

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10 December 2014

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### Present

Sir Hugh Stevenson (Chair)  
Baroness Browning  
Sir Colin Budd  
Lord German  
Mary Jo Jacobi  
Baroness Liddell  
Lord Walker of Aldringham

### Secretariat

Carrie Aitken  
Ekpe Attah  
Deborah De Beukelaer  
Catherine Millington  
Maggie O'Boyle  
Clare Salters

### Apologies for absence

1. Apologies were received from Mark Addison.

### Minutes of the last meeting

2. The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 22 October, were approved subject to some minor corrections.

### Chair's update

3. Following an open competition run according to the Commissioner for Public Appointments' rules, Baroness Browning had been confirmed by the Government as the preferred candidate as the new Chair of ACOBA, and had just attended a pre-appointment scrutiny hearing before the Public Administration Select Committee.
4. The recruitment campaign run by the Cabinet Office for the new independent members of the Committee had now closed.
5. In line with the new rules, the Chair had acceded to a request from an applicant to make clear his proposed appointment would not be caught by the lobbying ban.
6. As was customary when Ministers left the UK, Scottish or Welsh Governments, the Chair had written to Ministers who had recently left the Scottish Government, to remind them of their obligations under the rules.

### Case consideration: [REDACTED]

7. After considering submissions from a former Crown servant, the Committee agreed that a waiting period of six months would be proportionate in this case.

### Case consideration: [REDACTED]

8. It was agreed that the definition of lobbying in this case would be clarified in the advice given by the Committee to make clear what type of interaction with the former

department was permissible under the rules.

**Communications**

9. The Press Officer updated the Committee on recent press coverage.

**Any other business**

10. Meeting dates for 2015 would to be circulated and confirmed by the end of the week.

Committee Secretariat

December 2014