

Press Release

17 February 2010

Appointment and re-appointment of non-executive members of the Board of the UK Statistics Authority

The UK Statistics Authority warmly welcomes the appointments of **Dr Colette Bowe** and **Sir Jon Shortridge KCB** and the reappointment for a further period of two-years of **Lord Rowe-Beddoe of Kilgetty** and **Professor David Rhind CBE FRS FBA** as non-executive members of the UK Statistics Authority with effect from 1 February 2010.

Lord Rowe-Beddoe will continue to serve as Deputy Chair of the UK Statistics Authority with responsibility for the governance of the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Professor Rhind will continue as Chair of the Authority's Audit Committee.

Speaking today, Sir Michael Scholar, Chair of the UK Statistics Authority welcomed these appointments:

"I very much welcome today's announcement by the Minister for the Cabinet Office. The UK Statistics Authority will greatly benefit from this combination of new skills and proven experience. David Rowe-Beddoe and David Rhind have made invaluable contributions to the work of the Board during our first two years, and Colette Bowe and Jon Shortridge will bring with them much experience and knowledge from life in the public service, academe and business. I warmly welcome them to our Board."

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Notes for Editors

1. The UK Statistics Authority is an independent body operating at arm's length from government as a non-ministerial department, directly accountable to Parliament. It was established on 1 April 2008 by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. The Authority's statutory objective is to promote and safeguard the production and publication of official statistics that serve the public good. It is also required to promote and safeguard the quality and comprehensiveness of official statistics, and ensure good practice in relation to official statistics. The UK Statistics Authority has two main functions:
 - oversight of the Office for National Statistics (ONS) - its executive office; and
 - independent scrutiny (monitoring and assessment) of all official statistics produced in the UK.
2. The Chair of the UK Statistics Authority is Sir Michael Scholar KCB. Sir Michael was appointed Chair of the Authority by Her Majesty the Queen in September 2007 following open competition, and with parliamentary approval.
3. The other non-executive members are: Professor Sir Roger Jowell (who occupies the post of Deputy Chair with responsibility for oversight of the UK official statistics system); Lord Rowe-Beddoe of Kilgetty (who occupies the Deputy Chair post with responsibility for the governance of ONS); Dr. Colette Bowe, Partha Dasgupta; Moira Gibb, Professor Steve Nickell, Professor David Rhind and Sir Jon Shortridge.
4. The Authority has three executive members and they are: Jil Matheson (the National Statistician); Richard Alldritt (the Authority's Head of Assessment) and Stephen Penneck (the Director General of ONS).

Colette Bowe

5. Dr Colette Bowe has been Chairman of Ofcom since March 2009, and holds a number of other non-executive posts in the City. She has previous senior executive experience in city regulation and fund management and was also Chairman of the Council at Queen Mary, University of London. She was a member of the former Statistics Commission between 2000 and 2008, and is currently a member of the board of management of the National Institute for Economic and Social Research. Dr Bowe has been appointed to the Authority for a period of three years until January 2013.

Sir Jon Shortridge

6. Sir Jon Shortridge KCB was interim Permanent Secretary at the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills in 2009 and led its subsequent merger with the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform. He was Permanent Secretary in Wales between 1999 and 2008. Sir Jon is currently Chair of the Audit Panel of Cardiff County Council, a council member of Cardiff University, and has recently been appointed as Chair of Community Service Volunteers. He joined the Civil Service as a social researcher in 1969, and later qualified as a town planner and worked for Shropshire County Council before joining the Welsh Office in 1984. Sir Jon has been appointed to the Authority for a period of three years until January 2013.

Lord Rowe-Beddoe

7. Lord (David) Rowe-Beddoe of Kilgetty is Chairman of the Wales Millennium Centre and a former chairman of the Welsh Development Agency, with a

distinguished international business career. He was knighted in 2000 for his services to industry, and to economic development in Wales, and was elevated to the peerage in 2006. Lord Rowe-Beddoe holds one of the Authority's two Deputy Chairs with particular responsibility for the governance of the Office for National Statistics. He has been re-appointed for two years until 31 January 2012.

Professor David Rhind

8. Professor David Rhind CBE FRS FBA was Chairman of the former Statistics Commission until the Commission's responsibilities were subsumed when the UK Statistics Authority was created on 1 April 2008. He was also Vice-Chancellor and President of the City University in London until July 2007, a non-executive director on the Bank of England's Court of Directors until 2009, and until 1998 was Director General of the Ordnance Survey. Professor Rhind is currently Chair of the Advisory Panel on Public Sector Information and Chair of Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust Board. Professor Rhind has been re-appointed for two years until 31 January 2012.