



Rt Hon. Oliver Dowden CBE MP
Deputy Prime Minister and
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS

Sir Nigel Boardman

Sent via email

20 July 2023

Government Response to *A report by Nigel Boardman into the Development and Use of Supply Chain Finance (and associated schemes) related to Greensill Capital in Government: Recommendations and Suggestions*

Dear Nigel,

I am pleased to enclose the Government's response to your report outlining your recommendations to Government, following your review of the Development and Use of Supply Chain Finance (and associated schemes) related to Greensill Capital in Government. The Government has been managing the response to this report together with reports from the Committee on Standards in Public Life and the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee on similar themes.

In response to these reports, the Government is introducing a wide-ranging programme of reform to strengthen ethics and integrity in central government.

In particular, we will be introducing fundamental reforms to the Business Appointment Rules to modernise the system, improve its usability for applicants and - most importantly - ensure that the integrity of Government is protected. To protect and defend the principles of ministerial discretion and appointment by merit in the public appointments process, we will implement a number of recommended reforms to improve accountability and transparency. We are introducing comprehensive reforms to improve the quality and accessibility of departments' transparency returns, alongside linked reforms to the Register of Consultant Lobbyists. We are also clarifying our compliance arrangements across government departments.

You may have seen via a Written Ministerial Statement made last year that the Government has already acted on a number of your recommendations. Namely, the Government has introduced a new policy to improve the management of outside interests in the Civil Service, issued new guidance on Novel Financing Arrangements, and updated its Model Services Contract to better account for potential conflicts of interest. The Government has further noted your suggestions, and will keep these in mind as we implement the accepted recommendations.

May I thank you once again for your report and your contribution to ensuring the highest standards of conduct in government.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Oliver Dowden', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Rt Hon. Oliver Dowden CBE MP
Deputy Prime Minister**