

# BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL

July 11, 2007

## **Response to the Model Health Inquiry's Interim Report issued today**

*"As Chief Executive of the British Fashion Council I would like to welcome this interim report and thank Baroness Kingsmill and the inquiry panel for their time and hard work against a tight deadline in producing the report which was presented to us this morning. We will now take the time to examine in more depth their recommendations in terms of the potential impact on the industry itself and the BFC specifically.*

*The aim of this interim report is to seek further feedback in order that firm and workable recommendations can be outlined in the final report due to be issued early September.*

*There are several key recommendations within the interim report which are consistent with and support the BFC's already well-established policy on minimum model age, no smoking and no drug use at BFC run venues - issues which the designers showing in London have largely supported over the past years and I am sure will now work with us to enforce in a stronger and more transparent way. How these recommendations will be implemented will need to be discussed with model agencies, casting directors, designers and show producers over the coming weeks in order that they can be in place for September's Fashion Week which runs from 15-20 September.*

*As is specifically recognised by the inquiry, the BFC is responsible for organising London Fashion Week but supporting models does not fall within its remit. If the BFC is to take on a broader role in this important area, new sources of funding will be required.*

*As part of the interim report process the panel is requesting further input on the matter of model size and health before issuing recommendations as part of the final report and we await with interest to hear their conclusions on this matter."*

**Hilary Riva, Chief Executive, British Fashion Council**