

PRESS NOTICE

REAPPOINTMENT TO THE HORSERACE TOTALISATOR BOARD (TOTE)

The Minister for Sport, Richard Caborn, has reappointed Sir Eric Parker as a member of the Tote Board for a further two-year period. Sir Eric's second term began on 1 May 2004.

Sir Eric was formerly Chief Executive and Deputy Chairman of Trafalgar House plc, and later Chairman of Caradon plc. He is a thoroughbred racehorse breeder, with considerable expertise in business finance, and a valued bridge between the Tote Board and the BHB during the run-up to the sale of the Tote. He has participated in any significant political activity in the past five years.

Notes for Editors

The Horserace Totalisator Board (Tote) is a non-departmental public body founded to enable racegoers to bet by means of a totalisator (pool betting) and to raise money for horseracing. It is a statutory authority which was first established as the Racecourse Betting Control Board by the Racecourse Betting Act 1928, and given its present official name in 1961, but has always been known as the Tote. A corporate body, it runs in accordance with the provisions of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 (as amended).

It is the Government's intention to sell the Tote to a consortium of racing interests once the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill has become law.

All appointments to the Tote Board are made by the Secretary of State under statute. There is at present no set limit to its size. The other members are: Peter Jones (The Chairman), Ms Fiona Driscoll, Gerald Grimstone, Joe Scanlon (executive member), Tom Phillips (executive member), and Christopher Sporborg.

Tote Board members (excluding executive members) are entitled to a board fee presently set at £10,402.35 per annum, which is paid by the Tote, but requires the approval of the Secretary of State.

In recognition of the British Horseracing Board's role as the sport's governing body, the Tote and BHB have reached an agreement whereby a place is reserved on the Tote Board for a BHB member. Sir Eric was first appointed to the Board as the BHB's representative in May 2002.