in 1996. He has been a member of the English Heritage/CABE Urban Panel since 2000, a chairman of the Southwark Design Review Panel since 2006, served on the RIBA Honours Panel in 2005 and 2006 and on the Architecture Panel of the Royal Academy since 2006. His practice has won over 120 national and international design awards including the RIBA Stirling Prize for two consecutive years in 2001 and 2002, the Royal Fine Art Commission Trust Building of the Year Award in 2002 and Germany's Balthasar Neumann Preis in 2004. His work has been extensively published and exhibited around the world, the best known projects being Stratford Regional Station, Gateshead Millennium Bridge, Explore @ Bristol, the National Waterfront Museum in Swansea and the King's Waterfront Arena and Conference Centre for Liverpool's European City of Culture celebrations in 2008.

### **Background**

English Heritage was set up by the National Heritage Act 1983. It is an executive non-departmental body with a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). It is the Government's statutory adviser on the Historic Environment. Its role is to champion and care for the Historic Environment.

It receives around 75% of its funding from DCMS (£129 million in 2005/06) and the remainder (£34 million) is self-generated from commercial activity, grants, and fund-raising. Grants totalling £35 million are disbursed under various grant schemes. Its operations bring it into regular contact with other Government Departments, principally the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, who are co-signatories to the Funding Agreement.

This post attracts a basic remuneration of £3,950.

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. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity (if any declared) to be made public. Chris Wilkinson has declared no political activity and he holds no other Ministerial public appointments.