

30 January 2015

Issue of guidance on the requirement to register

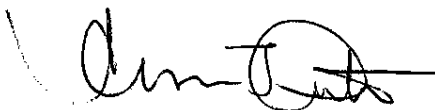
Today I am publishing guidance on the requirement to join the Register of Consultant Lobbyists in the context of the Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 (the Act). The Register is intended to enhance transparency of those who seek to influence decision-makers and to allow the public to scrutinise whose interests are being represented by lobbyists of the Government.

Central to the success of the Register is ensuring that all stakeholders have the tools and information necessary to meet the requirement to register. This guidance is part of a process of engagement and should not be seen as a single event. I continue to encourage potential registrants, users and other stakeholders to engage with my Office in the implementation of the Register.

It is my intention to launch the Register by 27 March. As part of joining the Register, organisations will be required to make an information update which provides the names of their clients in the three months prior joining the Register. I am aware that as guidance is being published during this quarter, organisations may be unable to accurately declare their activity for the full period. I want to assure these organisations that I will not be looking to initiate enforcement activity for instances of error or oversight at this stage. I will be encouraging and supporting potential registrants who are unsure whether their communications are defined as consultant lobbying in the context of this legislation and working in partnership to build experience and compliance.

As part of the process of implementation, I am inviting potential registrants to express an interest in joining the Register. This will support my planning so that I can tailor communications and, where necessary, training and support to those organisations which need it. If you would like to express an interest, complete a form at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/register-of-consultant-lobbyists-expression-of-interest> and email to enquiries@orcl.gov.uk subject: Expression of interest.

Yours sincerely



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