

From the Chairman



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

G/8 Ground Floor, 1 Horse Guards Road SW1A 2HQ

Telephone: 020 7271 0839

Email: acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk

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

December 2014

You asked for the Committee's advice on accepting a part-time, paid role as an Adviser for Inmarsat.

When considering your application, the Committee took into account that you did not have any official dealings with Inmarsat during your last two years in ministerial office. It was also noted that you did not have access to any commercially sensitive information about any competitors. Furthermore, the Committee noted that you were not involved in policy development, the award of grants or any regulatory work that could have affected your employment with Inmarsat. It was also noted that your former department does have a relationship with your prospective employer but this is non-contractual.

Taking into account all the circumstances, the Committee is content to approve the appointment subject to the following conditions:

- you should not draw on any privileged information available to you from your time in Government; and
- for two years from your last day in ministerial office, you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of your new employer, its parent company or its clients.

It might be helpful if I add that lobbying is defined in the Business Appointment Rules 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 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".

Members:

Mark Addison, Baroness Browning, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Lord German OBE, Mary Jo Jacobi, Baroness Liddell of Coatdyke, Sir Hugh Stevenson (Chairman), General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE

From the Chairman

I should be grateful if you would inform us as soon as you take up the appointment or, if earlier, when it is announced that you will do so, either by returning the enclosed form or by emailing this 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. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if you propose to extend or otherwise change your role with Inmarsat as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for you to seek fresh advice.

Once the appointment has been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish this letter on the Committee's website and include the main details of the application, together with the Advisory Committee's advice, in the regularly updated consolidated list on our website and in the next annual report.

Sir Hugh Stevenson

Stephen Hammond MP

Members:

Mark Addison, Baroness Browning, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Lord German OBE, Mary Jo Jacobi,
Baroness Liddell of Coatdyke, Sir Hugh Stevenson (Chairman), General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE