



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

G/5 Ground Floor, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ

Telephone: 020 7271 0841

Email: acoba@acoba.gsi.gov.uk

Website: <http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>

HR Director General
Home Office

Director of HR
Department for Culture Media and Sport

14 May 2013

The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments has considered an application from Jonathan Rees, the former Director General of the Government Equalities Office (GEO), for permission to accept a part-time (working two days per year), unpaid appointment as Board Member and Trustee of the Employers Network on Equality and Inclusion (ENEI). Mr Rees left Crown service on 14 February 2013.

The Committee took into account that Mr Rees did not have direct contractual dealings with his prospective employer during his last two years of service and he was not responsible for people who had such dealings. He has, however, had official contact with ENEI – he spoke to them as part of his role as Director General of GEO as he did with other equality stakeholders.

The Committee noted that the proposed appointment is likely to include contact and/or dealings with his former Department/Government. Whilst no lobbying is involved, there might be contact given that one of ENEI's published aims is to advise the Government on equality related policy issues and a number of Government Departments are members of the network.

The Committee took into account that Mr Rees has not had access to any commercially sensitive information about any competitors of his prospective employer. Furthermore, he has not been involved in the development or administration of any policy or decision (including regulatory work or the award of grants) that could have affected his prospective employer or its competitors.

The Prime Minister accepted the Committee's recommendation that Mr Rees's application be approved subject to the following conditions:

Members:

Mark Addison, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Rt Hon Lord Dholakia OBE,
Mary Jo Jacobi, Rt Hon Lord Lang of Monkton (Chairman), Rt Hon Lord Macdonald of Tradeston CBE
Sir Hugh Stevenson, General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE

- for twelve months from his last day in Crown service, he should not provide advice to ENEI or any clients on the terms of any bid or contract directly relating to the GEO;
- for twelve months from his last day of service, Mr Rees should not personally represent ENEI in any official capacity in their dealings with Government Departments;
- he should not draw on privileged information available to him from his time in Crown service; and
- for two years from his last day of service, Mr Rees should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of ENEI or its clients.

*Lobbying in this context means that the former civil servant should not engage in communication with Government (including Ministers, special advisers and officials) with a view to influencing a Government decision or policy in relation to their own interests, or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted.

I should be grateful if you would ensure that we are informed as soon as Mr Rees takes up this appointment, or, if earlier, when it is announced that he will do so (I enclose a form for convenience). We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments which have not been taken up or announced, and this could lead to a false assumption being made about whether he had complied with the Rules. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if he proposes to extend or otherwise change his role with the ENEI, as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for him to make a fresh application.

Once the appointment has been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish details of this letter on the Committee's website at <http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>, and include the main details of the appointment, together with the Advisory Committee's advice on it and the date on which it was taken up, in both the regularly updated consolidated list on the website and in the next annual report.

CLAIRE HANNA
COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT