



10 DOWNING STREET

Press Notice

Lord Sainsbury of Turville, Minister for Science and Innovation, has informed the Prime Minister of his intention to retire from the post he has held since 1998.

However, between now and the summer of 2007, Lord Sainsbury has been asked to carry out a review of science and innovation policies across government which will take a forward look at what needs to be done to ensure the U.K.'s continued success in wealth creation and scientific policy-making. He will report to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretaries of State for Trade and Industry and Education and Skills.

The Prime Minister said:

“David Sainsbury has been a valued colleague, for whom I have the highest regard. He has been a huge asset to this Government and the country.

“David has worked tirelessly to push the case for science within Government.

“It is in no small part down to him that this country's science base is in better shape than for decades - something of vital importance for this country's future.

“His contribution to Government will have a huge impact in future decades and we owe him a real debt of gratitude.”

Lord Sainsbury said:

“I feel very privileged to have served in the present Government, which I believe has been the best in recent British history. I am proud of what we

have achieved in terms of funding properly our world-class scientists and engineers, in improving the rate of innovation and knowledge transfer and in putting science and innovation at the centre of policy-making. But after eight enjoyable years as Minister of Science and Innovation in the Department for Trade and Industry, I believe this is the right moment to take up again my business and charitable activities.

“I look forward to continuing to support the Government with the Review and in the House of Lords.”

Notes to Editors:.

1. Lord Sainsbury was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Science and Innovation in July 1998, with responsibility for the Office of Science and Technology, Research Councils and space matters. Chairman of J Sainsbury plc until July 1998. Finance Director of J Sainsbury plc from 1973 to 1990 and Deputy Chairman from 1988 to 1992. David Sainsbury became Lord Sainsbury of Turville in October 1997.
2. Lord Sainsbury's blind trust will stay in place for 3 months.

10th November 2006