

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO  
THE MILLENNIUM COMMISSION (REDUCTION IN MEMBERSHIP) ORDER  
2005**

**2005 No. 2470**

**1.** This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

**2. Description**

2.1 This Order reduces the number of Millennium Commissioners from eight to seven and also reduces the number of Commissioners which must be Ministers of the Crown from two to one.

**3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments**

3.1 None.

**4. Legislative Background**

4.1 The Millennium Commission was established by section 40 of the National Lottery etc. Act 1993. Schedule 6 to that Act provides for the appointment of members to the Commission: paragraph 1 currently requires that the Commission consists of eight members<sup>1</sup>, two of the members must be Ministers of the Crown and one member must be a person nominated by the Leader of the Opposition.

4.2 Paragraph 2 of that Schedule allows the Secretary of State by order to reduce the number of members of the Commission and to reduce the number of members that must be Ministers of the Crown from two to one. However, the total number of members may not be reduced to less than three or result in more than one third of the members being Ministers of the Crown.

**5. Extent**

5.1 This instrument applies to all of the United Kingdom.

**6. European Convention on Human Rights**

The Minister for Sport has made the following statement regarding Human Rights:

In my view the provisions of the Millennium Commission (Reduction in Membership) Order 2005 are compatible with the Convention rights.

**7. Policy background**

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<sup>1</sup> This was reduced from nine by the Millennium Commission (Reduction of Membership) Order 2003 (No. 3033).

- 7.1 The Millennium Commission plans to wind up its work as a Lottery distributor by the end of March 2006. The National Lottery Bill, currently in the House of Commons, provides that any remaining balance of funds in the National Lottery Distribution Fund, property, rights and liabilities will be transferred to the Big Lottery Fund (to be established by the Bill).
- 7.2 The Commission stopped receiving any new funds from the National Lottery in August 2001 and therefore its remaining workload is consequently diminishing with the number of staff being reduced and with less need for the current number of Commissioners.

## **8. Impact**

- 8.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

## **9. Contact**

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