

British Copyright Council appoints Elisabeth Ribbans as Director of Policy and Public Affairs

The British Copyright Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Elisabeth Ribbans as its Director of Policy and Public Affairs. Elisabeth takes up the role on 1st November 2017. With her strong background in newspapers and publishing and also as a journalist and writer, Elisabeth will focus on developing the BCC's policy and public affairs profile, building on its existing reputation as a consensus-building organisation with a reputation for legal and technical excellence.

"I am delighted that the British Copyright Council has been able to secure the services of someone of the calibre of Elisabeth Ribbans for this exciting new position that the Council has created" says Trevor Cook, Chairman of the British Copyright Council.

During a long career in journalism, Elisabeth has worked for regional and national newspapers, most recently as managing editor of the Guardian (2008-2013), and as a freelance contributor to specialist magazine and educational publishers at home and abroad. She currently writes a regular column for a German business magazine and has experience in public relations.

Elisabeth holds a postgraduate diploma in UK, EU & US Copyright Law from King's College, London, and now runs her own consultancy service on rights management, where clients have included the Publishers Licensing Services and NLA media access.

Among a portfolio of UK regulatory roles, Elisabeth has served for three years on the complaints committee of the Independent Press Standards Organisation. She is a member of the National Union of Journalists, an emeritus member of The Society of Editors and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Of her appointment Elisabeth said: - *"I am delighted to be joining the British Copyright Council at an important time for the copyright community. As digital innovation delivers ever more opportunities and challenges, and as the UK reshapes its relationship with the EU and the rest of the world, I look forward to helping ensure the BCC has a strong voice in promoting the effective copyright laws on which our vibrant creative sector depends."*

In taking up her appointment on 1st November there will be an opportunity for smooth transfer of the administration from Janet Ibbotson, who having led the BCC for the past 19 years, retires at the end of 2017.

Of her time at the BCC, Janet said: *"It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve the British Copyright Council and the creative industries it represents. Elisabeth's appointment will assure the BCC's future as a major influence on copyright law developments and in the protection and promotion of the creative sector, at this critical time."*

For additional information please contact Sharon Smith at sharon@britishcopyright.org