



British Equestrian Federation Media Release

For Immediate Release

Changing Reins for NED

Having successfully steered NED, the National Equine Database through careful negotiations to secure an extension to its contract, NED's Chairman, Graham Suggett, has retired from his position. Graham, who became Chairman of NED in 2008 and was formerly Director of Equine Development for the British Equestrian Federation (BEF), has now decided to take some time to enjoy his retirement and says "I will be following the NED developments yet I'm looking forward to spending some time restoring antique furniture and playing golf".

Launched to the public in 2008, NED was developed to both manage passport information for Defra and to be a source of information for the public, enabling them to look up horses prior to purchase and validate the information on their passports. 24,000 people use NED on a regular basis to do this, and to look up information on pedigree and competition, with results being supplied by the sporting organisations.

Defra funding for NED, to manage the passport information from 80 passport issuing organisations, has now been confirmed up until September 2012. Defra will now focus on a public consultation ahead of issuing a tender document for the passport data management services currently provided by NED and NED's extended funding means that it will be still be in business, albeit with some operational changes, and able to respond to this tender. Meanwhile, NED itself will be scaling back its operations in order to operate within its revised budget.

ENDS

Information

National Equine Database www.nedonline.co.uk

British Equestrian Federation www.bef.co.uk

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