

News release

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Bank of England's Court of Directors

Mervyn King, Governor of the Bank, said "I am delighted by the appointment of Sir John Parker as chairman designate of the Bank's committee of non-executive Directors and I look forward to welcoming him to Court in the summer. I would also like to thank his predecessor, Sir David Cooksey, for agreeing to stay on until early next year for a handover period while Sir John familiarises himself with this key role in the oversight of the Bank's management.

I must also add how tremendously pleased I am that Kate Barker has agreed to accept the Chancellor's invitation to serve another term as a member of the Monetary Policy Committee, and I look forward to working with her for a further three years".

Note to Editors

1. The Chancellor announced the appointment of Sir John Parker as chairman designate of the subcommittee of non-executive Directors of the Court of the Bank of England. Sir John will join Court on 1 June 2004 and take over as Chair when Sir David Cooksey steps down in February 2005.

2. The Chancellor announced the reappointment of Kate Barker as an external member of the Monetary Policy Committee from 1 June 2004.

3. For further information on the sub-committee of non-executive Directors of the Court of the Bank of England, please telephone the Bank's press office on 020 7601 4411 or visit the Bank's website.