

# Northern Lighthouse Board

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10<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Provision of Information**

Thank you for your request for information. I have dealt with this in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and enclose the information you requested.

### **Your Question:**

For each of the last 10 years, can you tell me how many senior posts there have been in your organisation and of these, how many have been held by women. Please include Director, Chief Executive, Board Member, Non-executive Director and all similar positions where the post is regarded as senior in nature. Please include all senior posts regardless of whether they are paid or unpaid but please indicate where the posts are unpaid.

**Answer:** Please see the attached report.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. The Northern Lighthouse Board will, therefore, be publishing the information you requested on [www.nlb.org.uk](http://www.nlb.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

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## For the safety of all

Certified to: ISO 9001:2000 · The International Safety Management Code (ISM) · OHSAS 18001

YEAR	Director		Chief Executive		Commissioners*	
	Total No. of Posts	No. of women in Post	Total No. of Posts	No. of women in Post	Total No. of Posts	No. of women in Post
1999	3	0	1	0	19	1
2000	3	0	1	0	19	1
2001	3	0	1	0	19	2
2002	3	0	1	0	19	2
2003	3	0	1	0	19	5
2004	3	0	1	0	19	4
2005	3	0	1	0	19	4
2006	3	0	1	0	19	4
2007	3	0	1	0	19	4
2008	3	0	1	0	19	1
2009	3	0	1	0	19	1

\*Of the 19 Commissioners, 13 posts are unpaid and all the posts held by women during the specified period were unpaid.

To assist you in putting the role of Commissioner into context, I thought it would be useful to give you some background on our organisation:

The Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses were established by Act of Parliament in 1786, authorising the construction of four lighthouses in Scotland (Kinnaird Head, North Ronaldsay, Scalpay and Mull of Kintyre) and the establishment of a Commission for their operation.

The Commissioners appointed at the time were the law agents of the Crown, Sheriffs of coastal counties, and the Lord Provosts and Provosts of Scottish cities and towns whose mercantile interests were involved. Over the years the numbers of the Commissioners varied, and further changes were brought about as a result of local government and sheriffdom re-organisation.

Today the Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses consist of the Lord Advocate and the Solicitor General for Scotland; the Lords Provost of Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen, and the conveners of the Councils for Highland, and Argyll and Bute; the Sheriffs Principal of all the sheriffdoms in Scotland; a person nominated by the Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man and appointed by the Secretary of State; and up to 5 co-opted Commissioners.

Female Commissioners in post between 1999 - 2009 were:

- The Rt Hon Lord Provost of Aberdeen from 1999 to 2003;
- The Lord Advocate from 2001 to present;
- The Rt Hon Lord Provost of Glasgow from 2003 to 2007;
- The Rt Hon Lord Provost of Edinburgh from 2003 to 2007; and
- Convener of Highland Council from 2003 to 2007.