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TOURISM SOUTH EAST SEARCHES FOR NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR AS DEMAND FOR SERVICES GROWS

Tourism South East (TSE) is looking for a new Managing Director to work alongside two senior internal appointments to drive its new three-year plan.

TSE has appointed long serving executives Peter Colling to the post of Operations Director and Karen Roebuck to be Head of Marketing and Membership. Following the departure of chief executive Mike Bedingfield to head the Brighton Festival Fringe, TSE is now looking externally for someone to lead the organisation after the loss of its RDA core funding due to the planned closure of SEEDA.

John Williams, Tourism South East Chairman, commented:

“We are committed to remaining a member-led organisation providing expertise and support to local tourism businesses and destinations. But to do so, we have to become a leaner, more entrepreneurial and commercial organisation.

“It will be a tough challenge for our new Managing Director, but he or she will inherit a talented and committed team that relishes the new challenges ahead. We are delighted with the new internal appointments. Peter will continue to lead on our training and research programmes along with new responsibilities that include Visitor Information Services. Peter’s experience, instincts and knowledge of the industry will, I hope, be invaluable to ensuring we continue to provide practical and affordable support. Karen has led the marketing team for the past five years and instigated some of our most successful campaigns.

“The good news is we are seeing strong demand for our services with new marketing, training and research contracts coming through. Spring is arriving early for us. This demand is coming from an ever wider area as other support organisations and local authorities look for new ways of delivery for their services. Soon we will be calling TSE Tourism South and Everywhere.”

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For more information contact

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More information about the Tourism South East MD post can be found at

<http://www.tourismsoutheast.com/work-for-us>. Closing date for applications is 7 March 2011.

Tourism South East

Tourism South East is the official tourist board for South East England, covering Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East and West Sussex, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire and Surrey.

The South East is the largest region for tourism in Britain outside of London, worth in excess of £13 billion p.a. to the regional economy (7% of regional GVA) supporting over 300,000 jobs.