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## Media Information

### Research Funding to help improve quality of life of Scotland's ageing population

New research aiming to have a direct impact on the quality of life of the ageing population in Scotland is to be made possible thanks to a grant from the Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland. The Foundation has entrusted nine hundred thousand pounds to The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) to be awarded to top-level Researchers over the next three years.

Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland began funding research into the ageing population, administered by the Society in 1999 and has since funded research into areas such as: ageing and creativity, IT support for older people, ageing and the perception of emotions, as well as work into memory and dementia and Strokes.

Distributed to exceptionally talented academics, through the RSE's successful Research Awards scheme, the funding makes possible some of Scotland's most innovative and promising new work. The awards make provision for postgraduate studentships, three year postdoctoral research fellowships and one year sabbatical programmes. While most of the work is carried out in Scotland, individuals of any nationality may apply. The Society is committed to ensuring that relevant findings of forthcoming research are brought to the attention of a broad public audience.

President of The Royal Society of Edinburgh, Sir Michael Atiyah said:

*This funding from the Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland is likely to have a very real impact on the quality of lives of our ageing population. The Society and I greatly value this very significant support from the Foundation which will help more of Scotland's brightest researchers to explore a wide range of issues affecting older people. My sincere thanks to the Chair, Norman Drummond, his fellow Trustees, the Foundation's Chief Executive, Andrew Muirhead, and to all at Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland for continuing to support this important work. It enables the expertise of the Society to be used effectively in the public interest.*

Chief Executive of Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland, Mr Andrew S Muirhead said:

*"It's great to be able to fund research that will make a real difference to so many people's lives. This work is focussed on the ageing population as it is something that affects us all. This latest award brings our total funding for research through the RSE to well over £2 million. Being able to work with such a*

*well recognised and respected group gives us great confidence in the quality of the research and the impact it will have, and it is particularly pleasing to be able to provide money to allow the brightest and best researchers working in Scotland to flourish.”*

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**Notes for Editors:**

**1. Funding Criteria**

Full details of criteria for application for funding are available from the RSE.

**2. Photographs**

jpgs showing RSE President, Sir Michael Atiyah & Foundation Chairman of Trustees, Rev. Norman Drummond are available from the RSE and the Foundation upon request without any charge.

**3. Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland**

Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland began life to support local community groups and time has only served to cement its identity as a community charity, indeed, most of the awards being made by The Foundation are still given to grassroots charities.

The Foundation is governed by a board of trustees who meet six times a year to consider applications and grant funds. Their work and passion for the Foundation turn hopes into reality and dreams into experiences.

When it was set up in 1986, the Foundation for Scotland became one of four independent charitable trusts that annually receive 1% of the then TSB's pre-tax profits, averaged over three years. The Foundation for Scotland receives 19.46% of this amount.

**4. The Royal Society of Edinburgh**

The Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) is Scotland's National Academy. A wholly

independent, non party-political body with charitable status, the RSE is a knowledge resource for the people of Scotland. Organising conferences and lectures both for the specialist and for the general public, the RSE is a forum for informed debate on issues of national and international importance. The Society draws upon the expertise of its multidisciplinary fellowship of men and women of international standing, to provide independent, expert advice to key decision making bodies, including Government and Parliament. Strengthening links between academia and industry and boosting wealth generation at home, the Society's Research Awards programme annually awards over £1.7 million pounds to exceptionally talented young academics and potential entrepreneurs.

Today, operating a successful programme of inspiring lectures and hands-on workshops for primary and secondary school pupils, the RSE is also active in classrooms from the Borders to the Northern Isles. The multidisciplinary membership of the RSE makes it unique amongst learned Societies in Great Britain. Its peer-elected fellowship encompasses excellence in the Sciences, Arts, Humanities, the Professions, Industry and Commerce. Born out of the intellectual ferment of the Scottish Enlightenment, the RSE was founded in 1783 by Royal Charter for the "advancement of learning and useful knowledge". A progressive Scottish Society, working as part of the UK and within a global context, the Royal Society of Edinburgh is committed to the future of Scotland's social, economic and cultural well-being. The RSE is Scottish Charity No. SC000470.

Further information about the RSE can be found on its website at:  
<http://www.royalsoced.org.uk>

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