



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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Dear Vice Admiral Hudson,

The Committee has considered your request to accept a commission to join a NATO Senior Experts Group, which will contribute to a review of NATO's Command Structure.

The Committee noted that you were nominated by the Ministry of Defence to join the Group and that the group composition was approved on 26 October at a meeting of NATO Defence Ministers in Brussels. You will be paid as a consultant for a maximum of 15 days and the role will commence on 10 November.

The Committee agrees that this commission is permissible within the terms of your consultancy, which centres on the future operational landscape and potential crises as well as highlighting capability shortfalls across Europe. Your consultancy will utilise your strategic understanding of the international community, engage in training roles and will not target individual equipment programmes.

The conditions that apply to your consultancy are:

- A waiting period of six months from your last day in Crown service (now expired);
- You should not draw on (disclose or use for the benefit of yourself or the organisation to which this advice refers) any privileged information available to you from your time in Crown service;
- For two years from your last day in service, you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of any of your clients or those you advise;
- For 12 months from your last day of service you should not undertake any work as a consultant which involves providing advice to any company or organisation on the terms of a bid or contract relating directly to the work of the MOD; and
- For two years from your last day of service, before accepting any new commission you should apply to the Committee for approval to confirm that it is acceptable under the Committee's guidelines.

The Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that the former Crown servant “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 let me know when you take up this piece of work, or if it is announced that you are to do so. This will enable the Committee to publish this letter and brief details on the regularly updated consolidated list on its website and in its next annual report.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Richardson
Committee Secretariat