

July 2005

Moir Lockhead OBE appointed to the board of VisitBritain

James Purnell, Minister for Creative Industries and Tourism, announces today the appointment of Moir Lockhead OBE to the board of VisitBritain. His term of appointment will run for four years from 11 July 2005.

Biographical notes:

Moir Lockhead has been the Chief Executive and Deputy Chairman of First Group plc since its formation in 1995. With 67,000 staff and a turnover of nearly £2.7bn a year, First is the UK's largest surface public transport operator, and the second largest operator of yellow school buses in North America.

In 1996 he was awarded the OBE for services to the bus industry and he is a past President of the Confederation of Passenger Transport UK. He is currently a Member of the University Court at Aberdeen University. He has not undertaken any political activity in the last five years.

Note for editors:

VisitBritain was created on 1 April 2003 and was formed by the merger of functions of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourism Council. Its function is to build the value of tourism by creating world-class destination brands and marketing campaigns.

Board members are appointed by the Secretary of State in consultation with the Scottish Executive and Welsh Assembly Government. There is a remuneration of £8680 per annum for the role. The time commitment is expected to be two days per month on average.

The appointments 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.

The current VisitBritain board members are:

Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge (Chair)	Lady Cobham
Kumar Muthalagappan	Philip Evans
Martin George	Peter Lederer OBE
Hugh Taylor	Alan Parker

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