



THE RT HON ALAN JOHNSON MP ANNOUNCED AS PPL'S AGM GUEST SPEAKER AT THE COMPANY'S 75TH AGM

London – 8th May 2009. It is announced today that The Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP will be the guest keynote speaker at PPL's annual AGM, which will take place on 3rd June at King's Place, London. Formed in 1934, PPL is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year.

Alan is the Secretary of State for Health, an appointment he took up in June 2007. He has had a long career as a Government minister. His previous roles have included: Secretary of State for Education and Skills, Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry, Secretary of State at the Department of Work and Pensions, Minister of State for Lifelong Learning, Further and Higher Education, Minister of State for Employment Relations and Regions (DTI) and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Competitiveness (DTI).

Alan Johnson was born in 1950 and was educated at Sloane Grammar School, Chelsea. He became a postman in 1968, and joined the Union of Communication Workers at the same time. He held a number of posts representing employees from 1976 and was elected to the National Executive Council in 1981. He became General Secretary in 1992 and Joint General Secretary of the Communications Workers' Union (CWU) from 1995 to 1997. He was a Member of the General Council, TUC from 1994 to 1995 and a member of the Labour Party NEC from 1995 to 1997. He has been MP for Hull West and Hessle since May 1997.

He is a passionate lover of music who had ambitions to join the industry. A recent appearance on Desert Island Discs revealed songs ranging from The Beatles, Elvis Costello, David Bowie and Neil Young through to Mahler as his favourites. He is also a committed fan of Queens Park Rangers.

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Editors' notes:

PPL celebrates its 75th birthday this year and is the London-based music licensing company which licenses recorded music on behalf of 3,400 record companies and 38,000 performers in the UK. In addition, the company has 42 bilateral agreements with similar organisations around the world representing a further 3,400 record companies and 29,000 performers.

PPL collects domestic and international revenues from UK television and radio, digital and online media as well as public performance income.

All these revenues are distributed and paid to all record company and performer members. These include featured artists as well as session musicians, orchestral players, singers and other performers. PPL is a not-for-profit company. The costs of collecting, processing and distributing the licence fees are taken from the gross revenues that the company collects. There is no additional joining fee or administration charge.

PPL's other areas of operations include VPL, PPL Repertoire Database and PPL Video Store.