

From the Chairman



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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Dear Sir Peter,

30 May 2014

You asked for the Committee's advice about taking up a part-time, paid appointment as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Pub Governing Body (PGB).

In reaching a decision on your application, the Committee noted that you did not have dealings with the PGB, nor any competitors during your last two years in office, nor does your former department have any contractual or non-contractual relationship with the organisation.

Our advice is that we see no reason why you should not take up the appointment subject to the condition that, for two years from the date of your leaving office, you do not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of the PGB.

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 PGB as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for you to seek fresh advice.

Members:

Mark Addison, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Rt Hon Lord Dholakia DBE, Mary Jo Jacobi, Rt Hon Baroness Liddell of Coatdyke.

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.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Hugh Stevenson

Sir Peter Luff MP

Members:

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