



## August 2007

### **Maria Adebowale, Joyce Bridges, Manish Chande and Elizabeth Williamson are reappointed as English Heritage Commissioners.**

Margaret Hodge, Minister for Culture, has reappointed Maria Adebowale, Joyce Bridges, Manish Chande and Elizabeth Williamson as English Heritage Commissioners for second terms of four years. Their new terms will run from 1 September 2007 to 31 August 2011.

### **Biographical notes**

**Maria Adebowale** is the Founder and Director of Capacity Global, a UK-based non-governmental organisation and social enterprise working on environmental justice and social inclusion. The organisation works on research and policy development in these areas for non-governmental organisations, the private sector and government. Maria's primary focus is on environmental equality, diversity, community participation and sustainable development. She has a Masters in Public International Law from SOAS, University of London and is also the author of numerous publications in her specialist areas. Maria is the Chair of Waterwise. In addition, she is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Matron of the Women's Environment Network.

**Joyce Bridges CBE** is a consultant on strategic policy development and has worked with Yorkshire Forward's urban renaissance group, the Heritage Lottery Fund and English Heritage. From 1966 to 2001 she was a Civil Servant, holding posts in urban regeneration and Planning and Housing at Department of Environment, Head of the Inner Cities Unit at the Department of Trade Industry, and held director level appointments at the Government Office for London and Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions' Urban Policy Unit. Joyce Bridges holds one other public appointment as a Commissioner at the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) which attracts a remuneration of £5,500 per year.

**Manish Chande** is Chief Executive of Mountgrange Capital plc, an investment company specialising in the property sector. Previously a chartered accountant, he became involved in property investment as Finance Director of Arbuthnot Properties and the Imry Group of Companies. In 1997, he co-established the Trillium Group and was Chief Executive prior to its acquisition by Land Securities

plc in 2000. He joined the Board of Land Securities before resigning in 2002 to establish Mountgrange Capital. He has assisted in a number of important historic building restorations in Central London, including the conversion of St George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner for the Lanesborough Hotel and the Royal Mint on Tower Hill.

**Elizabeth Williamson** Elizabeth Williamson is the Architectural Editor of the *Victoria History of the Counties of England* (VCH) and Reader in Architectural History in the University of London. She previously worked as research assistant to Sir Nikolaus Pevsner and for the Royal Institute of British Architects' Drawing Collection and, from 1975 to 1997, as assistant and later deputy editor of *The Buildings of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales* series (now the Pevsner Architectural Guides), for which she has written and revised several volumes. She has been involved in many organizations and activities associated with the study of the historic built environment.

## **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. English Heritage manages over 400 historic sites with around 11 million visitors per annum.

English Heritage Commissioners receive remuneration directly linked to responsibilities undertaken such as attending/chairing advisory committees and regional commissioner duties. Currently, the remuneration range is **£3,950 to £9,020**.

These reappointments have been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. The reappointments have been made on merit and political activity plays no part in the process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity (if any declared) to be made public. Maria Adebawale, Joyce Bridges, Manish Chande and Elizabeth Williamson have all declared that they have undertaken no political activity.