April 2013

**Sir John Ritblat, Chairman of the Wallace Collection**

The Prime Minister has extended Sir John’s current term as a Trustee of the Wallace Collection from 8 August 2013 until 31 December 2014.

**Biographical details**

Sir John Ritblat is the Honorary President and formerly Chairman and Chief Executive of The British Land Company PLC, a listed FTSE property company based in London. He is Chairman of the Governing Body and Honorary Fellow of The London Business School, Vice President of The Royal Institution, and Honorary President of British Ski & Snowboard. He is also an Honorary Trustee and Honorary Fellow of The Royal Academy of Music, Vice Chairman of The International Students House, and Honorary Fellow of The Royal Institute of British Architects. He was a Trustee of The British Library from 1995 to 2003. He holds no other public appointments.

**Background**

The Wallace Collection is both a national museum and one of the finest collections of art assembled by one family. It was bequeathed to the nation by Lady Wallace in 1897, and opened to the public just over three years later on 22 June 1900. Among its treasures are one of the best collections of French 18th-century pictures, porcelain and furniture in the world; a remarkable array of 17th century paintings; and an armoury. The Terms of the Bequest preclude the Trustees from adding to the collection, and from disposing of any of its objects. The Trustees are not remunerated.

The appointment process follows the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for recordable political activity in the United Kingdom in the past five years (if any declared) to be made public. Sir John has declared no such political activity.