



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

Room G/8, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ

Telephone: 020 7271 0839

Email: acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk

Website: <http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>

12 November 2014

BUSINESS APPOINTMENT APPLICATION: ADMIRAL SIR MARK STANHOPE

The Committee has been asked to consider an application from Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope, the former First Sea Lord in the Royal Navy, who is seeking permission to accept a new appointment as a Royal Naval Trustee for the Royal Museums Greenwich. Sir Mark left his post in April 2013 and his last day in Crown service was 28 September 2013.

When considering this application, the Committee noted that it was not likely to include dealings with Sir Mark's former Department/Government. The Committee took into account that Sir Mark had had no contractual dealings with the organisation, or with any competitors. They also took into account the MOD's view that the appointment did not raise any propriety concerns.

The Prime Minister has accepted the Committee's recommendation that the application be approved subject to the condition that:

- for two years from his last day of service, Sir Mark should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of his new employer, its parent company or its clients.

The Business Appointment Rules define lobbying 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 could ensure that we are informed as soon as Sir Mark takes up this role, or if it is announced that he will do so (I enclose a form for this purpose). 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, and this could lead to a false assumption being made about whether he had complied with the rules.

I should also be grateful if you would ask that Sir Mark informs us if he proposes to extend or otherwise change this role as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for him to make a fresh application.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Millington". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Catherine Millington
Committee Secretariat