HIGH profile Western Australian, Mr Kevin Skipworth CVO, has been appointed Chairman of the Perth Convention Bureau (PCB).

Kevin is replacing outgoing Chairman, Mr Ian Laurance AM, who, after seven outstanding years at the helm of PCB’s Board of Directors, has elected to retire.

Kevin, who was until late 2015 the Agent General for Western Australia in London, accepted an invitation to join PCB’s Board as a Consultative Director and take on the role of Chairman for two years effective 21 November 2016.

PCB’s Chief Executive Officer, Paul Beeson, said the Board was delighted that Kevin had accepted its invitation to take on the chairmanship. “Someone of Kevin’s stature and standing both locally and internationally will help to profile the role of the PCB and the significant contribution the business events sector makes to the Western Australian economy.”

“His involvement with a variety of Government and private sector organisations, Kevin brings a wealth of relevant experience to PCB,” Paul said.

Prior to his appointment in February 2012, Mr Skipworth served the last five Governors of Western Australia as Official Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, Governor’s Establishment, since January 1991.

Kevin has had a distinguished career in the Western Australian public sector since joining the Public Works Department in 1964. He has served successive State Governments as Private Secretary to four Ministers of the Crown in the portfolios of Lands, Forest, Works, Water Supply, Housing, Tourism, Regional Development, the North West, Conservation and the Environment.

Kevin has direct experience also of the important work of the European Office having held the position of Director of Administration from 1986 to 1988. On returning to Western Australia from London, he was appointed as Chief of Protocol in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

Kevin’s service to successive Governors and the Governments of Western Australia was recognised in April 2000 with Her Majesty The Queen appointing him as a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order (LVO). In 2011, during the Royal Visit and CHOGM in Perth, Her Majesty The Queen promoted Kevin to Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO).

Mr Skipworth said PCB had a reputation as a well-managed and soundly structured organisation that was delivering excellent results for the State.

“It is particularly pleasing to be joining PCB at a time when the business events sector is seen by Governments as a key economic driver for their destinations, particularly in developing strong global trading, cultural and social links,” Mr Skipworth said.

Funded by the West Australian Government through Tourism WA and by the City of Perth, the Perth Convention Bureau drives the business events sector in Perth and Western Australia by securing large, high yield conference events and marketing the City and State as a premium conference destination.

END