



BANK OF ENGLAND

News release

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Bank of England Agency for Northern Ireland - New Agent Appointed

Mr Phil Eckersley has been appointed as the Bank's new Agent for Northern Ireland. He will succeed Mr Nigel Falls, who is retiring in May after nearly three years as Agent for Northern Ireland and nearly 32 years at the Bank of England.

The role of the Bank's Agencies is to maintain contact with a wide range of businesses and institutions in their regions covering all sectors of the UK economy. They provide a flow of regular reports to the Bank where the Monetary Policy Committee uses the information to help its understanding and assessment of current economic conditions. The Agencies are also involved with a wide range of business organisations such as the Chambers of Commerce and the regional CBI and they maintain close contact with business support services and universities. Part of the Agent's role is also to represent the Bank and explain its work and policies. At present the Bank has a network of twelve Agencies covering the entire United Kingdom.

Note to Editors

Phil Eckersley joined the Bank in 1987 and his career has included spells in a variety of areas of the Bank. He has been Deputy Agent at the Agency for the South-East and East Anglia since 1994.