March 2013

**Mary Chapman and Robert Foster appointed to the Gambling Commission**

Hugh Robertson, the Minister for Sport and Tourism, has appointed Mary Chapman and Robert Foster as Commissioners of the Gambling Commission, from 1 April 2013 until 13 January 2016 and 31 March 2014 respectively.

**Biographical details**

**Robert Foster** was appointed as a National Lottery Commissioner in April 2005 and was Chairman of the Project Board which was responsible for overseeing the licence competition and transition. He was, until September 2004, Chief Executive of the Competition Commission. He has also held a number of senior posts in Whitehall including responsibility for the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills’ innovation expenditure and science policy in the Cabinet Office.

He is a Chartered Engineer and previously was an engineering manager in the telecommunications industry. He is Chair of Equinox Care, a mental health charity, and has had a number of other non-executive director appointments including the Jersey and Guernsey Competition Regulatory Authorities and Vice-Chair of King’s College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. He is also a member of the Advisory Council of Oxford Capital Partners.

**Mary Chapman** was appointed to the National Lottery Commission in January 2008. She is the Chair of the Remuneration Committee and a member of the Commission’s Regulating with Excellence Reference Group. She is a non-executive director of the Royal Mint, Chairman of the Institute of Customer Service, a council member of the Girls’ Day School Trust, of Brunel University and the Archbishops’ Council of the Church of England.

She was formerly Chief Executive of the Chartered Management Institute and the founding Chief Executive of Investors in People UK. Her earlier career was in marketing and general management with L’OREAL UK Group companies.

Mary Chapman and Robert Foster are both Commissioners of the National Lottery Commission, where they receive £288.50 per day and devote approximately three days per month. They will continue to hold these public appointments until the functions of the National Lottery Commission are merged with those of the Gambling Commission. They hold no other public appointments.

**Background**

The Gambling Commission was established on 1st October 2005. The Commission is an independent regulator for all commercial gambling in Great Britain, except the National Lottery and spread betting. It is based in Birmingham and has a staff of approximately 220. The Commission has taken over all the former responsibilities of the Gaming Board for Great Britain, as well as significant new responsibilities for regulating betting, arcades and remote gambling.

The Government has announced its intention to merge the Gambling Commission and the National Lottery Commission through the Public Bodies Act. Both bodies are independent non-departmental public bodies sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. The Gambling Commission regulates commercial gambling in Great Britain, and the National Lottery Commission regulates the National Lottery in the UK. Subject to the approval of Parliament, the merger of the two bodies is expected to be accomplished in August 2013.

The Board of the Gambling Commission is appointed by the Secretary of State. Commissioners devote on average one day per week to this work, and receive £292.00 per day for their time.

The appointment process is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. 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 in the United Kingdom in the past five years (if any declared) to be made public. Ms Chapman and Mr Foster have declared no political activity.