

6 February 2007

Attorney General announces re-appointment of the Director of the SFO

The following announcement was issued today by the Attorney General's Office, which is replicated below:

The Attorney General has re-appointed Robert Wardle as Director of the Serious Fraud Office for a further year, until 20 April 2008. This means that in total Robert Wardle will have served five years as Director of the SFO.

The Attorney General said: "I am very grateful for Robert Wardle's contribution as Director of the SFO and am glad that he has agreed to serve for a further year. We have agreed that we will take the opportunity jointly to commission a thorough external review of the SFO's approach to the investigation and prosecution of the cases it deals with, for example to see whether there are lessons which can be learned from other jurisdictions. This should provide a firm platform from which the SFO can move forward."

Robert Wardle said: "I am delighted to accept the Attorney's offer to continue at the SFO for a further year. The Fraud Review has recommended quite radical changes and we need to ensure the SFO is able to meet the challenges those changes will bring. An external review, and in particular a look at how things are done in other jurisdictions, is timely."

ENDS