June 2013

**Nisha Katona and Sir Robert Crawford CBE reappointed as Trustees of National Museums Liverpool**

Maria Miller, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, has reappointed Nisha Katona and Sir Robert Crawford CBE as Trustees of National Museums Liverpool for two years, from 16 March 2013.

**Biographical details**

Nisha Katona

Professionally Nisha is a full time practising barrister based in Liverpool, working in the area of child protection. She has lectured nationally in the area of forensic psychology. She is also an active member of the Northern Circuit and the Family Law Bar Association, and the Lawyers’ Christian Fellowship.

She has been a trustee of National Museums Liverpool since 2008. In 2009 the Cabinet Office appointed her as an Ambassador for Diversity in Public Appointments and she has also been engaged in this capacity as an expert advisor by The Guardian newspaper. A keen arts enthusiast, Nisha has co-devised and run an arts education programme for schools in San Francisco. She also runs an Indian cookery course with her mother under the name of 'Two Brown Ladies'. She holds no other public appointments.

Sir Robert Crawford CBE

Sir Robert was director general (1995-2008) and deputy director general (1982-1995) of the Imperial War Museum (IWM), which he joined in 1968. He contributed to many of its major developments including the establishment of IWM North in Trafford, the opening and further extension of the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms, the modernisation of IWM's London headquarters and the creation of its permanent Holocaust Exhibition and the American Air Museum and AirSpace at IWM Duxford.

Sir Robert was chairman of the National Museums Directors Conference from 2000-6 and the National Inventory of War Memorials from 1995-2008, deputy chairman of the Museums Documentation Association from 1998-2006, and a member of the National Historic Ships Committee until 2006. He retired in 2008 and serves on the boards of a number of museums and heritage organisations, including the National Museum of the Royal Navy (since 2008). He holds one other public appointment as a Trustee of the National Maritime Museum, also since 2008, and he joined the board of National Museums Liverpool in 2009. All of the aforementioned trusteeships are unpaid.

**Background**

National Museums Liverpool (NML) is the only national museum service in England based wholly outside London. It manages a number of internationally recognised museums and art galleries, which between them attract more than 3 million visitors per year. The range of the collections is immense, including archaeology, fine and decorative art, science, natural history, social history and slavery.

NML is an innovative museum service, and its priority is to manage museums that are both professional and popular, with diverse audiences. It is acutely aware of its social responsibility to deliver a vibrant museum service that is used widely and valued highly. The new Museum of Liverpool opened on Liverpool’s waterfront in July 2011. This is the largest newly-built national museum in the UK for over a hundred years.

The Board of National Museums Liverpool is appointed by the Secretary of State, and the process follows the OCPA Code of Practice. Trustees are unpaid, although reasonable expenses can be claimed. Trustees are expected to devote approximately ten days per year to the task.

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 defined political activity in the last five years to be made public. Both Ms Katona and Sir Robert have declared no such political activity.