

May 2008

Greg Dyke appointed to the board of the UK Film Council

Margaret Hodge, Minister for Culture, has appointed Greg Dyke to the board of the UK Film Council. His term of appointment will run for four years from 1 March.

Biographical Notes

Greg Dyke

Greg Dyke was educated at Hayes Grammar School and later at York University where he read Politics. After an early career as a journalist, he started his broadcasting career in 1977 at London Weekend Television. He became Editor-in-Chief of TV-am in 1983 and the following year Director of Programmes for TVS. He returned to LWT in 1987 as Director of Programmes; and from 1991 to 1994 he was Group Chief Executive of LWT (Holdings) plc. After the Granada take-over of LWT, Greg Dyke joined Pearson Television as Chief Executive. He guided the consortium which created Channel 5 and became its first Chairman. He became Director-General of the BBC in January 2000. In his four years at the BBC he started four new digital television channels, five new digital radio channels, opened two new BBC regions, launched the BBC's interactive television services and helped create Freeview, a new free to air digital platform. He also made major commitments to expand the BBC's education services and to improve the cultural diversity of the workforce. He left the BBC in January 2004. Greg Dyke became the Chancellor of the University of York in November 2004. In May 2005 he became chairman of HIT, a production company specialising in programmes for the under-fives and in January 2006 he became Chairman of Brentford Football Club.

Background

1. The UK Film Council is the Government-backed lead agency for film in the UK ensuring that the economic, cultural and educational aspects of film are effectively represented at home and abroad. Their goal is to help make the UK a global hub for film in the digital age, with the world's most imaginative, diverse and vibrant film culture, underpinned by a flourishing, competitive and sustainable film industry. Key aims:
 - Developing a competitive film industry, built on creativity and skills
 - Stimulating greater choice for audiences

- Encouraging participation and opportunities for learning
- Promoting the UK in the wider world

The UK Film Council is chaired by Stewart Till CBE

2. The appointment does not attract remuneration but board members may claim reasonable travel and subsistence.
3. BFI have the right to nominate one of its members to the board of the UK Film Council. The BFI board have agreed to recommend Greg Dyke as their nominated member to the board of the UK Film Council.
4. The nomination process was carried out in accordance with the Code of Practice of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. Greg Dyke has made recordable donations to the Liberal Democrats during the past five years.