



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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You asked for the Committee's advice on taking up an appointment with Biotech Growth Trust PLC.

At Biotech you would act as a Non-Executive Director on the board, working to assess the performance of OrbiMed Capital LLC (OrbiMed), who manage the company's assets. The proposed start date for this appointment is November 2015 with a time commitment of around 1 day per month. The role will be part-time and paid.

When considering this application, the Committee took into account that as Minister for Science, part of your responsibilities would have included life sciences, which is the area that Biotech invests in. However, they also noted that you had no official dealings with Biotech during your last two years in office, are not aware of any relationship between your former department and Biotech, and that it has been over a year since you left ministerial office.

Your former department has commented that it has no propriety concerns regarding this appointment.

The Committee sees no reason why you should not take up this appointment subject to the following conditions:

- that you should not draw on [disclose or use for the benefit of yourself or the organisation to which this advice refers] any privileged information available to you from your time as a Minister; and
- for two years from your last day in ministerial office, you should become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of Biotech Growth Trust PLC, OrbiMed Capital LLC, their subsidiaries, partners or clients.

By 'privileged information' we mean official information to which a Minister has had access as a consequence of his or her office or employment and which has not been made publicly available. Applicants are also reminded that they may be subject to other duties of confidentiality, whether under the Official Secrets Act, the Civil Service Code or otherwise.

Also, it might be helpful if I add that the Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that former Ministers "should not engage in communication with Government –

including Ministers, special advisers and officials – with a view to influencing a Government decision or policy [including applications for awards or grants] in relation to their own interests, or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted”.

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

The Rt Hon Lord Willetts