



Independent Adviser on Ministerial Standards  
Sir Laurie Magnus CBE

Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AB

12 November 2025

Dear Prime Minister

Thank you for your letter of earlier today detailing the nature of your involvement in the process for the appointment of the Chair of the Independent Football Regulator.

I want to place on record my appreciation of the open discussions we have had in relation to this matter - a relationship of trust that is essential to enable me to undertake my responsibilities as your adviser.

It is regrettable, as you say in your letter, that despite the recusal we agreed in Autumn 2024 concerning the Football Governance Bill, you were asked to confirm that you were content with the proposed appointment recommended by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport in line with her statutory responsibilities as the appointing authority. It is important that robust processes for the management of recusals are in place in No.10 and I welcome the internal review you have commissioned in this connection.

I consider that the disclosures made in your letter are an important demonstration of your commitment to transparency and to ensuring that mistakes are acknowledged and necessary steps taken to improve processes underpinning standards in public life.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Laurie Magnus'.

**Sir Laurie Magnus CBE**  
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