



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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Business Appointments Application: Lieutenant General Sir Simon Mayall

The Committee has been asked to consider an application from Lieutenant General Sir Simon Mayall, the former Defence Senior Advisor for the Middle East. He is seeking permission to accept an appointment with Greenhill & Co International as a senior advisory board member.

The Committee took into account that Greenhill and Co International are an independent investment bank and as such have no defence interests and no engagements with the MOD. Lt General Mayall has stated that he has not had any official contact with them and, as Greenhill and the MOD's business environments are mutually exclusive, has not had access to any commercially sensitive information relevant to Greenhill's business or that of its competitors.

Lt Gen Mayall's new role will involve providing advice on the development and expansion of Greenhill's business in the Middle East and North Africa. Additionally he will be involved in the initiation of new financial business and will provide support to the company in understanding the complexity of the region so Greenhill can convince potential long term clients of their commitment to long term engagement.

The Committee has taken into consideration the fact that this appointment is not likely to include any contact or dealings with Lt Gen Mayall's former department or Government in general. It has also been noted that the MOD have not raised any concerns, provided the appointment is subject to a lobbying ban.

The Secretary of State for Defence has accepted the Committee's advice that there is no reason why Lt Gen Mayall should not take up this post subject to the following conditions;

- He should not draw on privileged information available to him from his time in Crown Service.

- For two years from his last day in service, he should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of Greenhill & Co International or its clients.

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

Please ensure that we are told when Lt Gen Mayall takes up this post or, if earlier, when it is announced that he will do so. We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments that have not been taken up or announced, and this could lead to a false assumption being made about whether he had complied with the Rules. In line with our usual practice, we will then publish brief details on our website (<http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>) including a copy of this letter.

Yours Sincerely

Alex Young
Caseworker