

January 2011

The National Heritage Memorial Fund: Reappointment of Yinon Ezra MBE and Alison McLean OBE

The Prime Minister has reappointed Yinon Ezra and Alison McLean as Trustees of The National Heritage Memorial Fund for second terms of three years, from 4 February and 18 February respectively.

Yinon Ezra has been a local authority Chief Officer since 1990, and has a strong track record of finding innovative and radical solutions to delivering cultural services that engage with communities. As Director of Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs for Hampshire County Council, his portfolio covers Arts, Tourism, Countryside, Museums and Archives, Libraries, Adult Learning, Sport and Rural Affairs. At Kent County Council his department was used as a Government pilot project for the 'Future of Public Libraries'; in Hampshire he is reinventing libraries, having pioneered the Discovery Centre concept and encouraging users and customers to widen their access to cultural services by breaking down barriers between professionals and encouraging cross-working. He is also an adviser to the Local Government Association on Tourism and Culture, a Governor of the University of Winchester and an Ambassador for Public Appointments with the Government Equalities Office. He is a Trustee of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, for which he is not remunerated. Yinon was awarded the MBE for services to Local Government in the New Year's Honours in 2008. He holds no other public appointments, and has undertaken no political activity in the last 5 years.

Alison McLean is currently an independent consultant specialising in rural policy and regeneration. Her client list includes local authorities, regional government and local and regional voluntary organisations. Until 2005 Alison pursued a career of over 20 years in local government, initially in London and then in the West Midlands and the West of England, with responsibility for community and economic development and for a variety of regeneration programmes. Alison has previously been Director of the Rural Regeneration Zone in the West Midlands, a Board member of the Countryside Agency and a Commissioner with the Commission for Rural Communities. She is currently the Vice-Chair of the West Midlands Rural Affairs Forum, and a non-executive Director of New Theatre Works. She was awarded the OBE in 2010 for services to Rural Affairs. She holds no other public appointments, and has undertaken no political activity in the last 5 years.

Background

The National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) was set up as a memorial to those who gave their lives for the United Kingdom. The Fund is a resource of last resort which makes grants to acquire, maintain and preserve heritage of outstanding national importance and interest, which is either at risk, or memorial in character.

NHMF Trustees administer the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), one of the National Lottery 'good causes'. NHMF Trustees may claim an allowance of £6,560 per year.



These reappointments have been made 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.