



## Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland

28 August 2008

### **Delivering Diversity and Making a Difference**

**12 Noon, 1 September 2008**  
**Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR**

1 September sees the launch of *Diversity Delivers*, the first ever diversity strategy developed for Scotland's ministerial public appointments process.

Introducing the strategy, the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland, Karen Carlton, said: "Scotland's public bodies make a real difference to our lives. They need talented board members and the people of Scotland rely on the public appointments process to find them. With an increasingly diverse population, it is vital that we recognise and value people's different backgrounds and perspectives. Everyone who applies must be confident that their applications will be welcome."

*Diversity Delivers* is both a strategy and an action plan. It recommends a series of practical steps to:

- increase people's understanding of why public bodies are important to us all
- encourage people to see themselves as potential board members
- provide them with development to help them bridge the gap between recognising their potential and realising it.



Based on the acronym, ACE (Awareness and Attraction, Confidence and Capacity, Education and Experience), it has as its vision:

- a pool of applicants as diverse as the people of Scotland, aware of and attracted by the work of our public bodies and the opportunities to serve on their boards
- an appointments system that inspires confidence, increases capacity and embraces diversity, from the application process to the boardroom
- a programme of support for our future leaders, developing and providing opportunities for all to achieve their full potential and for Scotland to draw upon its brightest talent.

Join us on 1 September to discover how delivering diversity will make a difference.

**Coffee from 11.30, event begins at 12.00. The Commissioner will be available for interviews at the Storytelling Centre from 13.00.**

**Media contact on the day will be Karen Elder - 0131 718 6268, 07795 487884 or [karen.elder@publicappointments.org](mailto:karen.elder@publicappointments.org) - who can give you further information about the event.**

ENDS

#### NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Karen Carlton was appointed as Scotland's first Commissioner for Public Appointments in June 2004.
2. The Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland (OCPAS) was established to create and regulate the process by which people are appointed to the boards of many of Scotland's public bodies.
3. Further information on the role of the Commissioner is available on our website: <http://www.publicappointments.org/> or by contacting [info@publicappointments.org](mailto:info@publicappointments.org) or 0131 718 6058

