



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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You asked for the Committee's advice about accepting a part-time paid appointment as a Senior Adviser to PwC.

When considering your application, the Committee took into account that you had no contact with PwC whilst you were Treasury Minister. The Committee noted that as a by-product of PwC's internal audit work at DWP, you knew about some of the specific projects that they did for the Department. The Committee also considered that in the course of your Ministerial duties at DWP you had some official dealings with Deloitte, co-owners of Ingeus, who are competitors of PwC. However the Committee noted PwC were not involved with this area of work and noted that Deloitte has also sold its interest in Ingeus.

Furthermore the Committee noted that this role does not require you to lobby government and that you do not intend to take up this role until after May 2015.

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

- that you should not draw on any privileged information available to you as a Minister; 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 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 the appointment, or if 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. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if you propose to extend or otherwise change your role with PwC 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.

Baroness Browning

Mark Hoban MP