

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 June 2015

### Present

Baroness Browning (Chair)  
Mark Addison  
Sir Alex Allan  
Lord German  
Mary Jo Jacobi  
Terence Jagger  
Baroness Liddell  
John Wood

### Secretariat

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

### Apologies and introductions

1. There were no apologies.
2. The Chair welcomed the two new members, Terence Jagger and John Wood, who had joined the Committee in April, to their first Committee meeting, and introduced the new member of the secretariat, Vicky Ramsden, a graduate intern.

### Chair's Update

3. The Chair had written to all members of the Government at the end of March to remind them of their responsibilities under the Business Appointment Rules, should they lose their ministerial positions following the General Election.
4. The Chair was also about to write to the 36 members who had recently left ministerial office. This would present an increase in casework in the months ahead, and some additional short-term secretariat support from the Cabinet Office graduate intern pool would assist with the extra work.
5. Two particularly difficult cases had come before the Committee recently:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Baroness Browning, Sir Alex, Baroness Liddell, Mark Addison, and Mary Jo Jacobi all declared that they knew [REDACTED] and Terence Jagger recused himself from the case.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7. The Chair had had a series of meetings with permanent secretaries. She had been impressed with their attitude towards the Business Appointment Rules and the work of the Committee, and they seemed to be taking the process very seriously. She would meet with the MoD committee which gave recommendations on MoD business appointments applications later that month. She would also meet with Matthew Hancock, the new Minister for the Cabinet Office.

### **Minutes of the last meeting**

8. The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 4 February, were approved subject to one minor amendment.

### **Annual Report**

9. Ekpe Attah introduced the paper and draft annual report, which was scheduled to be published before the summer recess.
10. The Committee would feed in further thoughts about the annual report by email, and would come back to the topic at the away day.

### **Variations to the standard conditions**

11. The paper set out the variations in the standard conditions that had been used in the past. These variations fell into three categories: amendments to the lobbying ban, amendments to the length and the waiving of waiting periods, and additional behavioural conditions. The Committee would continue to use its discretion in applying the standard conditions.

### **Communications**

12. The Press Officer, Maggie O'Boyle, updated the Committee on recent press coverage. She noted that the recent interest was probably largely due to the publication of appointments on the website. There would also likely be interest in the annual report.



### **Freedom of Information**

14. Ekpe gave an oral update on recent FOI requests.

### **Any Other Business**

15. The Committee discussed the agenda of the upcoming away day, to be held on Wednesday 24 June.
16. The next Committee meeting was due to take place on Wednesday 21 October.

**Committee Secretariat  
June 2015**