



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

24 January 2012

1/12

GRIFF RHYS JONES MOUNTS CIVIC TOUR OF NORTH WEST Civic Voice President to visit Preston, Blackpool & Manchester during two day tour

Comedian, actor, presenter, campaigner and President of Civic Voice¹, Griff Rhys Jones, kicks off a two day civic tour of the North West on 25th January. This coincides with the Government putting the final touches to its controversial new national planning policies.

Griff will be touring:

Preston – to debate localism, neighbourhood planning and the role of community action with civic societies drawn from across the region (25th January)

Blackpool – to host the annual Blackpool Civic Trust Awards and visit Blackpool's new "comedy carpet" where he has a quote in print (25th January)

Manchester – to speak to over one hundred local businesses and enterprises at Manchester Civic Society's corporate members lunch (26th January)

Griff will say "Change is in the air, as local communities take more control over their own future. The civic movement is at the heart of this with hundreds of local civic societies speaking up for their area. We want to play a revitalised role in promoting civic pride and making the places where everyone lives more attractive, enjoyable and distinctive."

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. Civic Voice works to make the places where everyone lives more attractive, enjoyable and distinctive. We speak up for civic societies and local communities across England. We promote civic pride. We are the national charity for the civic movement and have a strong local presence. We believe everyone has the right to live somewhere they can be proud of. We know how people feel about places because we feel the same way. Civic societies are the most numerous participants in the planning system. Since its launch in April 2010 Civic Voice has been joined by 290 civic societies with more than 75,000 members. Further information is available at www.civicvoice.org.uk including how to join Civic Voice (£10 individuals) and contact details for local civic societies. More information on Civic Voice's Planning for People campaign is available on our website here www.civicvoice.org.uk/campaigns/planning-for-people

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Ian Harvey, Co-ordinator, Civic Voice

(m) 07877 096968
(t) 0151 708 9920