



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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Dear Dr Lawrence,

Independent Consultancy - New Commission

The Commission has considered your request to accept a commission with Satellite Applications Catapult as a Non Executive Director.

The Committee noted that a collaboration was announced in January 2015 between Satellite Applications Catapult and Ordnance Survey on the GEMNet project, which aims to understand the nature and extent of interference on Global Navigation Satellite Systems. However, Ordnance Survey have confirmed that you had no involvement with the GEMNet project prior to leaving the business and, as you left the organisation a while ago, would not have knowledge of relevant developments that might cause concern about conflicts.

The Committee agrees that this commission is permissible within the terms of your independent consultancy, which was defined as ‘to provide strategic advice on how to optimise information assets in the global digital arena’.

The conditions that apply to your independent consultancy are:

- for two years from your last day of service, you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of any of your clients or those you advises;
- you should not draw on privileged information available to you from your time in Crown service;
- for 12 months from your last day of service you should not undertake any work as a consultant which involves providing advice to any company or organisation on the terms of a bid or contract relating directly to the work of Ordnance Survey or any subsidiary of Ordnance Survey; and
- for two years from your last day of service, before accepting any new commission you should make a case directly to the Committee to confirm that each individual

commission you wish to undertake would be permissible under the approved terms of the consultancy. (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).

The Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that the former Crown servant “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”.

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,

Catherine Millington