

**WESSEX EXPLORATION PLC  
(PLUS: WX.P)**

**Grant of Options**

Wessex Exploration PLC, the hydrocarbon exploration company (“Wessex” or the “Company”), announces that the Board of Directors has approved an unapproved share option plan which provides for the issue of up to 18,500,000 new Ordinary Shares of 0.1p each (“ the Option Shares”), representing approximately 4.88 per cent. of current shares in issue (“the Share Option Plan”).

Under the Share Option Plan new ordinary shares may be exercised at 5 pence per share. In general, options may be exercised as to one third of the Option Shares on or after each of the anniversaries of the date of grant commencing 21 December 2011 (being the first anniversary of the date of the Option). Entitlements to the Option Shares will lapse to the extent they are not exercised on or before 21 December 2020.

The following Directors have been granted Option shares under the Share Option Plan:

	Total shares under option
David Bramhill , Non-Executive Chairman	5,000,000
Frederik E Dekker, Managing Director	5,000,000
Andy Yeo, Non-Executive Director	5,000,000

**Contacts:**

Wessex Exploration PLC [www.wessexexploration.com](http://www.wessexexploration.com)  
David Bramhill - Non Executive Chairman +44 (0) 778 716 0682  
[davidbramhill@wessexexploration.com](mailto:davidbramhill@wessexexploration.com)

WH Ireland Limited [www.wh-ireland.co.uk](http://www.wh-ireland.co.uk)  
John Wakefield/Marc Davies +44 (0) 117 945 3470

Yellow Jersey PR +44 (0) 208 980 3545  
Dominic Barretto +44 (0) 776 853 7739  
[dominic@yellowjerseypr.com](mailto:dominic@yellowjerseypr.com)