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Press Notice

Appointments to the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom

The appointment of Lord Reed and Lord Justice Carnwath CVO as new Justices of the Supreme Court has today been welcomed by Lord Phillips, President of the Court.

Lord Phillips said:

“The independent selection commission were faced with a very strong field of candidates who applied following open advertisement of the vacancies.

“Lord Reed brings depth of experience in Scots law and practice, as well as insights into the work of the European Court of Human Rights.

“Lord Justice Carnwath’s range of experience as a senior judge is complemented by his Chairmanship of the Law Commission, his work reforming the tribunals system and his service as the first Senior President of Tribunals.

“As I near the end of my time as President of this court, it is encouraging to be welcoming colleagues of such high calibre and I am only sorry I will not have longer to work alongside them.”

The two appointments follow the death of Lord Rodger in June 2011 and the forthcoming retirement of Lord Brown in April 2012.

The appointments were made by Her Majesty The Queen at the advice of the Prime Minister and Lord Chancellor, following the recommendation of an independent selection commission. The commission consulted across each of the Supreme Court’s three UK jurisdictions before making their recommendations.

Lord Reed said:

The Supreme Court of the United Kingdom

Parliament Square London SW1P 3BD T: 020 7960 1886/1887 F: 020 7960 1901 www.supremecourt.gov.uk

“I am honoured by my appointment as a member of a court which has a world-wide reputation and influence, and whose decisions affect all parts of the United Kingdom. I am conscious of the responsibility which that entails.”

Lord Justice Carnwath said:

“It is a great honour to be selected for the Supreme Court. I see it also as recognition of the central importance in the justice system of the tribunals judiciary, whom I have been privileged to lead as Senior President for the last seven years.”

Ends

Notes to Editors

The appointments were announced today by 10 Downing Street. The official announcement, including biographies of the two appointees, can be viewed here:

<http://www.number10.gov.uk/news/supreme-court-appointments/>

Lord Reed will be sworn in as a Justice of the Supreme Court at a date to be agreed between him, the President, and the Lord President of the Court of Session. Lord Justice Carnwath CVO will be sworn in following the retirement of Lord Brown, probably in the first week of the Easter Term.

Photographs of the two appointees are available on request.

UKSC contacts:

Sian Lewis

Tel: 020 7960 1886

sian.lewis@supremecourt.gsi.gov.uk

Ben Wilson

Tel: 020 7960 1887

ben.wilson@supremecourt.gsi.gov.uk