<u>News story: Lesley Cowley named as new</u> <u>chair of Companies House</u>

She replaces Brian Landers who served as chairman between August 2012 and March 2017.

<u>Companies House</u> incorporates and dissolves limited companies, registers the information companies are legally required to supply and makes that information available to the public.

Business Minister Lord Prior said:

I am very pleased to appoint Lesley Cowley to this role. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge in transformative digital services to ensure Companies House continues to deliver quality services.

Chair of Companies House, Lesley Cowley said:

I am delighted to be chosen as the new Chair of Companies House and look forward to helping the team transform both the business and the digital services provided to Companies House customers.

Biography

Lesley Cowley was appointed non-executive chair of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) in October 2014 and re-appointed in October 2016. She was appointed lead non-executive director of The National Archives in January 2016 and a non-executive director of AQL in October 2014.

Lesley Cowley was previously CEO of Nomine between 2004 and 2014. She also served as chair of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers and chair of the Country Codes Name Supporting Organisation. She has previously been a member of the UK Government Cyber Crime Reduction Partnership. She was made an OBE for services to the internet and e-commerce in 2011.

Further information

The appointment has been made in accordance with the <u>OCPA Code of Practice</u>. Under the Code, any significant political activity undertaken by an appointee in the last 5 years must be declared. This is defined as including holding office, public speaking, making a recordable donation, or candidature for election. Lesley Cowley has declared no political activity.