



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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BUSINESS APPOINTMENT APPLICATION: DR FELICITY HARVEY CBE

The Committee has been asked to consider an application from Dr Felicity Harvey, former DG for Public and International Health, who proposes to take up the post of non-executive director at Guy's and St Thomas's NHS Foundation Trust.

Dr Harvey was DG for Public and International Health between April 2012 and June 2016, responsible for the public health system.

Dr Harvey has been offered the post of non-executive director at Guy's and St Thomas's NHS Foundation Trust. The role is part-time (approximately three days per month) and paid. It is not likely to include any contact or dealings with the Department of Health or with government more generally.

When considering this application the Committee took into account that Dr Harvey has had some limited official dealings with the Trust as she undertook visits to different parts of Guy's and St Thomas's every four or five months, as well as visits to many other parts of the NHS and public health system across England. The contacts for visits were with clinicians on each occasion and not the chairman, governors or executive directors. As she has not been involved in any decisions affecting the Trust the Committee does not consider that the appointment could be perceived as a reward.

The Committee also took into account that the Permanent Secretary for the Department of Health expressed no reservations about this appointment.

The Prime Minister accepted the Committee's advice that there was no reason why Dr Harvey should not take up this appointment, subject to the following conditions:

- She should not draw on (disclose or use for the benefit of herself or the organisations to which this advice refers) any privileged information available to her from her time in Crown service;

- For two years from her last day in Crown service, she should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of Guy's and St Thomas's NHS Foundation Trust or make use, directly or indirectly, of her contacts in Government and/or Crown service to influence policy or secure funding on behalf of the Trust.

By 'privileged information' we mean official information to which a Minister or Crown servant 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, the Civil Service Code or otherwise.

The Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that the former Crown servant/Minister "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 ensure that we are informed as soon as Dr Harvey takes up this position, or if it is announced that she 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 she had complied with the rules.

I should also be grateful if you would ask that Dr Harvey informs us if she proposes to extend or otherwise change the nature of her role as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for her 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

Nicola Richardson
Committee Secretariat