



Press release: 14th September 2009

New Chief Minister elected in Montserrat

Reuben Meade was sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Montserrat on Thursday 10th September 2009, following a general election two days earlier on the Caribbean island.

It is the second time the 55-year-old economist has been appointed Chief Minister of the British Overseas Territory, having held the position previously from 1991 to 1996. Meade will act as Minister of Tourism as well as having responsibility for the Finance, Economic Development and Trade portfolios.

"I am humbled by the fact that the people have the confidence in me to lead this team and to take the island forward," he told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) at the end of a private ceremony presided over by the territory's British Governor Peter Waterworth.

Meade was sworn in along with the other successful candidates for the Movement for Change and Prosperity (MCAP), which claimed six of the nine seats in the Legislative Council.

Reuben Meade becomes Chief Minister towards the start of a long-term plan to develop a new capital for Montserrat at Little Bay, replacing the current capital Plymouth that is situated in the volcanic exclusion zone. The enticement of new investors to Montserrat and the development of new infrastructure for the island are expected to provide a major boost to the island's tourism industry.

For further information on Montserrat, please see www.VisitMontserrat.com or telephone 020 7928 1600.

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