

January 2007

## **New Trustee for the National Endowment for Science, Technology & the Arts**

Shaun Woodward, Minister for Creative Industries and Tourism, has appointed Professor Kathy Sykes as Science Communicator Trustee of the National Endowment for Science, Technology & the Arts (NESTA). The term of appointment runs for four years from 22 January 2007.

### **Prof Kathy Sykes**

Professor Kathy Sykes has been Professor of Public Engagement of Science and Engineering at Bristol University since November 2002. She is also Creative Director of the Cheltenham Festival of Science, and a freelance broadcaster, lecturer and writer. Her earlier career included serving as Head of Science for 'Explore @ Bristol' where she was in charge of creating the content of a new hands-on science centre which was subsequently voted Top Tourist Attraction in 2001. She has been a member of Wellcome Trust's Public Engagement Strategic Advisory Group since 2002, a Trustee of the National Museum of Science and Industry since 2003, and a member of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council since 2005. She has not undertaken any political activity in the last 5 years.

### **Notes for editors**

NESTA was set up to help maximise the UK's creative and innovative potential. With an endowment fund of £250 million, the past seven years have seen NESTA pioneering and promoting talent, innovation and creativity in the fields of science, technology and the arts. Its vision is for the UK to lead the world in the application of knowledge, creativity and enterprise, and it strives to bring about a more dynamic and successful environment for innovation in the UK. It wants to encourage a more can-do, risk taking culture in the UK, to boost the availability of funds to enable early stage innovations to get off the ground, and to ensure innovation policy responds more effectively to the dynamics of innovation.

Appointments to the NESTA Board of Trustees are made by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

The current NESTA Trustees are:

Chris Powell (Chairman)

Sherry Coutu

Sir Michael Barber

Prudence Skene

Prof William Morris

Tracy Long

Patrick McKenna

Graham Ross Russell

Andrew Flanagan

Professor Julia Goodfellow

Dr Stuart Cosgrove

Prof R Marc Clement

Prof Kathy Sykes

All 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) to be made public.

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