

From the Chairman



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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

Telephone: 020 7271 0841

Email: acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk

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

February 2013

You asked for the Committee's advice on accepting a paid appointment on the Advisory Board of The Foundation after leaving office on 19 October 2012.

When considering your request the Committee took into account the fact that The Foundation is a growth and innovation consultancy, which helps clients to achieve long-term, sustainable growth through innovation, and that, while you had been a member of its Advisory Board for ten years before joining Government, you had no dealings with the company or its competitors whilst in office. Nor is there any connection between the company's work and your Ministerial roles as either Secretary of State for International Development or Chief Whip. The Committee also noted that you are no longer subject to the three-month waiting period usually observed by former Cabinet Ministers before they take up a new appointment

As the three-month waiting period usually observed by former Cabinet Ministers has expired, we see no reason why you should not accept this appointment forthwith subject to the condition that, for two years from your last day in office, you should not become personally involved in lobbying UK Government, on behalf of your new employer or its clients.

The Business Appointment Rules define lobbying in the following way: "Lobbying in this context means that the former minister should not engage in communication with Government - including Ministers, special advisers and officials - with a view to influencing a 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".

I should be grateful if you would inform us as soon as you take up this appointment or, if earlier, when it is announced that you will do so, either by returning the enclosed form or by emailing the office at the above address. We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments which have not been taken up or announced. This could lead to a false assumption being made about whether you had complied with the Ministerial Code.

Members:

Mark Addison, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Rt Hon Lord Dholakia OBE,
Mary Jo Jacobi, Rt Hon Lord Lang of Monkton (Chairman), Rt Hon Lord Macdonald of Tradeston CBE
Sir Hugh Stevenson, General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE

Once an appointment has been publicly announced or taken up, we will include the main details, together with the Advisory Committee's advice on it and the date on which it was taken up, in both the regularly updated consolidated list on our website and in our annual report.

Lord Lang of Monkton

The Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP