

July 2011

National Lottery Commission – reappointments

John Penrose, the Minister for Tourism and Heritage, has reappointed Deep Sagar and Mark Harris as Commissioners, for up to four years, from 1 September 2011 and 1 October 2011 respectively.

Deep Sagar

Deep Sagar combines management consultancy with governance roles. His main background is in the private sector: he held senior management roles internationally with multinationals including Unilever Bestfoods and Coca-Cola, spanning over 15 years. He holds several other public appointments. As Chair of LEASE he receives £220 per day for 12 days per year, and as Chair of Flood Risk Management Wales he receives £17,503 pa for 1 day per week. As Chair of the Social Security Advisory Committee he receives £22,000 pa for 60 days per year. As a member of the Wales Sector Panel (Advanced Materials & Manufacturing) he receives £282 per day for 12 days per year; as a Lay Member of the Health Professions Council he receives £310 per day for 2 days per month; and as a Member of the Public Guardian Board he receives £300 per day for 6 days per year. He was previously a Member of the Casino Advisory Panel.

Mark Harris

Mark Harris became the National Lottery Commission's first Chief Executive in April 1999. He was appointed as a Commissioner in October 2007 under provisions in the National Lottery Act 2006. He holds a law degree and is a qualified public sector accountant. He previously worked in public sector audit, and on strategic development within the NHS and the Audit Commission. He is a graduate of the Cabinet Office's Top Management Programme, and a Companion of the Chartered Management Institute. He holds no other public appointments.

Background

The National Lottery Commission regulates the Lottery to ensure that players are treated fairly, the nation's interest in the Lottery is protected, and the operator is motivated to maximise the enjoyment and benefits that the Lottery brings to the nation. Its statutory duties are to:

- ensure that the National Lottery, and every lottery that forms a part of it, is run with all due propriety;
- ensure that the interests of every participant in the Lottery are protected; and
- subject to these two duties, to do our best in making sure that the proceeds of the National Lottery are as great as possible.

The Commission ensures that all aspects of the Lottery, from the televised draws to the way players are paid their prize money, are conducted properly and in accordance with the licence it awards to the lottery operator. It also works to secure the greatest possible returns to good causes.

The Government has announced its intention to merge the National Lottery Commission with the Gambling Commission, through the Public Bodies Bill.

Appointments to the National Lottery Commission are made by the Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport, and follow the OCPA Code of Practice. All public appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.



However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for political activity (if any declared) to be made public, upon appointment and also upon reappointment. Mr Sagar and Mr Harris have each declared no political activity in the UK in the last five years.