



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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18 August 2020

1. Sire Andrew Parker, the former Director General of MI5 has approached the Committee about taking up an appointment with speaking agency Jeremy Lee Associates.
2. Sir Andrew was Director General from 1983. His last day in Crown Service was 24 April 2020.

Appointment Details

3. Sir Andrew has sought to take up an appointment with Jeremy Lee Associates (JLA). This agency arranges speaking opportunities to a range of audiences with a variety of speakers. This is a part-time, paid appointment. Sir Andrew would be placed on the JLA register and therefore become available to do speeches at conferences and events.
4. Sir Andrew informed the Committee he had no official dealings with JLA during his last two years in office. Further, he is not aware of any relationship between MI5 and JLA and had no dealings with their competitors or access to commercially sensitive information about competitors.
5. The Cabinet Office countersigned this application and stated it has no concerns about the appointment. It confirmed that though Sir Andrew did have access to sensitive information he had no information about competitors of JLA and was fully cognisant from his time in office about his obligations under the Official Secrets Act. The Department also registered no concerns about the appointment as it involved no contact with Government and Sir Andrew had had no contact with any of JLA's competitors whilst in office

The Committee's consideration

6. When considering this application, the Committee¹ took into account this appointment has no direct connection with his time as Director General of MI5. It particularly noted he had no dealings with JLA whilst in office. Cabinet Office further stated that they had no official dealings with JLA. Therefore, the Committee considered there is

¹ This application for advice was considered by Sir Alex Allan; Jonathan Baume; Mike Weir; Dr Susan Liautaud; The Rt Hon the Lord Eric Pickles; Richard Thomas; Lord Larry Whitty and John Wood.

no objective reason it might be perceived this appointment is a reward for decisions made or actions taken from his time in office.

7. The Committee did not consider this appointment raises any proprietary concerns under the Government's Business Appointment Rules, however it would like to draw Sir Andrew's attention to the conditions below. In particular, the restriction that he should not draw on privileged information available to him from his time in office. (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.)
8. The Committee also took into account that, given his seniority in office he is subject to a standard three-month waiting period under the Rules before taking up any outside appointment.
9. Taking into account these factors, in accordance with the Government's Business Appointment Rules, the Committee advises this appointment be subject to the following conditions:
 - a waiting period of three months from your last day in office (that is, you must not take up this appointment before 24 July 2020);
 - you should not draw on (disclose or use for the benefit of yourself or the persons or organisations to which this advice refers) any privileged information available to you as a Crown servant; for two years from your last day in office,
 - for two years from your last day in Crown service, you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government or its arm's length bodies on behalf of Jeremy Lee Associates (including parent companies, subsidiaries, partners and clients); nor should you make use, directly or indirectly, of your contacts in the Government or its arm's length bodies and/or Crown service to influence policy, secure business/funding or otherwise unfairly advantage Jeremy Lee Associates (including parent companies, subsidiaries, partners and clients)
10. 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.
11. The Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that the former Crown servant/Minister "*should not engage in communication with Government (Ministers, civil servants, including special advisers, and other relevant officials/public office holders) – wherever it takes place - with a view to influencing a Government decision, policy or contract award/grant in relation to their own interests or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted or with which they hold office.*"
12. I should be grateful if you would inform us as soon as Sir Andrew takes up employment with this organisation, or if it is announced that he will do so. We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments that have not been taken up or announced. This could lead to a false assumption being made about whether he has complied with the Rules.

13. Please also inform us if Sir Andrew proposes to extend or otherwise change the nature of your role as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for him to make a fresh application.
14. Once the appointment has been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish this letter on the Committee's website, and where appropriate, refer to it in the relevant annual report.

Yours sincerely

Sam Lynch
Committee Secretariat