

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LSB ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBER

The Legal Services Board today announced the appointment of Edward Nally as a new Non-Executive Board member for a four year term commencing 14 February 2011. The vacancy, which was for a non-lay member, was created when Rosemary Martin stepped down in January 2010.

The appointment was made by the Lord Chancellor and approved by the Lord Chief Justice in accordance with the Legal Services Act 2007.

Edward Nally has been a practising solicitor for 31 years. He is the Senior Partner of Fieldings Porter, a firm of solicitors in Bolton, having been a Partner since 1982 after joining the firm on qualification in 1980. He is a Governor of the College of Law and a Member of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal. He was President of The Law Society of England and Wales from 2004 to 2005, and was Chair of Governors at Pendleton Sixth Form College, Salford until 2007. Mr Nally will be stepping down as a Judicial Appointments Commissioner on appointment to the LSB.

Commenting on the announcement, **David Edmonds, LSB Chairman** said:

"I am delighted to welcome Edward to the Board. He will bring skills and experience of value to the broadest range of the Board's work - not least the ways in which regulatory reform can be used to modernise legal services delivery for the benefit of the profession, consumers and the wider public."

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, Jonathan Djanogly said:

"I extend my congratulations to Mr Nally who joins the Legal Services Board at a crucial and exciting time for the legal profession. I look forward to working with Mr Nally and the rest of the Board under the chairmanship of David Edmonds, as they steer the profession into a new era of innovation and competition."

For more information please contact **Craig Jones, Media and Public Affairs Manager** on craig.jones@legalservicesboard.org.uk or by calling 020 7271 0068 or 07702 428210.

Notes to editors

1. The appointment will be from 14 February 2011 until 31 March 2015. It carries a remuneration of £15,000 per year for at least 30 days.
2. The process for making the appointments followed OCPA best practice and was overseen by an Independent Assessor; the non-executive role was advertised publicly in the national press and the executive search firm, Veredus, was appointed to assist in a search exercise to complement the advertising.
3. The Legal Services Act (“The Act”) provided for the creation of the Legal Services Board as the oversight regulator for legal services in England and Wales. The new regulatory regime enacted by the Act became fully active on 1 January 2010.
4. The LSB oversees eight “Approved Regulators”, which in turn regulate individual lawyers and organisations. The eight approved regulators, designated under Part 1 of Schedule 4 of the 2007 Act, are the Law Society, the Bar Council, the Master of the Faculties, the Institute of Legal Executives, the Council for Licensed Conveyancers, the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, the Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys and the Association of Law Costs Draftsmen.
5. In addition the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants are listed as Approved Regulators in relation only to reserved probate activities.
6. Section 1 of the Act defines eight Regulatory Objectives shared by the LSB and the Approved Regulators. The sixth of these directly concerns the diversity of the legal services workforce. The full range of Regulatory Objectives is:
 - Protecting and promoting the public interest
 - Supporting the constitutional principle of the rule of law
 - Improving access to justice
 - Protecting and promoting the interests of consumers of legal services
 - Promoting competition in the delivery of legal services
 - Encouraging an independent, strong, diverse and effective legal profession
 - Increasing public understanding of the citizens’ legal rights and duties
 - Promoting and maintaining adherence to the professional principles

7. The legal profession currently consists of some 16,455 barristers, 112,246 solicitors and 12,200 individuals authorised to operate in other aspects of the legal profession such as conveyancing. The sector has been valued at £25.97 billion per annum. In total the legal sector employed 323,000 individuals in 2008. [ONS]

8. The 2010-11 LSB business plan can be found at:

http://www.legalservicesboard.org.uk/news_publications/publications/index.htm

The draft 2011-12 LSB business plan, currently being consulted upon, can be found at:

http://www.legalservicesboard.org.uk/what_we_do/consultations/open/pdf/lsb_business_plan_10_web_final.pdf