Cabinet Office

Part of a Return to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons dated 4 February 2026 relating to the appointment of Lord Mandelson as HM Ambassador to Washington

Volume III

HC 2-IV
(Continues from HC 1774-I of Session 2024–26 and HC 2-I, HC 2-II and HC 2-III of Session 2026–27)

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Volume III

Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed on 26 November 2026

HC 2-IV
(Continues from HC 1774-I of Session 2024–26 and HC 2-I, HC 2-II and HC 2-III of Session 2026–27)

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HUMBLE ADDRESS: APPOINTMENT OF LORD MANDELSON AS HM AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON

That an Humble Address be presented to His Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to give directions to require the Government to lay before this House all papers relating to Lord Mandelson's appointment as His Majesty's Ambassador to the United States of America, including but not confined to the Cabinet Office due diligence which was passed to Number 10, the Conflict of Interest Form Lord Mandelson provided to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), material the FCDO and the Cabinet Office provided to UK Security Vetting about Lord Mandelson's interests in relation to Global Counsel, including his work in relation to Russia and China, and his links to Jeffrey Epstein, papers for, and minutes of, meetings relating to the decision to appoint Lord Mandelson, electronic communications between the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff and Lord Mandelson, and between ministers and Lord Mandelson, in the six months prior to his appointment, minutes of meetings between Lord Mandelson and ministers in the six months prior to his appointment, all information on Lord Mandelson provided to the Prime Minister prior to his assurance to this House on 10 September 2025 that 'full due process was followed during this appointment', electronic communications and minutes of all meetings between Lord Mandelson and ministers, Government officials and special advisers during his time as Ambassador, and the details of any payments made to Lord Mandelson on his departure as Ambassador and from the Civil Service except papers prejudicial to UK national security or international relations which shall instead be referred to the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament.

GOVERNMENT METHODOLOGY IN COMPLYING WITH THE HUMBLE ADDRESS

1. In order to provide transparency to Parliament and the public, the process by which the Government gathered, processed and published material in relation to the Humble Address of 04 February 2026 is set out in the Volume II return dated 01 June 2026. This publication is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/update-on-the-government-response-to-the-humble-address-motion.

2. The methodology set out in Volume II has been followed for this volume.

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1 - 19-12-2024 - Emails between Ailsa Terry (Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs, No. 10) and Rochelle Fisher (Deputy Director, Head of Senior Appointments and Talent, FCDO)

From: Ailsa Terry Personal
Sent: Thur 19/12/2024 9:20:46 PM (UTC)
To: Rochelle Fisher Personal ; JCS

Subject: RE: Conflict of interest and business appointment rules

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HR - MANAGEMENT

OFFICIAL

Hi Rochelle
Thank you.
To keep this clear and organised, JCS and I agreed Philip and FCDO should lead on the discussions on T&Cs.
The correct email is Personal
Ailsa

OFFICIAL

From: Rochelle Fisher
Sent: 19 December 2024 14:51
To: Ailsa Terry ; JCS
Subject: Conflict of interest and business appointment rules

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HR - MANAGEMENT

Hi Ailsa and JCS,
Attached is the conflict of interest form for the new employee to complete and associated policies to support this. Can you agree who will share with the person?
Best wishes
Rochelle
Rochelle Fisher FCIPD (she/her) | **Deputy Director, Head of Senior Appointments and Talent** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Personal |
email: Personal

2 - 20-12-2024 - Email from Junior Civil Servant to Kate Anderton (Head of Independent Adviser Secretariat, Cabinet Office)

From: JCS [Personal]
Sent: Fri 20/12/2024 11:12:04 AM (UTC)
To: Kate Anderton[Personal]
Subject: HMA Washington: Political Appointment
Attachment: COI policy.docx
Attachment: conflicts-of-Interest-declaration form.docx
Attachment: BAR.docx
Attachment: Lines.docx

Hi Kate,
Attached what we're planning to share with Lord Mandelson - on conflicts of interest and also business appointments - and the draft public lines. Your review and guidance very welcome.
Thank you!

JCS
JCS **| Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

Please ensure items for the PUSs' daily e-box reach PUS Action by 1400 clearly marked for the relevant PS. Our portfolios can be found here. Please note that we will not routinely keep a record of any emails or attachments.

COI line

The FCDO has a policy for managing potential conflicts of interest that supports all employees in adhering to the standards and expectations of propriety for civil servants.

Interests are requested and considered both before employment commences and on an annual basis for a senior civil servants.

Has he given up his business interests?

His appointment will be subject to the usual processes which are ongoing, including declarations and any requisite advice and mitigations, as required.

Relevant declarations will be made in due course.

When will you publish these?

There are processes in place, relevant declarations will be made in line with the guidance on conflicts of interest for senior civil servants.

Any declarations will follow that process and be set out in due course.

From: JCS [Personal]
Sent: Fri 20/12/2024 2:36:36 PM (UTC)
To: JCS [Personal]
Cc: Kate Anderton[Personal]; Rupert Hetherington[Personal]; Ailsa Terry (No.10)[Personal]; JCS [Personal]
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

Thanks - agree re proceeding with the department's usual DOI policies. Let us know if you need further advice from us.
JCS

On Fri, 20 Dec 2024 at 13:23, JCS < Personal > wrote:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Kate – thank you. Very clear.

JCS – see attached.

Ailsa – unless you advise otherwise or if we receive PET advice to the contrary, we'll now just take forward the usual CoI process at departmental level.

Thanks,

JCS

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS < Personal > **On Behalf Of** Propriety and Ethics Mailbox
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:16
To: Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: JCS < Personal >; Rupert Hetherington < Personal >
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment
Thanks both - would someone mind re-attaching the doc please?

JCS

On Fri, 20 Dec 2024 at 12:50, Kate Anderton < Personal > wrote:

Hi JCS ,

Thanks for sharing this with us. I am copying in the main Propriety & Ethics Inbox

and the relevant DD, Rupert Hetherington, as they have broader reach across the questions engaged and will be better able to advise.

Some basic points:

- Any declaration of interests process will be for the Perm Sec to sign off as FCDO Accounting Officer and because this is a civil service position.
- Obviously, with ministers' interests there is an additional check and advice provided by the Independent Adviser but the IA acts only in the ministerial sphere and a departure from the IA's terms of reference - i.e. a new bespoke process - would be a matter for the PM.
- The Perm Sec is always able to ask Propriety & Ethics for support on this matter, given that it is a novel situation. As part of that, P&E could look at providing an expanded DoI form, for example. Down the line, once you have DoI information from the appointee, the Perm Sec may wish to ask P&E for advice on particular points, at which point P&E can test questions with seniors and if judged useful, informally with the IA.

Sorry to pass you on, but Rupert and team will be able to help.

Best wishes

Kate

On Fri, 20 Dec 2024 at 11:12, JCS < Personal > wrote:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HR - MANAGEMENT

Hi Kate,

Attached what we're planning to share with Lord Mandelson - on conflicts of interest and also business appointments - and the draft public lines. Your review and guidance very welcome.

Thank you!

JCS

JCS | **Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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From: JCS [Personal]

Sent: Tue 24/12/2024 1:45:36 PM (UTC)

To: JCS Personal

Cc: JCS Personal ; HRD Senior Appointments[Personal ; JCS [Personal

Bcc: JCS [Personal

Subject: RE: Reply Requested: Lord Mandelson - Conflict of Interest forms

Attachment: HMA-designate Washington - draft Press Announcement

Attachment: ACTION BY 3RD JANUARY 2025: HMA-DESIGNATE UNITED STATES - Audience with HM The King - Briefing request

Hi JCS

Many thanks for confirming. I finish for leave today and return on 6 January, but JCS will be working on Friday 27 December, so please do reach out to her if you need anything and to help move this along.

I am sure you will likely be aware, but for visibility:

- JCS in Americas is supporting Lord Mandelson's on boarding from a geographic perspective and is arranging for a briefing pack to be sent to him on 27 December. If the IT Kit is also ready this will be sent to him.

- I understand that it has been agreed Lord Mandelson will work for the Fox room until he leaves for the US.

- We have not heard back from Treasury on the salary approval, so no contract has been issued. JCS has been working to support getting him a Dip Passport and Medical clearance etc.

- We will need to sign off on the COI papers before a contract issues, and this might involve some questions for you to address to the Propriety and Ethics team in No 10.

- PST are working on STRAP clearance.

- Third Party and is pending for Lord Mandelson, but James Roscoe doesn't expect we will hear more on this until after the New Year.

- See attached messages for reference on announcing the appointment and the brief in prep for the meeting with HMTK which has been pencilled in for 7 January.

Wishing you a lovely Christmas break and a very Happy New Year when it comes.

Best Regards

JCS

| **Senior Appointments Recruitment and Selection Partner**

Senior Appointments Team |Human Resources

Personal If you e-mail outwith these hours I will respond to your enquiry as soon as possible.

**My email address is changing to Personal . If you have a different format please amend it.

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Abercrombie House | Eaglesham Road | East Kilbride | G75 8EA
Personal | Personal | Personal | Mob: Personal

From: JCS
Sent: 24 December 2024 13:35
To: JCS ; JCS
Subject: RE: Reply Requested: Lord Mandelson - Conflict of Interest forms

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Thanks for chasing this: I'll pick up on 30 Dec, so no need to do anything further at this stage. His start date on FCDO payroll will be 6 Jan earliest, more likely to be mid-Jan, so we have time!

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Sent: 23 December 2024 12:19
To: PUS Action < Personal >
Cc: JCS < Personal >
Subject: Re: Reply Requested: Lord Mandelson - Conflict of Interest forms

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Hi
I haven't - but you've got his email and Philip has his number so please chase him for them.
A

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: PUS Action < Personal >
Sent: Monday, December 23, 2024 10:02:19 AM
To: Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Cc: JCS < Personal >
Subject: FW: Reply Requested: Lord Mandelson - Conflict of Interest forms

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

Hi Ailsa,
Could I please check if you've received the forms back from Lord Mandelson, and if so, could you please send them over so I can share with FCDO HR (as below)?
Do let me know if I'm going about this entirely the wrong way, I'm just picking up while JCS is on leave!
Thanks,
JCS

| **Assistant Private Secretary to Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer, FCDO Permanent Under-Secretaries**

Personal

PUS Box *Please send items for the daily e box to* Personal ***by 2pm, clearly flagged for the respective APS****. You will find Team PUS portfolios* here. *Please note that we will not routinely keep a record of any emails or attachments.*

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

From: JCS < Personal >
Sent: 23 December 2024 08:43
To: PUS Action < Personal >
Subject: Reply Requested: Lord Mandelson - Conflict of Interest forms
Importance: High

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

Morning,
I hope you are well. I am reaching out as per JCS bounce back. I wanted to check if Lord Mandelson had returned his completed Conflict of Interest forms and if so if you could send them on to me for processing, please?
I am supporting the contracting and onboarding process from a Senior Appointments team perspective.
Many thanks

JCS
| Senior Appointments Recruitment and Selection Partner
Senior Appointments Team |Human Resources
Personal If you e-mail outwith these hours I will respond to your enquiry as soon as possible.
****My email address is changing to** Personal **. If you have a different format please amend it.**
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Abercrombie House | Eaglesham Road | East Kilbride | G75 8EA
Personal | Personal | Personal | Mob: Personal



OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

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This footnote also confirms that our email communications may be monitored to ensure the secure and effective operation of our systems and for other lawful purposes, and that this email has been

From: Philip R Barton[Personal]
Sent: Sun 05/01/2025 6:45:49 PM (UTC)
To: JCS [Personal]
Cc: Robert Tinline[Personal]
Subject: RE: CoI form - for review (LPM)

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

JCS
Thank you.
I have a number of additional points I would like clarified (in the order they appear on the form):

- Global Counsel equity – unless this can be sold immediately, I assume it is going in a blind trust. When will this happen by?

- Moon Active, See True equity, Blue Voyant option – when will the blind trust be set up?

- Ditchley Foundation, Trustee/Member of Council of Management; Chancellor, Manchester Metropolitan University; Ertegun Graduate Scholarship Scheme Board member; Chair Emeritus, Design Museum – for each one please could Lord Mandelson set out answers to the relevant questions in the guidance (pasted below):

"If you disclose another role, please provide supporting detail. For example:

i) the name of the organisation
ii) the nature of their business
iii) your role
iv) your start date and tenure
v) how it does or may relate to this role
vi) details of your time commitment and any remuneration.

For any roles you list, please also provide details of any contracts/commercial agreements of which you are aware between the respective organisation and the FCDO or any other notable organisations in or connected to the FCDO."
These questions should also be answered for the British American Project in addition to your question about sponsors below.
Finally, please bring this form to the attention of my successor and ensure they are content with it. He/she will need to be willing to defend it.
Philip

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS
Sent: 03 January 2025 16:25
To: Philip R Barton Personal
Cc: Robert Tinline
Subject: CoI form - for review (LPM)

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Dear Philip,
See attached Lord Peter Mandelson's conflict of interest declaration form for your review. I've copied Rob Tinline as Business Area Responsible SCS.
As you are aware, he has completed this declaration as a member of staff. He will commence employment with the FCDO as a Civil Servant on a fixed term contract from x January, at Grade SCS4, following the announced of his appointment as HMA Washington designate.
You'll note that his interests are also declared as part of his membership of the House of Lords: Register of Interests for Lord Mandelson - MPs and Lords - UK Parliament.
I suggest this is returned to Peter with the email below. I then suggest I pass the message to Peter to the CO Propriety and Ethics team asking if they are content with our approach - which is in line with our departmental guidance.
Thank you,
JCS
[starts]
Dear Peter,
Thank you for submitting your Conflict of Interest form. Philip has reviewed and requested additional information as follows:

- British American Project: please could you detail the sponsors?
- Speaking Engagement: the Foreign Secretary's political team is in touch with you on this specific engagement
- Please can you confirm that you have considered whether you have anything further to add with regard to (4) Related Party Interests?

The following guidance documents may be useful background reading:
The Civil Service code - GOV.UK
Diplomatic Service Regulations 1: Diplomatic Service Code
Business appointment rules for Crown servants - GOV.UK
FCDO register of Senior Civil Servants' secondary paid employment - GOV.UK
Thank you,
JCS
JCS | **Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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From: JCS [Personal]
Sent: Mon 06/01/2025 3:50:50 PM (UTC)
To: JCS [Personal]
Cc: Robert Tinline[Personal]; Rupert Hetherington[Personal]; Kate Anderton[Personal]; Caroline Hurndall[Personal]; Ailsa Terry (No.10)[Personal]; JCS [Personal]
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

You don't often get email from Personal Learn why this is important

Thanks JCS, we'll take a look.
Please could you update us once PM comes back with answers to the perm sec's questions, and we can put the full picture to Simon Madden and Darren Tierney too? Given the profile of this appointment it would be good to get their views on our end.

Best,

JCS

On Mon, 6 Jan 2025 at 11:29, JCS < Personal > wrote:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Thanks Rob – that is very helpful to understand.

JCS, Thank you. I have completed the columns to the right, as draft. In terms of our process – this is V3, final draft – which will be finalised subject to Peter submitting the outstanding information in the attached email.

JCS

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

From: Robert Tinline < Personal >
Sent: 06 January 2025 11:26
To: Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >; JCS < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >; Caroline Hurndall < Personal >; Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

To note that we also spoke to him this morning about his membership of the House of Lords. He has now checked with Ed Llewellyn who advised him that the normal practice is to take a leave of absence. We have left with him to take that forward.

Rob

Rob Tinline | Americas Director | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Personal | Personal

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS < Personal > **On Behalf Of** Propriety and Ethics Mailbox
Sent: 06 January 2025 11:00
To: JCS < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Robert Tinline < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >; Caroline Hurndall < Personal >; Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

Thanks JCS,

Can I just check who filled in the columns in the table at the end - was it a mixture of PM and someone in FCDO? (And if so do you know which bits PM filled in and which were done by the FCDO)?

Would also be good to understand where this is up to in your process, just for our understanding.

Thanks,

JCS

On Mon, 6 Jan 2025 at 10:38, JCS < Personal > wrote:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Dear JCS,

Please see attached Peter's CoI declaration for information. This is being taken forward under our usual departmental process for staff.

Given the nature of the appointment I'd welcome your informal review, particularly if there is anything where the central guidance may have become more stringent over the past 6 months (eg. Other roles or Gifts and Hospitality)

Thank you,

JCS

JCS | **Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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From: Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Sent: 20 December 2024 22:12
To: JCS < Personal >; Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Ninjeri Pandit < Personal >; Kunal Patel < Personal >
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Thank you. As discussed, we should proceed with the departmental process supported by PET, unless you flag as we go into the process that we need to bring in additional checks.

Ailsa

Ailsa Terry CMG| Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs| Prime Minister's Office | 10 Downing Street, London, SW1A 2AA | T: Personal

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS < Personal >
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:24
To: Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Kate – thank you. Very clear.

JCS – see attached.

Ailsa – unless you advise otherwise or if we receive PET advice to the contrary, we'll now just take forward the usual CoI process at departmental level.

Thanks,

JCS

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS < Personal > **On Behalf Of** Propriety and Ethics Mailbox
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:16
To: Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: JCS < Personal >; Rupert Hetherington < Personal >
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

Thanks both - would someone mind re-attaching the doc please?

JCS

On Fri, 20 Dec 2024 at 12:50, Kate Anderton < Personal > wrote:

Hi JCS,

Thanks for sharing this with us. I am copying in the main Propriety & Ethics Inbox and the relevant DD, Rupert Hetherington, as they have broader reach across the questions engaged and will be better able to advise.

Some basic points:

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Sorry to pass you on, but Rupert and team will be able to help.

Best wishes

Kate

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OFFICIAL SENSITIVE HR MANAGEMENT

Hi Kate,

Attached what we're planning to share with Lord Mandelson - on conflicts of interest and also business appointments - and the draft public lines. Your review and guidance very welcome.

Thank you!

JCS

JCS | **Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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Propriety and Ethics Team
E: Personal

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From: JCS Personal
Sent: Mon 06/01/2025 10:38:26 AM (UTC)
To: Propriety and Ethics Mailbox Personal
Cc: Rupert Hetherington Personal ; Robert Tinline Personal ; Kate Anderton Personal ; Caroline Hurndall Personal ; Ailsa Terry (No.10) Personal
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment
Attachment: RE: Conflicts covering email

Dear JCS,
Please see attached Peter's CoI declaration for information. This is being taken forward under our usual departmental process for staff.
Given the nature of the appointment I'd welcome your informal review, particularly if there is anything where the central guidance may have become more stringent over the past 6 months (eg. Other roles or Gifts and Hospitality)
Thank you,
JCS
JCS **| Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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From: Ailsa Terry
Sent: 20 December 2024 22:12
To: JCS ; Propriety and Ethics Mailbox ; Kate Anderton
Cc: Rupert Hetherington ; Ninjeri Pandit ; Kunal Patel
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Thank you. As discussed, we should proceed with the departmental process supported by PET, unless you flag as we go into the process that we need to bring in additional checks.
Ailsa
Ailsa Terry CMG| Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs| Prime Minister's Office | 10 Downing Street, London, SW1A 2AA | T: Personal

---

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS < Personal >
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:24
To: Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >

Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Ailsa Terry < Personal >

Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

Kate – thank you. Very clear.
JCS – see attached.
Ailsa – unless you advise otherwise or if we receive PET advice to the contrary, we'll now just take forward the usual CoI process at departmental level.
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OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

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From: JCS < Personal > **On Behalf Of** Propriety and Ethics Mailbox
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:16
To: Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: JCS < Personal >; Rupert Hetherington < Personal >
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

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Sent: Tue 07/01/2025 4:32:30 PM (UTC)
To: Robert Tinline[Personal]; JCS [Personal]
Cc: JCS [Personal]; Rupert Hetherington[Personal]; Caroline Hurndall[Personal]
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

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Hi JCS
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-

- PM has described his equity holdings with Moon Active and See True as 'modest'

it might be worth getting a value range from PM for these (if not the precise values), given that this is a subjective term.

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Subject: Fwd: HMA Washington: Political Appointment
To: JCS < Personal >

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Date: Mon, 6 Jan 2025 at 11:29
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment
To: Robert Tinline < Personal >, Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >, Kate Anderton < Personal >, Caroline Hurndall < Personal >, Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

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From: Robert Tinline < Personal >
Sent: 06 January 2025 11:26
To: Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >; JCS < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >; Caroline Hurndall < Personal >; Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >
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OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

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Rob

Rob Tinline | Americas Director | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Personal | Personal

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From: JCS < Personal > **On Behalf Of** Propriety and Ethics Mailbox
Sent: 06 January 2025 11:00
To: JCS < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Robert Tinline < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >; Caroline Hurndall < Personal >; Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >
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JCS | **Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip**

Barton and Nick Dyer | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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From: JCS Personal
Sent: Thur 30/01/2025 4:28:23 PM (UTC)
To: Ian Collard * Personal ; Corin Robertson Personal
Subject: RE: Personal/LPM

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HR - MANAGEMENT

Ian,
Thank you for the update, and to your teams who have supported Lord Mandelson with obtaining his clearance.
Thank you,
JCS

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HR - MANAGEMENT

From: Ian Collard *
Sent: 30 January 2025 10:12
To: Corin Robertson ; JCS
Subject: Personal/LPM

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HR - MANAGEMENT

Dear Corin, JCS (for Olly),
An update. This information is provided in strictest confidence, to respect vetting confidence principles, because Corin and Olly are directly in my line management chain as Chief Security Officer.
ESND have approved the DV clearance of Lord Mandelson. He was sent notification and his DV certificate by email (on Osprey) on the evening of 29 January 2025. It will be valid for five years.
As part of the usual clearance process, UKSV identified some areas in his application for ESND to review:

- I understand that Lord Mandelson's private sector engagements are being managed by HRD and Legal Directorate through the conflict of interest process.

- With regard to personal conduct, I understand that Lord Mandelson has received a letter from Mervyn Thomas, informing him of his responsibilities as an FCDO employee, including under the Diplomatic Service Regulations.

- Matters pertaining to his overseas contacts will certainly be reviewed by the STRAP Authorities. *** I am unable to assure about the decision they will take. Their decision will determine the access that Lord Mandelson has to the most sensitive information and meetings.

ESND shared with Lord Mandelson (and separately with JCS in Americas Directorate) the STRAP application forms, which we have asked Lord Mandelson to complete as an urgent priority. We will seek to expedite the processing of his application as soon as the completed forms are returned to us.
Best wishes,
Ian

Ian Collard | Chief Property & Security Officer and Director Estates, Security & Network
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Mobile: Personal
Chief of Staff: JCS | Executive Officer: JCS

From: JCS [Personal]
Sent: Thur 30/01/2025 5:12:35 PM (UTC)
To: JCS [Personal]
Cc: JCS [Personal]; Rupert Hetherington[Personal]; Caroline Hurndall[Personal]; Harriet Mathews[Personal]
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

Hi JCS ,
Thanks for checking in and for your helpful informal steers below. Olly has also taken advice from our HR and Legal teams, in his capacity as Peter's line manager. Peter comes on to FCDO payroll on Monday – so Olly will speak to him then to check in on progress and go through the form. In particular, to understand Peter's latest thinking regarding his equity stakes, including Global Counsel.
So headline is that we're still working on it!
JCS

From: JCS
Sent: 30 January 2025 16:13
To: Robert Tinline JCS
Cc: JCS ; Rupert Hetherington ; Caroline Hurndall
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

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Hi JCS ,
Did you manage to finalise this? Happy to help if there's anything you'd like PET to take a look at.
Many thanks,
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Hi JCS ,
Thanks for sharing. We don't have any significant comments on the current proposal which broadly speaking looks sensible to us. But we would be interested in seeing the further detail which you've already requested on the other orgs including the British American Project, given it is directly related to US/UK relations, before coming to a final judgement, as well as the other responses - we agree that the questions sent to PM seem the right ones to ask. We'll then run through seniors here and come back to you with any final feedback.
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Personal

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Rob Tinline | Americas Director | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Personal | Personal

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Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

Thanks JCS
Can I just check who filled in the columns in the table at the end - was it a mixture of PM and someone in FCDO? (And if so do you know which bits PM filled in and which were done by the FCDO)?
Would also be good to understand where this is up to in your process, just for our understanding.
Thanks,
JCS

On Mon, 6 Jan 2025 at 10:38, JCS < Personal > wrote:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Dear JCS ,
Please see attached Peter's CoI declaration for information. This is being taken forward under our usual departmental process for staff.
Given the nature of the appointment I'd welcome your informal review, particularly if there is anything where the central guidance may have become more stringent over the past 6 months (eg. Other roles or Gifts and Hospitality)
Thank you,
JCS

JCS **| Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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marked for the relevant PS. Our portfolios can be found here. Please note that we will not routinely keep a record of any emails or attachments.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Sent: 20 December 2024 22:12
To: JCS < Personal >; Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Ninjeri Pandit < Personal >; Kunal Patel < Personal >
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Thank you. As discussed, we should proceed with the departmental process supported by PET, unless you flag as we go into the process that we need to bring in additional checks.
Ailsa
Ailsa Terry CMG| Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs| Prime Minister's Office | 10 Downing Street, London, SW1A 2AA | T: Personal

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS < Personal >
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:24
To: Propriety and Ethics Mailbox < Personal >; Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: Rupert Hetherington < Personal >; Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Subject: RE: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Kate – thank you. Very clear.
JCS – see attached.
Ailsa – unless you advise otherwise or if we receive PET advice to the contrary, we'll now just take forward the usual CoI process at departmental level.
Thanks,
JCS

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: JCS < Personal > **On Behalf Of** Propriety and Ethics Mailbox
Sent: 20 December 2024 13:16
To: Kate Anderton < Personal >
Cc: JCS < Personal >; Rupert Hetherington < Personal >
Subject: Re: HMA Washington: Political Appointment

Thanks both - would someone mind re-attaching the doc please?
JCS

On Fri, 20 Dec 2024 at 12:50, Kate Anderton
< Personal > wrote:

Hi JCS ,
Thanks for sharing this with us. I am copying in the main Propriety & Ethics Inbox and the relevant DD, Rupert Hetherington, as they have broader reach across the questions engaged and will be better able to advise.
Some basic points:

- Any declaration of interests process will be for the Perm Sec to sign off as FCDO Accounting Officer and because this is a civil service position.
- Obviously, with ministers' interests there is an additional check and advice provided by the Independent Adviser but the IA acts only in the ministerial sphere and a departure from the IA's terms of reference - i.e. a new bespoke process - would be a matter for the PM.
- The Perm Sec is always able to ask Propriety & Ethics for support on this matter, given that it is a novel situation. As part of that, P&E could look at providing an expanded DoI form, for example. Down the line, once you have DoI information from the appointee, the Perm Sec may wish to ask P&E for advice on particular points, at which point P&E can test questions with seniors and if judged useful, informally with the IA.

Sorry to pass you on, but Rupert and team will be able to help.
Best wishes
Kate
On Fri, 20 Dec 2024 at 11:12, JCS < Personal > wrote:

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HR - MANAGEMENT

Hi Kate,
Attached what we're planning to share with Lord Mandelson - on conflicts of interest and also business appointments - and the draft public lines. Your review and guidance very welcome.
Thank you!
JCS

JCS **| Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Philip Barton and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

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OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

STRICTLY PERSONAL



Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH

From the Permanent Under-Secretary

Date: [3] March 2025

JAMES ROSCOE, WASHINGTON

cc: Lord Mandelson, Washington
Harriet Matthews
Darren Tierney, CO

AVOIDING PERCEPTIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ARISING FROM GLOBAL COUNSEL SHAREHOLDING

Both before and after taking after his appointment to Washington, Lord Mandelson and I have discussed his continued holding in Global Counsel Ltd ("GC"), a UK-headquartered political and regulatory advisory firm. The ideal would have been for GC to have bought him out of this position before he took up the appointment. GC has however not made an offer that Lord Mandelson considers commensurate with the fair value.

2. As GC is a privately-owned company, Lord Mandelson does not have a public markets solution to dispose of his holding. Other devices, such as a blind trust, do not work for a large holding in a privately-owned company if the hypothetical concern is Lord Mandelson taking actions or decisions in his public office that might confer advantage on GC. Lord Mandelson expects that the Messina Group, who took a large stake in GC [last year], will later this year make an offer for the whole company. Assuming this offer proves acceptable to GC, Lord Mandelson will then exit his shareholding entirely and not take stock in the Messina Group. He will keep me briefed on these commercial developments directly. The expectation is that Lord Mandelson will divest his stake.

3. Lord Mandelson and I have agreed that there needs to be a temporary and additional layer of internal scrutiny of his business engagements while in possession of his GC shares to help him avoid any perception that he is consciously or even unconsciously furthering GC's commercial interests. I would be grateful if you could:

- ask Lord Mandelson for a list of GC's senior client relationships, including all government clients (if any);

- use this list, coupled with your judgement, to take a monthly forward look at Lord Mandelson's business engagements and flag to him any engagements which might risk an actual or perceived conflict, where action or mitigations might be appropriate; and

- report to me quarterly on the operation of these arrangements and any suggestions you have for improving them.

4. For the avoidance of doubt, I want and expect Lord Mandelson to engage with

DRAFT

both US and UK business in his role and am sure some of these will necessarily be past or future GC clients. The issue would be if patterns began to emerge that caused you concern. It is our shared objective to ensure that any actual conflict is removed and perceived conflict is mitigated as far as possible, to ensure Lord Mandelson can carry out his role while being seen to always act with integrity.

OLIVER ROBBINS

DRAFT

From: James Roscoe[Personal]
Sent: Thur 06/03/2025 2:03:00 PM (UTC)
To: Oliver Robbins[Personal]
Cc: Peter Mandelson[Personal]; Harriet Mathews[Personal]; Darren Tierney[Personal]; Serena Stone[Personal]; JCS [Personal]
Subject: RE: Lord Peter Mandelson - Conflict of Interest (Global Counsel)

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - RECIPIENTS ONLY

Dear JCS
This is to acknowledge receipt of this note and to confirm that I will put in place the measures outlined, including: to secure a list of GC clients; to prospectively review BEW/HMA activity against perceive conflicts; and, to report on the arrangement quarterly.
I will revert in June.
All best wishes, James

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - RECIPIENTS ONLY

From: Oliver Robbins
Sent: 06 March 2025 04:36
To: James Roscoe
Cc: Peter Mandelson ; Harriet Mathews ; Darren Tierney Pers ; Serena Stone ; JCS
Subject: Lord Peter Mandelson - Conflict of Interest (Global Counsel)

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - RECIPIENTS ONLY

Dear James,
Please find attached a note from Sir Oliver Robbins. This sets out a process for managing actual and perceived conflicts of interest for the period during which Peter serves as HMA Washington and continues to hold an equity stake in Global Counsel, which Peter and Olly have agreed between them. I would be grateful if you could please acknowledge receipt.
Thank you,

JCS

JCS **| Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Oliver Robbins and Nick Dyer** | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

Please ensure items for the PUSs' daily e-box reach PUS Action by 1400 clearly marked for the relevant PS. Our portfolios can be found here. Please note that we will not routinely keep a record of any emails or attachments.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - RECIPIENTS ONLY

15 - 06-03-2025 - Letter from Sir Oliver Robbins (former Permanent Under-Secretary, FCDO) to James Roscoe (former Deputy British Ambassador, FCDO)

Annex C: PUS-DHM Washington

STRICTLY PERSONAL

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH

From the Permanent Under-Secretary

Date: 6 March 2025

JAMES ROSCOE, WASHINGTON

cc: Lord Mandelson, Washington
Harriet Mathews
Darren Tierney, CO

AVOIDING PERCEPTIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ARISING FROM GLOBAL COUNSEL SHAREHOLDING

Both before and after taking after his appointment to Washington, Lord Mandelson and I have discussed his continued holding in Global Counsel Ltd ("GC"), a UK-headquartered political and regulatory advisory firm. The ideal would have been for GC to have bought him out of this position before he took up the appointment. GC has however not made an offer that Lord Mandelson considers commensurate with the fair value.

2. As GC is a privately-owned company, Lord Mandelson does not have a public markets solution to dispose of his holding. Other devices, such as a blind trust, do not work for a large holding in a privately-owned company if the hypothetical concern is Lord Mandelson taking actions or decisions in his public office that might confer advantage on GC. Lord Mandelson expects that the Messina Group, who took a stake in GC last year, will later this year make an offer for the whole company. Assuming this offer proves acceptable to GC, Lord Mandelson will then exit his shareholding entirely and not take stock in the Messina Group. He will keep me briefed on these commercial developments directly. The expectation is that Lord Mandelson will divest his stake.

3. Lord Mandelson and I have agreed that there needs to be a temporary and additional layer of internal scrutiny of his business engagements while in possession of his GC shares to help him avoid any perception that he is consciously or even unconsciously furthering GC's commercial interests. I would be grateful if you could:

- ask Lord Mandelson for a list of GC's senior client relationships, including all government clients (if any);
- use this list, coupled with your judgement, to take a monthly forward look at Lord Mandelson's business engagements and flag to him any engagements which might risk an actual or perceived conflict, where action or mitigations might be appropriate; and
- report to me quarterly on the operation of these arrangements and any suggestions you have for improving them.

4. For the avoidance of doubt, I want and expect Lord Mandelson to engage with both

US and UK business in his role and am sure some of these will necessarily be past or future GC clients. The issue would be if patterns began to emerge that caused you concern. It is our shared objective to ensure that any actual conflict is removed and perceived conflict is mitigated as far as possible, to ensure Lord Mandelson can carry out his role while being seen to always act with integrity.

Personal

OLIVER ROBBINS

From: Peter Mandelson[Personal]
Sent: Tue 11/03/2025 11:11:01 AM (UTC)
To: Jon Garvie[Personal]
Subject: Fw: STRICTLY PERSONAL
Attachment: 2025-03-05 mn Roscoe - avoiding perceptions of GC conflicts.docx

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

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OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

From: Oliver Robbins
Sent: Wednesday, March 5, 2025 7:43:57 AM
To: Peter Mandelson
Cc: JCS
Subject: STRICTLY PERSONAL

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

Peter
As discussed before you left for Washington, a draft note describing a process we cld agree on and task James R to operate for us that protects you against perceptions of benefitting GC in some way while in public office and for the (hopefully short) period you remain a significant shareholder.
If this looks sensible to you, I will sign and send and we can get this up and running in a light touch way.
Olly
Sir Oliver Robbins KCMG CB
Permanent Under-Secretary | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Email: Personal | Personal

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

17 - 28-03-2025 - Letter from Sir Oliver Robbins (former Permanent Under-Secretary, FCDO) to David Lammy (former Foreign Secretary, FCDO)

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH

From the Permanent Under-Secretary

FOREIGN SECRETARY cc: Darren Tierney, CO

UPDATE ON PERSONAL INTERESTS: HMA WASHINGTON

Both before and after taking up his appointment to Washington, Lord Mandelson and I have discussed his continued holding in Global Counsel Ltd ("GC"), a UK headquartered political and regulatory advisory firm. As you know, I advised him that it would be sensible for Lord Mandleson to divest his stake in GC. I am writing to update you that GC has now made an offer to Lord Mandleson which he has accepted. Subject to legal checks, I expect this to be executed next month. I will minute again when this has concluded.

Personal

OLIVER ROBBINS
28 March 2025

18 - 28-04-2025 - Email exchanges between Peter Mandelson, a Global Counsel employee and US Government Officials

Email exchanges between Peter Mandelson and a Global Counsel employee

From: Third Party [Personal]
Sent: Mon 28/04/2025 6:43:18 PM (UTC)
To: Peter Mandelson[Personal]
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hello and an invitation for 13 May

June 10/11 look pretty good.
T
h

From: Peter Mandelson
Sent: 28 April 2025 18:25
To: Third Party
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hello and an invitation for 13 May
Do you have date preference for trade think in ?
Get Outlook for iOS

From: Peter Mandelson < Personal >
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 1:24:37 PM
To: Washington Private Office < Personal >
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hello and an invitation for 13 May
What works ?
Get Outlook for iOS

Email exchanges between Peter Mandelson and US Government Officials

From: Third Party < Personal >
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 8:32:32 AM
To: Peter Mandelson < Personal >; Washington Private Office < Personal >
Cc: Third Party Personal >; Third Party < Personal >
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hello and an invitation for 13 May

You don't often get email from Personal . Learn why this is important

Good morning, Ambassador Mandelson, team,
Might any of the following dates be suitable for a lunch meeting?
Tuesday, June 10th
Wednesday, June 11th
Wednesday, June 18th
If none of these work, I'd be happy to explore adjusting schedules to support a different day.
Best,
Third Party
Council of Economic Advisers
Executive Office of the President
C: Personal | Personal

From: Third Party < Personal >
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 7:13 AM
To: Peter Mandelson < Personal >
Cc: Private Office Washington < Personal >; Third Party < Personal >; Third Party

< Personal >; Third Party
< Personal >
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Hello and an invitation for 13 May
Importance: High
Of course! Third Party can help schedule.
Thanks,
Third Party

—
Third Party
Third Party

Council of Economic Advisers
Executive Office of the President

On Apr 27, 2025, at 10:55 PM, Peter Mandelson < Personal > wrote:

OFFICIAL

As I mentioned, would a date in mid June work for you and if so, when ? Let's try and make it work…..
V best
Peter
Lord Mandelson
HM Ambassador, Washington DC
Personal | Personal

OFFICIAL

From: Third Party < Personal >
Sent: 16 April 2025 15:52
To: Peter Mandelson < Personal >
Subject: RE: Hello and an invitation for 13 May

OFFICIAL

It was a delight to meet you as well. "Prince of Darkness" couldn't be farther from the truth!
I would very much like to come, but you are correctly informed that I will be in Europe Third Party at the time.

OFFICIAL

From: Peter Mandelson < Personal >
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 3:16 PM
To: Third Party < Personal >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hello and an invitation for 13 May

OFFICIAL

Dear Third Party,
It was great to meet you last week – I very much enjoyed our discussion.
One of the interesting issues we discussed was alternative options to the WTO. This begs a series of questions on how likeminded partners come to terms with China and its practices.
Informally, I would like to pursue this conversation and convene a lunch on 13

May, as this date means I could bring to DC a former trade colleague of mine, Third Party . He has interesting views and I would ask him to lead off.
I do not envisage a large gathering, a few trade officials at the Embassy and others you suggest that could work as a good group. It would be best to keep this under the radar.
Let me know if the date works for you. I understand you may be travelling to London around this time.
Peter

Lord Mandelson
HM Ambassador, Washington DC
Personal | Personal

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From: Peter Mandelson[Personal]
Sent: Wed 02/07/2025 6:21:04 PM (UTC)
To: JCS [Personal]; JCS [Personal]
Cc: JCS [Personal]; James Roscoe[Personal]
Subject: Re: HMA TO CLEAR: Private Eye - Peter Mandelson Global Counsel Shareholding

They should pull their fingers out and buy my shares

Get Outlook for iOS

From: JCS
Sent: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 1:54:58 PM
To: Peter Mandelson ; JCS
Cc: JCS ; James Roscoe
Subject: HMA TO CLEAR: Private Eye - Peter Mandelson Global Counsel Shareholding

OFFICIAL

HMA – Content with this? Ive fed in. Query re your CG holdings. Don't see merit in putting anything new into it. JCS

OFFICIAL

From: JCS
Sent: 02 July 2025 13:34
To: JCS ; JCS ; Special Advisers Office
Cc: JCS ; JCS ; JCS ; Newsdesk ; JCS ; JCS ; JCS ; JCS ; JCS
Subject: SPADS TO CLEAR: Private Eye - Peter Mandelson Global Counsel Shareholding

OFFICIAL

Hi JCS,
Please let me know if you're happy with the below handling.
Thanks,
JCS

OUTLET: Private Eye
JOURNO: Solomon Hughes
DEADLINE: ASAP
ISSUE: Solomon Hughes at the Private Eye has written in to say that Global Counsel just filed a "Confirmation Statement" showing that Peter Mandelson's shareholding in the firm is still substantial, and is not going down much - https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/10533767/filing-history
They ask:

1. What is done to manage this conflict of interest (with Global Counsel clients including Palantir etc).
2. Can we expect Peter Mandelson to divest himself of more shares soon? When will

he end his shareholding ? Or can he remain a shareholder in Global Counsel throughout his role as Ambassador?

HANDLING: We recommend issuing standard language on this and including an additional background line rebutting this.
An FCDO spokesperson said: “There is an established regime in place for the management of interests held by Ambassadors or High Commissioners. This ensures that steps are taken to avoid or mitigate any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.”
Background

- Lord Mandelson relinquished all operational involvement in Global Counsel on his appointment.

JCS | Media Engagement Officer - Newsdesk | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Building, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH | Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

20 - 18-07-2025 - Signal Messages between Peter Mandelson and Sir Oliver Robbins (former Permanent Under-Secretary, FCDO)

[18/07, 07:44] *Screenshot of written letter sent by Olly Robbins.* Thank you for your letter of 30 June. I am replying as Head of HM Diplomatic Service, given that the Diplomatic Service Code is the relevant ethical code for Lord Mandelson as an Ambassador. Lord Mandelson is aware of his obligations under the Code. Lord Mandelson was directly appointed to the role by Ministers to take advantage of his political experience and skill, and he and I will continue to apply the code against the backdrop. O.R.

[18/07, 07:44] Sir Olly Robbins: I need to reply to this two page letter from the shadow Paymaster. My proposed reply in manuscript. Grateful if you'd take a Quick Look before I send. Olly

[18/07, 12:46] Yes I saw it beginning of week ! How were your travels ?

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

British Embassy Washington

The Rt Hon Lord Mandelson PC His Majesty's Ambassador
3100 Massachusetts Ave, NW Washington, DC
20008

Tel: Personal

21 July 2025

The Rt Hon Sir Keir Starmer KCB KC MP Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Dear Prime Minister,

Scenesetter: President Trump's Visit to Scotland 25-29 July

Six months in, President Trump's second term is moving into a new phase and with new challenges. It is vital that we use the President's Scottish visit to make progress on our goal of landing an ambitious UK-US Technology Partnership for the State Visit. We should also use the visit to demonstrate the benefits of the UK-US Economic and Prosperity Deal by showcasing the jobs and growth that flow from it, as well as advancing our other deliverables for the State Visit. *** you will need to show how our priorities are delivering for *** Administration's agenda.

Political context

After "flooding the zone" with a record-breaking number of Executive Orders in his opening months, Trump succeeded in passing his flagship legislation: the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act". This serves as the President's legislative vehicle for delivering on his campaign promises through the rest of his term, from cutting taxes to reducing the size of the federal government. Given razor thin Republican majorities in both chambers, the passage of this bill was a notable achievement, and you might mention this landmark advance.

But with this legislative win comes the end of a window traditionally viewed as a "honeymoon period" for the new Administration. ***

***

Against this backdrop attention is starting to turn towards the midterm elections in November 2026, the Administration's next key test with voters. ***

Policy deliverables

As the Administration grapples with complex challenges at home, it is important that we retain our narrow focus on a select number of key UK interests.

Economic Prosperity Deal

***

Technology Partnership

A core objective for the State Visit is the agreement of an ambitious UK-US Technology Partnership. We want US tech companies to view the UK as their home. ***

We would like to use the State Visit to

announce a set of high ambition objectives around AI infrastructure, investment in the UK, joint research in future technologies (moonshots like nuclear fusion and quantum computing) and on defence technology cooperation. ***

Defence and security

***

***

Civil nuclear

On energy policy we are aligned on our civil nuclear ambition, providing a once-in-a generation opportunity for the US and UK to work together and regain our historical leadership in a sector that will define the future of energy, security, and economic strength. Through a new UK-US civil nuclear partnership, we can build a powerful Atlantic Alliance in civil nuclear and fusion that secures our supply chains, beats our adversaries to market dominance, and creates high-paying jobs for American and British workers.

***

We will continue to capitalise on this ahead of the State Visit and your continued engagement with the President will very much support us in this endeavour. I look forward to seeing you in Scotland.

Personal

Lord Mandelson
British Ambassador to the United States

22 - 08-08-2025 - Emails from Serena Stone (Private Secretary to the Permanent Under-Secretaries) to James Roscoe (former Deputy British Ambassador, FCDO) and Caroline Hurndall (Principal Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary, FCDO)

From: Serena Stone[Personal]

Sent: Fri 08/08/2025 12:00:26 PM (UTC)

To: JCS [Personal]; James Roscoe[Personal]

Subject: FW: PERSONAL: Minute from PUS on HMA Washington's interests

Attachment: GC Interests 27 March.docx

JCS James,

As discussed, given that HMA has not divested the stake as described in the attached minute, Olly needs to put a new minute to FS and PET explaining this asap.

James – could you pls let JCS have the latest?

JCS – could you then clear through Olly a short updated minute to the same cc list?

Thanks v much,

Serena

From: Serena Stone

Sent: 28 March 2025 17:41

To: Caroline Hurndall

Cc: darren.tierney Personal

Subject: PERSONAL: Minute from PUS on HMA Washington's interests

Caroline,

Please see attached minute from Olly to the Foreign Secretary, copied to Darren Tierney.

Serena

Serena Stone | Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Oliver Robbins and Nick Dyer | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal

From: Serena Stone[Personal]
Sent: Fri 22/08/2025 2:01:17 PM (UTC)
To: Peter Mandelson[Personal]
Subject: RE: PERSONAL | GC SHARES

Thank you.
Serena

From: Peter Mandelson
Sent: 22 August 2025 12:02
To: Serena Stone ; Oliver Robbins
Subject: Re: PERSONAL | GC SHARES

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

April 2024
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OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

From: Serena Stone < Personal >
Sent: Friday, August 22, 2025 3:56:48 AM
To: Oliver Robbins < Personal >
Cc: Peter Mandelson < Personal >
Subject: RE: PERSONAL | GC SHARES

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

Great, thank you.
Peter – as soon as I have your edits / go-ahead, we will finalise and issue.
Serena

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

From: Oliver Robbins < Personal >
Sent: 22 August 2025 06:46
To: Serena Stone < Personal >
Cc: Peter Mandelson < Personal >
Subject: PERSONAL | GC SHARES

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

Serena
Useful chat with Peter (cc'd) y'day evening. Subjects to any corrections from him today, and hopefully him supplying the (approximate) date at X, can you give this the once-over, format and issue?
Olly

PERSONAL AND COMMERCIALLY SENSITIVE

FS
I wrote to you on 28 March about Lord Mandelson's holding in Global Counsel Ltd ("GC"), a UK headquartered political and regulatory advisory firm. Lord Mandelson had indicated his intent to divest his stake in GC. This was to be achieved through the sale of GC to another party. I am writing to update you that the other party has not been able to execute this transaction. Lord Mandelson remains committed to selling at the earliest possible opportunity. GC are raising debt in order to achieve this and expect to make an offer in September. While neither Lord Mandelson nor I wish him to continue to

be a shareholder in GC for a moment longer than necessary, I am reassured that any risk of perceived conflict of interest is substantially mitigated by the reality that Lord Mandelson agreed a valuation of his shareholding on [X] and this will not change: he therefore has no ongoing economic interest in GC's commercial performance.

OR

Sir Oliver Robbins KCMG CB
Permanent Under-Secretary | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Email: Personal | Personal

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - PERSONAL DATA

24 - 26-08-2025 - Email from Serena Stone (Private Secretary to the Permanent Under-Secretaries) to Caroline Hurndall (Principal Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary, FCDO)

From: Serena Stone[Personal]

Sent: Tue 26/08/2025 4:39:53 PM (UTC)

To: Caroline Hurndall[Personal]

Cc: JCS [Personal]; Sean Cherry[Personal]

Subject: Minute: HMA Washington interests

Attachment: 250822 Minute to FS - Lord Mandelson 26 August.pdf

Caroline,
Please see attached minute from Olly on HMA Washington's interests.
Darren Tierney has recently moved on as DG PET so I am copying Sean Cherry in his team while there are interim arrangements in place.
Serena

Serena Stone | Private Secretary to the Permanent Under - Secretaries, Sir Oliver Robbins and Nick Dver | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | Email: Personal | Mobile: Personal



Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH

From the Permanent Under-Secretary

FOREIGN SECRETARY

LORD MANDELSON / GLOBAL COUNSEL LTD

I wrote to you on 28 March about Lord Mandelson's holding in Global Counsel Ltd ("GC"), a UK headquartered political and regulatory advisory firm. Lord Mandelson had indicated his intent to divest his stake in GC. This was to be achieved through the sale of GC to another party. I am writing to update you that the other party has not been able to execute this transaction. Lord Mandelson remains committed to selling at the earliest possible opportunity. GC are raising debt in order to achieve this and expect to make an offer in September. While neither Lord Mandelson nor I wish him to continue to be a shareholder in GC for a moment longer than necessary, I am reassured that any risk of perceived conflict of interest is substantially mitigated by the reality that Lord Mandelson agreed a valuation of his shareholding in April 2024 and this will not change: he therefore has no ongoing economic interest in GC's commercial performance.

Personal

OLIVER ROBBINS
26 August 2025

From: Peter Mandelson[Personal]
Sent: Thur 28/08/2025 2:31:14 PM (UTC)
To: Third Party [Personal]
Subject: Re: Ditchley lecture

Thanks. I will look at changes. It is not meant to be general undiluted hostility to China - and Peter Wilson has given extensive comments ! - but I feel strongly about tech dominance. I will soften the lecture on China and add tone in the q and a !

Very grateful. I plan to see you at the Reform.

Peter

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From: Third Party
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 10:25:48 AM
To: Peter Mandelson
Subject: RE: Ditchley lecture

Peter,
A good and very interesting speech. I have made commented and edits in track-changes in the attached.
Two further overarching comments:

1. The speech's main argument – as I read it – is that we need to work with Trump's US or China will dominate the world and that would be a very bad thing (and that the US needs allies if it's to win that contest). That is a powerful argument but it's pure hostility towards China does not obviously align with what looks like HMG's considerable effort to achieve a rapprochement with China. I think you need a couple of sentences from HMG's script of warmer language towards China, both to explain the balance of HMG's policy and to minimise problems with our China relationship and goals.
2. As an intelligent lay reader, I was left wondering about a stupid question: why we needed a tech partnership with the US. As long as new barriers to take overs and IP sharing aren't brought in, won't our companies just get on with it? Is it that we need a formal partnership to stop one side (probably the US) bringing in such barriers? I'm sure there are lots of good reasons. Expanding on this would help the audience understand the substance beneath the label and the justification for HMG's approach.

As you will see, I have made suggestions on toning down some parts of your apologia of the Trump administration. Scepticism of it is now so deep – at least in the public policy-interested world outside government – that it would be counterproductive/unpersuasive if you came across as having drunk the Kool Aid.
Really looking forward to listening to it online on Saturday week. Hope you're doing well,

Third Party

Global Counsel



Third Party
Director

A: Personal
T: Personal
M: Personal
E: Personal

www.global-counsel.com

From: Peter Mandelson
Sent: 27 August 2025 23:53
To: Third Party
Subject: Ditchley lecture

Third Party can you take a quick look at this draft ? It is about the right length but do the arguments need strengthening at all ?
Thanks a lot
Peter
Lord Mandelson
HM Ambassador, Washington DC
Personal | Personal

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27 - 05-09-2025 - WhatsApps between Peter Mandelson and Morgan McSweeney (former Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister, No. 10)

[05/09/2025, 14:35] Peter Mandelson: Are you taking peter Kyle away….?

[05/09/2025, 14:44] Peter Mandelson: You should solve your Darren issue and put him at DSIT

[05/09/2025, 15:25] Peter Mandelson: Where are you now?

[05/09/2025, 15:26] Peter Mandelson: I am in upstairs meeting room

[05/09/2025, 19:36] Morgan McSweeney: I think we seized that day quite well

28 - 10-09-2025 - WhatsApps from Peter Mandelson to Tim Allan (former Director of Communications, No.10)

[10/09, 03:48] Peter Mandelson: I sent you the segment at end of Cole interview re Epstein. It is released at 8.

I think he also has Bloomberg emails but let's see.

At least you have words from me now for lobby.

[10/09, 16:18] *[Forwarded message]* Peter Mandelson: Hi Peter - Rowena from the guardian here. Are you able to tell me on background whether you were subject to developed vetting in relation to Epstein friendship- as Tories/lib dems asking and government won't say what process was. If you were then it would be helpful to make that clear in the story.

From: JCS [Personal]
Sent: Wed 10/09/2025 7:37:52 PM (UTC)
To: James Roscoe[Personal]; JCS [Personal]; Peter Mandelson[Personal]
Subject: FOR HMA to clear REVIEW: Bloomberg News -- Epstein emails story

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

For Peter to clear

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OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

From: JCS
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 2:56:22 PM
To: James Roscoe
Subject: FOR DHM REVIEW: Bloomberg News -- Epstein emails story

James – on balance I recommend playing this dead straight - to avoid giving blow by blow; not put new material and further fuel the news cycle; and to manage London equities. This is all from HC. With minor amends for clarity. And issue from generic inbox once everyone on board with this approach.
JCS

Please find below the following comments in response to your query.
Lord Mandelson – 9 September

- I feel a tremendous sense, profound sense of sympathy for those people, those women who suffered as a result of Epstein's behaviour and his illegal criminal activities. And secondly, I regret very, very deeply indeed carrying on that association with him for far longer than I should have done; it was a matter of years after I initially met him.

- I regret very much that I fell for his lies. I fell and accepted assurances that he had given me about his indictment, his original criminal case in Florida. Like very many people, I took at face value what he said. With hindsight, with fresh information, many years later, we realized that we had been wrong to believe him. He's a charismatic, criminal liar. We now see, and I regret very much indeed. I felt it like an albatross around my neck.

- I feel a tremendous sense of regret, not only that I met him in the first place, but I continued the association, and I took at face value the lines that he fed me.

- It was not a business relationship. He operated in a financial and business

way, way above my level. Yes, he was always saying, “Would you like to see so and so? I've got this friend, I'm having this dinner, would you like to come?” He was a prolific social networker and a political networker, that is true.

- During all the time I was an associate of his, I never saw the wrongdoing. I never saw any evidence of criminal activity. I never sought, and nor did he offer, any introductions to women in the way that allegedly he did for others. Perhaps it's because I'm a gay man. Perhaps when I was associating with him those years ago, as I did with my then partner and now husband, Ronaldo, we never, ever saw any evidence or sign of this activity which has since come to light.

- ***[You stayed with him on a number of occasions, as you admit?]*** I did in the early years. That's certainly true, and now I regret it. Now I regret it. I regret it bitterly. I regret being taken in by him, as very many other people do. But it was 10 years later, when he was federally prosecuted, that people suddenly learned of what he had been up to all those years.

- I have no doubt at all that there's a lot of traffic, correspondence, exchanges between us—absolutely. And we know those are going to surface. We know they're going to come out. We know they're going to be very embarrassing, and I know that I'm going to profoundly regret ever having met him and been introduced to him in the first place. But I can't rewrite history. What I can do is express my profound sympathy for those who were badly treated by him. And secondly, I can accept—yes, I can accept—that I continued my association with him for too long.

I also refer you to the Prime Minister’s statement delivered in the commons this morning:

Prime Minister

Mr. Speaker, let me start by saying the victims of Epstein are the forefront of our minds. He was a despicable criminal who committed the most heinous crimes and destroyed the lives of so many women and girls. The ambassador has repeatedly expressed his deep regret for his association with him. Uh he's right to do so. I have confidence in him and he's playing an important role in the UK US relationship.

From: James Roscoe
Sent: 10 September 2025 13:50
To: JCS
Subject: Fw: Bloomberg News -- Epstein emails story

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

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OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

From: JCS < Personal >
Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 3:34:35 PM
To: Olly X Robbins < Personal >
Cc: James Roscoe < Personal >

Subject: FW: Re:Bloomberg News -- Epstein emails story

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

As requested – see below.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE - HMG ONLY

From: Harry Wilson (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM/) < Personal >
Sent: 09 September 2025 13:24
To: Peter Mandelson < Personal >
Subject: Re:Bloomberg News -- Epstein emails story

You don't often get email from Personal Learn why this is important

Dear Lord Mandelson,
Recent breaking news events, of which you are no doubt, aware have overtaken our previous schedule, I would therefore ask that if you wish to engage with us ahead of publication you should respond by **no later than 5pm EDT Wednesday**.
Yours sincerely,
Harry Wilson
From: Harry Wilson (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM/) At: 09/09/25 13:09:34 UTC+1:00
To: Personal
Subject: Re:Bloomberg News -- Epstein emails story

> Dear Lord Mandelson,
> I wanted to check you had seen the email below and were planning to respond? Separately, in light of the publication of the Epstein birthday book that contains a message from you, is there any comment you have on that now that it is in the public domain?
> Yours sincerely,
> Harry Wilson
>
> From: Harry Wilson (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM/) At: 09/08/25 15:36:27 UTC+1:00
> To: Personal
> Subject: Bloomberg News -- Epstein emails story
>
> > Dear Lord Mandelson,
> > Bloomberg News is preparing to publish an article based on more than 100 emails sent between Jeffrey Epstein's personal email account Personal and Personal The emails show you expressing steadfast support for Epstein and offering to message your contacts about his 2008 prison sentence, which has since become infamous with many critics suggesting it was far too short.
> > Ahead of the publication of a story based on these emails, as well as other reporting, we would like to offer you the opportunity to comment on what we plan to publish. Below are points derived from our reporting to date, followed by a series of questions based on them. To be clear, these questions are

intended to further inform our reporting on the points below. The emails are presented as they appear, complete with grammatical errors, typos, and misspellings.
-on June 25 2008, around the time Epstein pled guilty to soliciting sex from a minor, you sent Epstein an email in which you stated: “I think the world of you and I feel hopeless and furious about what has happened. I can still barely understand it. It just could not happen in Britain. You have to be incredibly resilient, fight for early release and be philosophical about it as much as you can. Reinaldo insists that everything can be turned into an opportunity and that you will come through it and be stronger for it. The whole thing has been years of torture and now you have to show the world how big a person you are, and how strong. Your friends stay with you and love you.”
- In October 2005, before Epstein was charged by police, you asked Epstein, “When are you going to the island at Xmas? I am having trouble getting air tickets to st barts and was wondering about going via US, NY or Miami (butt this may also be difficult because of availability of BA airmiles). What are your plans and do I fit in to them? x” Epstein replied that he would be going in December writing: “all dec,,, I can pay for your tickets if needed.” You were European Commissioner for Trade at the time. The email includes the following signature, which is also on most of the others: “The Rt. Hon.Peter Mandelson. European Commissioner for Trade”
-in May 2006 when Epstein was charged by police you sent him an email indicating your support. You messaged him asking, "What's cooking?" and he replied, “attempting to set up another prosecutor meeting." You responded: "I am following you closely and here whenever you need."
-in June 2006 you emailed Epstein writing: "Worried that I haven’t heard from you. Are you seeing them off and winning?" Epstein replied, "I find this impossible to believe but the District Attorney ,, said yesterday,, that he had the wrong facts,,, and that even the allegations were much differnt than he thought..I. he was embarassed,,,and said that the worth they would do would charge solicitation but un two weeks,, decide whether to drop it altogether." Separately, Epstein emailed: “the prosecutors office, has been deluged with publicity on Rush limbaugh,, who they made a deal with… the press is either crying special treatment,,, or the republicans celebrity prosecution,,, we have a call into the lesbian , who has yet to return it this week… I took a polygraph, and of course passed with flying colts,,(maybe useful pr) and was interviewed by two shrinks ,, same results.. thanks for your thoughts”
-in June 2006 on the day Epstein was arrested by Palm Beach

Police, you emailed him, writing: "Keep me posted. Where are you next week?"
-Epstein replied to that email, writing: "All bad new york post,, says solicited a prostitute."
-you appeared to confide in Epstein and in October 2006 you wrote him an email asking him to call you. You wrote that you were experiencing a "terrible situation" in your personal life. Later that day after sending that email, you wrote Epstein an email stating: "Please stick with me through this. x." Epstein replied to this email writing: "Of course".
-on January 7 2008, you forwarded the text of a message from a contact who you did not identify offering to help Epstein. You wrote: "'I will really go for it on your friend now that his case is a bit more realistically salvageable', is what he said to me,."
-in January 2008 you also wrote to Epstein, “The name I originally passed but don’t know whether it was used last week. Doubt it. I have tried to call you back (twice).x”
-in January 2008, Epstein told you that an unidentified person known as "Mr Big" would meet with Jay Lefkowitz, one of Epstein's lawyers in his Florida case.
-Epstein told you that: "The person in my camp that previously was in the current White House is Jay Lefkowitz (Lefky is the way mr big refers to him) it is his name that needs to be shared."
-Epstein wrote to you that: “peter, mr. big has a meeting thursday with Lefky. I need your guy to remind him on time before the meeting.. then we are done.”
-you later emailed Epstein writing: "I will get a message. He is travelling at the moment."
-on Thursday, January 17 2008, Lefkowitz was in Washington DC and met with President George W. Bush at the White House.
-weeks later you wrote again to Epstein writing: "Reminder. You are fighting back so you need strategy, strategy, strategy. Remember the Art of War." This is a reference to the ancient Chinese text on military strategy.
-in June 2008 on the day then-Prime Minister Gordon Brown met with then-US President George W Bush, Epstein emailed you writing: "your boy is meeting tomorrow with B. IF he gets a chance he could remind josh bolton [sic]." "Your boy" would appear to be a reference to Mr Brown, while B appears to be a reference to Mr Bush. Josh Bolten was Mr Bush's chief of staff at the time.
-you replied to Epstein's email writing: "In fact he met him this morning. It was one on one I think, so no josh."
-in July 2008, weeks after Epstein was jailed in Florida, he

wrote to you asking: "Did you come across Governor Christ [sic] from Florida. He is europe on a trade mission… he would be instrumental in a pardon, as i pled guilty to a STATE offence." You did not reply.
-you continued your friendship with Epstein for years after his incarceration in Florida.
-in June 2009, Epstein emailed Jes Staley, then head of JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s investment banking division, writing: "For all intends and purposes peter mandelson is now deputy prime minister."
-at the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2010, Mr Staley sent a request to Epstein asking for him to help set up a meeting with you. Two days after making this request, Mr Staley wrote to Epstein stating: "Peter last night. Darling in 20 minutes. Will talk again with Peter this AM."
-in May 2010, after the Labour Party lost the general election, Epstein wrote to Mr Staley stating: "Peties quitting"
-weeks after you left office, you forwarded details of a Chinese conference being held later that year to Epstein. You wrote: "Isn't it something that JPM should be represented at if they want to spread their wings in China."
-Epstein forwarded this email to Mr Staley saying he agreed with the sentiment.
-in June 2010, you had a meeting with Peter Scher, the then head of global government relations and public affairs at JPMorgan.
-Mr Staley wrote to Epstein at that time writing: "How did Peter M like his meeting with Peter Scher?"
-in the months after you left office in May 2010, you were in contact with several senior JPMorgan employees.
-at one point, Mr Staley forwarded Epstein an email you had sent him laying out potential opportunities for JPMorgan in Congo that followed a visit you had made to the country. That email stated: "In Congo Brazzaville lastt week, I talked at length with President Sassou N'Guesso, including about the above new mine. Exploration, he told me, had been undertaken by a consortium of investors backed by JP Morgan."
-you also emailed JPMorgan with information on Russia's privatisation programme. Mr Staley forwarded an email he had sent to a JPMorgan colleague regarding the bank's work in Russia stating: "When Lord Mandelson can help, please let me know."
-around this time, in October 2010, Epstein directly suggested the idea to Mr Staley of JPMorgan hiring you in some capacity. He wrote in an email to Mr Staley: "would it make sense to

have peter have a relationship with cazanov [sic]." This is an apparent reference to JPMorgan's British investment banking business, JPMorgan Cazenove.
-around this time you helped found the consultancy business Global Counsel.
-Global Counsel has over the past 15 years provided advice to some of the world's largest companies.
-in 2013 you were scheduled to have dinner with Epstein at his New York townhouse.
-you stepped down from Global Counsel this year on accepting the role of British ambassador in Washington.
-in recent years you have downplayed your relationship with Epstein and said you regretted ever having associated with him.
Questions:
- did Epstein pay for your plane trip to his island in 2005?
-did you attempt to help Epstein fight the criminal charges he faced over his abuse of young women, including minors?
-why were you "furious" when he was convicted of soliciting sex from a minor in June 2008?
-during 2008, did you offer to have contacts lobby on Epstein's behalf? Which contacts, and what was the substance of your interactions with them about this matter? What were you hoping to achieve?
- Who is the "Mr. Big" being referenced in these email exchanges, and what was the substance of your interactions with him?
-did you believe Epstein when he told you he had passed a polygraph test and that prosecutors had overreached?
- who is the contact who told you in January 2008 that they "will really go for it on your friend now that his case is a bit more realistically salvageable"?
-what is the name you say you “originally passed” in January 2008?
-did you ever discuss with Gordon Brown, or anyone in his orbit, the idea of lobbying the administration of George W Bush on Epstein's behalf?
-did you discuss Epstein's conviction with former Florida governor Charlie Crist?
-why did you stay in contact with Epstein after his conviction? Did you believe his conviction was unfair?
-did Epstein ask you to meet with Jes Staley?
-did Epstein ask you in January 2010 to help set up a meeting between Mr Staley and the late Alistair Darling?
-after leaving office in May 2010, did you attempt to get a role of any kind with JPMorgan Chase & Co.? Did you do any paid work for JPMorgan Chase & Co. in any capacity?

-were you aware that Epstein was lobbying Mr Staley seemingly on your behalf for you to get a job with JPMorgan Cazenove?
-did you attend a dinner at Epstein's New York townhouse in 2013?
-did you play any role in Prince Andrew’s appointment as a UK Trade Envoy?
-when did you last have contact with Epstein?
-when did you cut your ties with Epstein?
-why did you cut your ties at this point?
-based on the texts of the emails that we have recounted above, are there any clarifications you'd like to make or other information you'd like to share that would further inform our reporting here?
We realise there are a lot of questions and information for you to respond to here, so would propose that you reply to this email **by Friday, Sept. 12 at 5pm EDT**. If you have any questions in the meantime, you can message me on this email.
Yours sincerely,
Harry Wilson

Harry Wilson
Finance reporter, Bloomberg News
Direct line: Personal
Mobile: Personal

30 - 11-09-2025 - Emails between Ian Collard (former Chief Property & Security Officer, FCDO), Ailsa Terry (Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs, No. 10) and Serena Stone (Private Secretary to the Permanent Under-Secretaries)

From: Ian Collard * < Personal >
Sent: Thur 11/09/2025 9:12:44 AM (UTC)
To: "Ailsa Terry (No.10)" < Personal >, Serena Stone < Personal >
Subject: RE: Urgent

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

I would note that the vetting system predominantly looks at one's close contacts of recent years. It is not intended (in all areas of review at least) as a retrospective on someone's whole life. I assume UKSV could explain this better, if required.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: Ailsa Terry
Sent: 11 September 2025 10:06
To: Serena Stone ; Ian Collard *
Subject: Re: Urgent

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Incredibly helpful. Thank you

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: Serena Stone < Personal >
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2025 10:04:34 AM
To: Ian Collard * < Personal >; Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Subject: RE: Urgent

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Resending this per Ailsa's request.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: Ian Collard * < Personal >
Sent: 11 September 2025 09:11
To: Serena Stone < Personal >; Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >
Subject: Re: Urgent

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Morning both,
Further info I believe you are after.
FCDO (as sponsor) set Lord M up for his DV clearance with UK Security Vetting (on 20 Dec 2024). This is normal practice.
He went through the same process that anyone else does, who achieves DV. Same checks, same interviews etc.
In his case, this involved a second interview (on 24 Jan 2025) to confirm a couple of details that UKSV wanted to verify.
UKSV then informed the FCDO of their recommendation in the last week of January.
On 29 Jan 2025, FCDO (as decision maker) granted the DV certificate (for 5 years

rather than 7). This shorter tenure was an FCDO decision owing to our expectations of a HoM posting being maximum 4-5 years.
PUSPO also sent a conflict of interest form to Lord M in January 2025.
I have not discussed here the content of his vetting file. Obviously we can do so with the right person(s) but I would note that vetting is an 'in confidence' process and candidates have a right to assume their information will be properly protected.
Owing to him being a high-profile individual, his case file has been placed into special handling. This basically means that anyone with access to the UKSV casework system cannot by default see the file. Special permissions would need to be granted by UKSV themselves.
Hope that is all useful.
Best wishes
Ian
Ian Collard | Chief Property & Security Officer
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH
Mobile/WhatsApp: Personal

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: Ian Collard * < Personal >
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 6:31 pm
To: Serena Stone < Personal >; Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >
Subject: RE: Urgent

Hello both,
I agree to not commenting on details of individual clearances.
Ian

From: Serena Stone < Personal >
Sent: 10 September 2025 16:33
To: Ailsa Terry (No.10) < Personal >
Cc: Ian Collard * < Personal >
Subject: RE: Urgent

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Yes that's right I believe but copying Ian Collard who was considering a related matter earlier.
Serena

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

From: Ailsa Terry < Personal >
Sent: 10 September 2025 16:31
To: Serena Stone < Personal >
Subject: Urgent

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

We are being asked by Guardian when Peter got DV – presume our line would be we don't comment on individual clearances?
Ailsa Terry CMG| Private Secretary for Foreign Affairs| Prime Minister's Office

| 10 Downing Street, London, SW1A 2AA | T: Personal

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Candour and disclosure in National Security Vetting

During the Developed Vetting (DV) security clearance process, a candidate must submit a range of personal information and undergoes a range of background checks to help an employer and employee to identify, manage and mitigate risks for roles where national security concerns are a consideration.

Personal information is submitted ostensibly via a DV Security Questionnaire and during a detailed interview conducted by a trained Vetting Clearance Officer (VCO).

Security Questionnaire

The questionnaire requires completion of a range of factual information about the candidate. This includes:

***

Answer: Yes or No

If Yes:

***

Interview

The vetting interview at DV is predicated on an open, two-way confidential conversation between the applicant and the VCO.

(a) Interview Guidance

The UK Security Vetting website includes guidance on 'How to approach the interview'. The guidance states:

Be completely honest.
The interview will be very searching, but it is not an interrogation and should not feel like one. Some of the questions will be intrusive but are asked because we are trying to find out if you are vulnerable to pressure. If you have any concerns about the relevance of any of the questions, please ask your Vetting Clearance Officer and they will explain why they are asking the question.
Sometimes people have aspects of their lives that they are ashamed or embarrassed to tell us about. Usually these are of little or no security significance. They will generally not stop or restrict the granting of a security clearance.
The Vetting Clearance Officer is not there to make moral judgements about your experiences or circumstances. Their role is to assess any potential security risks. It is essential therefore that you are open and honest at all stages of the interview process.
We may refuse your clearance, or subsequently withdraw it, if we later find out that you have lied or withheld information.

A form of these words will be used by the VCO at the start of an interview.

(b) Interview Questions

UK Security Vetting provide VCOs with a common framework of questions on which to draw in the interview. Questions are used to help explore potential areas of risk.

Within the Criminality section of the interview:

Criminal Knowledge and Contacts

***

At the end of the interview the following assurances are also sought:

***

From: JCS < Personal >
Sent: Wed 17/09/2025 6:09:15 AM (UTC)
To: Olly X Robbins < Personal >
Subject: Mandelson follow up - Cab Sec meeting this morning
Attachment: Vetting candour.docx

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Olly,
Please see below a couple of updates in advance of the Cab Sec meeting this morning. We have not seen an agenda for the meeting.

1. **Detail on questions asked through DV**. Please find attached a note (agreed with UK Security Vetting) which sets out pertinent aspects of the DV clearance process. Security Questionnaire includes the following question which feels fairly catch all: *** Answer: Yes or No (NB. If yes, further information is then asked for)
2. **Should we access Mandelson's email.** There is a legal basis to access them ("There are grounds to suspect serious or gross misconduct (as set out in the Disciplinary Procedures), criminal activity or behaviour that calls into question a person's security clearance." And "There is reasonable expectation of legal or administrative action."). I am speaking with legal/ESND today to talk about options and advice to you, include benefits/risks of accessing now vs waiting until definite reason to access.
3. **Should FCDO use *** DV process for some posts.** I put the question to Ian, his response as follows: This is called 'enhanced DV' (or eDV). It is not a product that the FCDO knows much about. We don't and haven't used it. The public guidance about eDV (here) suggests it is similar to DV. One assumes with some greater probing. We would have to speak to others to learn more, if this is something that Olly would like us to pursue further?
4. **Recruitment for new HMA Washington.** Working towards advert going live on Friday.

Actions from last meeting (NB. None were for FCDO – I have not yet seen the final version of the timeline):

- Ailsa to share a final version of the timeline (this should include any PM-FS conversations regarding the appointment of Peter M) with the agreed list. Timing - suggest end of today
- CabSecO to set and manage a standard copylist for all discussions and sharing of info on this topic. The recipients of this email are the copylist, so please check with me or Elkie before adding anyone.
- CabSecO (Zoe\0 nnnnto speak to former CabSec to understand what (if any) conversations he had with potential political candidates for HMA Washington last Autumn and if so whether conflicts were discussed. Timing - end of today today
- JCS to check whether any issues / concerns / reporting regarding Peter M

were brought to the government's attention in the interim period between appointment and the reporting last week. Timing - end of today

- JCS to check whether any of SOS DSIT's comments on the Sunday round meet the bar for the govt needing to correct the record. Timing - today
- CabSecO to schedule a follow-up meeting on Wednesday. Complete

Kind regards,

JCS

JCS **| Deputy Private Secretary to the Permanent Under-Secretaries, Sir Oliver Robbins and Nick Dyer | Permanent Under-Secretaries' Joint Private Office**

Personal | King Charles Street | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Email: Personal | Mob: Personal

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