

BIG LOTTERY FUND – CHAIR APPOINTMENT

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport wishes to appoint a skilled and committed individual to Chair the Big Lottery Fund (BIG).

Introduction

BIG is the largest of the National Lottery distributors, using its share of lottery funds for health, education, environment and charitable purposes. In 2009/10 across all its operations, BIG made 14,000 awards to the value of £440 million, ranging from £300 to over £1million. BIG's mission statement is to bring real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need. Through its four Country Committees and at UK level, BIG has awarded grants that have helped change the lives of disadvantaged and socially excluded people throughout the UK. Further information about BIG and its programmes can be found in the [strategic framework 2009-2015](#)

At the moment it distributes 50% of the good causes money raised through the UK National Lottery. The Government is currently consulting on proposals to amend BIG's share of the Lottery good causes money to 46%, from 1 April 2011 and to 40% from 1 April 2012. Also the Government proposes that, subject to a separate consultation, BIG should concentrate its funding on the voluntary and community sector in future. The Department's consultation about shares available to the Lottery distributors can be viewed at <http://www.culture.gov.uk>. The consultation ends on 21st August.

The role

The Board is responsible for the overall strategic direction of BIG. The Chair will have overall responsibility for the performance of the Board and provide effective, strategic leadership. The Chair will work closely with the Chief Executive and the Executive Team to evolve the strategic direction of BIG and ensure delivery of BIG's goals.

All candidates must demonstrate on their application form how they meet the following essential criteria, through their knowledge, skills and experience.

- A strong commitment to the mission and values of BIG, including a good understanding of social disadvantage and how to tackle it.
- The proven ability to lead and manage change at a high profile organisation in a complex and dynamic environment gained in the public, voluntary or private sectors.
- Experience of chairing Boards or Committees in the public, voluntary or private sectors or experience in a Chief Executive or Senior Management role.
- An understanding of the diverse communities in the UK and a real commitment to promoting diversity.
- Experience of allocating funding, for example, through grant making or investing funds.
- An understanding of government at national, devolved or local levels, with the ability to work effectively in a political environment and act as a link between BIG, Government Ministers and Parliament.

- The ability to ensure the organisation is run efficiently within tightening financial constraints and with accountability to Parliament, the Government and the wider public.
- Representation and media-handling skills, including public speaking skills.
- Knowledge of the charitable, voluntary and community sector.

Time Commitment

The time commitment is expected to be an average of 6 days per month, to include, for example, chairing the UK Board meetings and related Committees.

Location of Meetings

London.

Remuneration

The Chair remuneration is to be confirmed. Legitimate expenses incurred on Big Lottery Fund business, including travel and subsistence costs will be paid.

Length of Appointment

The appointment will be made initially for up to 4 years.

Type of Appointment

The Chair is appointed by the Secretary of State.

How to apply

Further details and an application form are available electronically or in hard copy from:

Heather Batchelor
Public Appointments Unit, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, 2-4 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5DH
Tel: 020 7211 2308
Email: heather.batchelor@culture.gsi.gov.uk

More information about the appointment can be found at the [Commissioner for Public Appointments website](#)

Closing date

Completed forms should be received by **Wednesday 15th September 2010**

Interviews

Interviews are expected to be held on **Monday 1st November 2010**.

BIG and DCMS aspire to diversity in public appointments and operate an equal opportunities policy. Appointments are made on merit and are regulated by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments.

Useful websites

Department for Culture, Media and Sport:

http://www.culture.gov.uk/about_us/public_appointments/7391.aspx

BIG:

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/>

Background information on the National Lottery:

http://www.culture.gov.uk/what_we_do/national_lottery/default.aspx

