



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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Mark Sedwill
Permanent Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
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30 September 2013

Dear Mr Sedwill

BUSINESS APPOINTMENT APPLICATION: ROB WHITEMAN

The Committee has been asked to consider an application from Rob Whiteman, a Director General in the Home Office. He is seeking permission for a full-time, paid appointment as Chief Executive of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

The Committee noted with great concern that the Home Office had announced this appointment nearly one month before approval was sought. As the Business Appointment Rules specify, approval from the Committee should be sought prior to the acceptance or announcement of new appointments. You should ensure that future applications are made with sufficient time for the Committee to provide their advice prior to the appointment being announced or taken up.

When considering this application, the Committee noted that Mr Whiteman's Department had no relationship with CIPFA and that he has not had access to any information about related policy or commercially sensitive information about competitors.

The Committee took into account that the post would involve dealings with Government in general, but that this would not be in relation to areas Mr Whiteman worked on in the Home Office, and that it would be to provide technical advice and responses on financial management and governance issues.

The Committee also took into consideration the views of Mr Whiteman's Department that there was no perceived conflict in this role, but that some conditions should be attached due to the potential contact with Whitehall in his new role.

The Prime Minister accepted the Committee's recommendation that the application be approved retrospectively, subject to the conditions that:

- Mr Whiteman should not draw on privileged information available to him as a Crown servant;
- for two years from his last day of service, Mr Whiteman should not be directly involved in work connected to his previous responsibilities at the Home Office; and
- for two years from his last day of service, Mr Whiteman should not become personally involved in lobbying UK Government on behalf of his new employer or its clients. He should not use his Whitehall contacts to influence policy or secure business for any clients.

The Business Appointment Rules define lobbying in the following way: "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".

As this appointment as already been announced, we will publish this letter on the Committee's website and include the main details of the application, together with the Advisory Committee's advice, in the regularly updated consolidated list on our website and in the next annual report.

Yours sincerely



Catherine Millington
Committee Secretariat