



**OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS**

G/7 Ground Floor, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Telephone: 020 7271 0839

Email: [acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk)

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

**18 June 2014**

**Ref: 1415/8M**

Dear Mr Neill,

**Independent Consultancy – Commission with Cratus Communications**

The Committee has considered your request to accept a commission with as Non-Executive Director on the Board of Cratus Communications.

The Committee noted that Cratus Communications, whose parent company is Cratus Limited, are a communications firm specializing in local government and planning. The Committee further noted you did not have any direct official or contractual dealings with your prospective employer, its clients or any competitors during your last two years of service.

**The Committee therefore agrees that the commission is permissible within the terms of your independent consultancy and can be accepted as soon as you wish.**

The conditions that apply to your independent consultancy are:

- You should not draw on any privileged information available to you from your time in Government; and
- You should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of your new employer or its clients for two years from your last day in office;
- For two years from your last day in service, he must seek confirmation from the Committee directly that each individual commission is permissible under the terms of your consultancy before taking it up. If, after enquiry, the Committee takes the view that a commission is, or may be, outside the terms of the consultancy you will be expected to submit a fresh application.

I would be grateful if you could let me know when you take up this commission, or if it is announced that you are to do so. This will enable the Committee to publish brief details on the regularly updated consolidated list on its website and in its next annual report. This letter may also be published (with relevant redactions of personal information).

Yours sincerely,

**Baljit Rayit**  
**Committee Secretariat**