

From the Chairman



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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18 September 2014

Dear Lord Green,

You asked for the Committee's advice about accepting a part-time, unpaid role as Chairman of the International Advisory Council, British Chambers of Commerce (BCC).

When considering your application, the Committee took into account that you did not have direct official dealings with the BCC during your last two years in office. Furthermore, you had no dealings with any competitors of the BCC during your last two years in office. It was also noted that the departments related to your former post as Minister of State for Trade and Investment for UKTI are content with the appointment and state there are no propriety concerns from their perspective.

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".

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 the BCC 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

The Lord Green of Hurstpierpoint