

PROTECT [IL1]



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

G/5 Ground Floor, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ

Telephone: 020 7271 0841

Email: acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk

Website: <http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>

Alison Rumsey
HR Director
DECC

23 April 2013

Dear Ms Rumsey,

Business Appointments Applications: Wendy Barnes

The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments has considered two applications from Ms Barnes, the former Chief Operating Officer, who is seeking permission to accept a part-time paid appointment as Non-Executive Director for the Met Office,

Her last day in post after leaving Crown Service following the end of her contract was on 31 December 2012.

When considering the applications, the Committee noted that her role with the Met Office may involve dealings with her previous employer given their connections with the work of DECC. They also took into account that while in post she did not have any official dealings with the Met Office or its staff, and had not been involved in any decisions affecting them.

The Prime Minister accepted the Committee's advice that the applications be approved subject to the condition that for two years from her last day of service, Ms Barnes should not become personally involved in lobbying Government on behalf of her new employers. The Business Appointment Rules define lobbying in the following way: "Lobbying in this context means that the former civil servant should not engage in communication with Government - including Ministers, special advisers and officials - with a view to influencing a

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Mark Addison, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Rt Hon Lord Dholakia OBE,
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Sir Hugh Stevenson, General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE

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Government decision or policy in relation to their own interests, or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted”.

Please ensure that we are told when Ms Barnes takes up these posts or, if earlier, when it is announced that she will do so. We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments that have not been taken up or announced, and this could lead to a false assumption being made about whether she had complied with the Rules. In line with our usual practice, we will then publish brief details on our website (<http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>) including a copy of this letter.

Finally, I should be grateful if you would ask that Ms Barnes informs us if she proposes to change her roles with the Met Office and : because, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for her to make a fresh application.

Raj Bahia
Committee Secretariat

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