



Information Commissioner's Office
Promoting public access to official information
and protecting your personal information

Press Release

For immediate release

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Information Commissioner announces new Assistant Commissioner for Freedom of Information

Steve Wood has been appointed to the post of Assistant Commissioner for the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). He will be responsible for leading the FOI policy team which develops policy relating to Freedom of Information Act issues and provides advice on the substance, quality and consistency of freedom of information complaints. Subject to the usual formalities, it is planned that Steve will join the ICO in early March.

Steve has become recognised as one of the country's leading commentators on the Freedom of Information Act and is a respected member of the FOI community. He currently edits the website <http://foia.blogspot.com> and is founding editor of "[Open Government: a journal on freedom of information](#)".

He will join the Information Commissioner's Office from Liverpool John Moores University where he is currently Programme Leader for the BSc E-Business programme. He previously worked for HM Treasury and the Cabinet Office as Intranet and Extranet Manager.

Commenting on his appointment, Richard Thomas, Information Commissioner, said: "We are delighted Steve will be joining the ICO. His expertise in freedom of information will further strengthen our FOI policy team. The Freedom of Information Act has been a significant success since its introduction two years ago and Steve's appointment will help to ensure this success continues.

Steve Wood, said: “I am very pleased to be taking on this position at the Information Commissioner’s Office. Having been a close observer of the Freedom of Information Act, and written extensively about it, I am excited about the prospect of working at the heart of the freedom of information process from the inside.”

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If you need more information, please contact the Information Commissioner’s press office on 020 7025 7580 or visit the website at: www.ico.gov.uk

Notes to Editors

1. The Information Commissioner promotes public access to official information and protects personal information. The ICO is an independent body with specific responsibilities set out in the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003.
2. For more information about the Information Commissioner’s Office subscribe to our e-newsletter at www.ico.gov.uk