



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

G/5 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>

Robert Devereux  
Permanent Secretary  
Department for Work & Pensions

27 June 2012

Dear Mr Devereux,

**BUSINESS APPOINTMENT APPLICATION: SUSIE SQUIRE**

The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments has considered the application from Susie Squire, a former special adviser in to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, who is seeking permission to accept a position as Head of Press for the Conservative Party. As you will be aware, as a former special adviser her application is required to be considered by the Advisory Committee which provides advice to the relevant Permanent Secretary for a decision.

The Committee is of the view that the appointment raises no propriety concerns under the Business Appointments Rules. In addition, as Ms Squire is not an SCS3 equivalent, the Committee also notes that she is not subject to the standard two-year lobbying ban imposed on staff at that level.

Therefore, the Committee recommends that the application be approved unconditionally.

As with all Special Advisers, the Committee makes this recommendation on the understanding that, if she has not already done so, she must confirm in writing to the department that she recognises that she continues to be bound by the provisions of the criminal law (including the Official Secrets Act) which protect certain categories of information, and by her duty of confidentiality owed to the Crown.

I should be grateful if you could inform us of your final decision and send us a copy of the letter sent to Ms Squire informing her of the outcome of her application.

I would also be grateful if you would ensure that we are informed when Ms Squire takes up this appointment. In line with our usual practice, we will then publish brief details of the appointment on our website (<http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>) including, with your agreement, a copy of your letter.

Yours sincerely,

**BETH WATSON**