

Get a Public Life!

Publication of public appointments pack on December 11th

During 2002 the Ministers for Women led a national outreach campaign to encourage more women into public life.

The Women and Equality Unit has now put together a practical information guide, launched on December 11th, on why action is necessary and how to organise a seminar. The idea is that others can carry on where we left off.

There are roughly 30,000 appointments on 1,000 public bodies, but women make up only a third of the appointees. And less than 2% are women from minority ethnic communities.

This is despite the fact that women make up 51% of the population. If public bodies are to reflect the society they represent, then the number of women, particularly from minority ethnic groups, must increase.

Overall, nearly 2,000 women attended the seminars and we know (through evaluation) that they found them incredibly useful.

Now that the programme has come to an end, we want to make sure that other women still have the chance to find out about public appointments. Hence our new practical guide.

The resources pack was launched on December 11th. You can download a copy from the WEU website at (http://www.womenandequalityunit.gov.uk/public_life/women_pub_appts.htm)

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