

*From the Chair*



**OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS**

G/8 Ground Floor, 1 Horse Guards Road SW1A 2HQ

Telephone: 020 7271 0839

Email: [acoba@acoba.gov.uk](mailto:acoba@acoba.gov.uk)

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

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You asked for the Committee's advice about taking up two new appointments: registering with the Washington Speakers Bureau (WSB), and taking up an unpaid role as Chairman of the National Citizen Service Patrons.

The Committee noted that you would be registered with WSB and give speeches on the contemporary global political environment. You will be likely to spend around two to three days' work per month on this and will personally approve all agreed invitations and engagements to ensure that there would be no propriety concerns or conflicts of interest. The Committee noted that you had no dealings with the WSB while in office and there will be no contact with the UK Government involved in this role.

The National Citizen Service (NCS) is a youth development programme available to 16 and 17 year olds in England and Northern Ireland. The Committee noted that you would be joining as Chairman of the NCS Patrons, which would be an unpaid post to establish and convene the panel of patrons. As Chairman your role will then involve ensuring the patrons are playing their part in supporting NCS. You will advocate for the programme on a national level, act as an ambassador for NCS to the public, and offer advice and counsel to the team at NCS Trust.

The Committee noted that you were responsible for establishing the NCS as Prime Minister, and kept up to date with the organisation while in post. Although this is a publicly funded body, the Committee noted that your role will be unpaid, that you will not lobby Government, and will not be involved in issues pertaining to the Board of Directors or Executive team around the awarding of contracts of funding. Your role will be ambassadorial and involve supporting a programme that emerged from your concept when Leader of the Opposition and gained cross-party support.

The Committee noted that your former department had no objections to your joining WSB and were supportive of your appointment with NCS Patrons.

The Committee also took into account that, as the former Prime Minister, you are subject to a standard three-month waiting period before taking up any outside appointment.

*From the Chair*

Taking into account all of the circumstances, the Committee sees no reason why you should not take up these appointments, subject to the following conditions:

- A three-month waiting period from your last day in office;
- You should not draw on (disclose or use for the benefit of yourself or the organisations or persons to which this advice refers) any privileged information available to you as Prime Minister; and
- For two years from your last day in office you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of WSB or its clients, or on behalf of the NCS Trust.

By 'privileged information' we mean official information to which a Minister has had access as a consequence of his or her office or employment and which has not been made publicly available. Applicants are also reminded that they may be subject to other duties of confidentiality, whether under the Official Secrets Act or otherwise.

It might be helpful if I add that the Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that former Ministers "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 should be grateful if you would inform us as soon as you take up either of these appointments, or if it is announced that you will do so, either by returning the enclosed form or by emailing the office at the address at the start of this letter. 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. This could lead to a false assumption being made about whether you had complied with the Ministerial Code. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if you propose to extend or otherwise change either of these roles as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for you to seek fresh advice.

Once the appointments have been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish this letter on the Committee's website and include the main details of the applications, together with the Advisory Committee's advice, in the regularly updated consolidated list on our website and in the next annual report.

The Baroness Browning

Rt Hon David Cameron