

From the Chairman



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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You asked for the Committee's advice about accepting a part time, unpaid appointment as Non-Executive Director with Three Jays Limited.

The Committee took into account that you have had no official dealings with your prospective employer or its clients. The Committee noted that you are not aware of any relationship between your prospective employer and your former Department and that you have not had access to commercially sensitive information about any competitors. The Committee also noted that it is over five months since you left office.

Taking into account all the circumstances, including your role as the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy, our advice is that we see no reason why you should not take up the post forthwith, provided that:

- i. you do not draw on privileged information available to you as a Minister or in your role as the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy;
- ii. you make it clear in any activities you undertake on behalf of your new employers that you are acting as their representative and not as a Government representative; and
- iii. for two years from your last day of service, you do not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of your new employers or their clients.

It might be helpful if I add that lobbying is defined in the Business Appointment Rules in the following way: "Lobbying in this context means that the former Minister 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 inform us as soon as you take up the appointment, or if it is announced that you will do so, either by returning the enclosed form or by emailing the office at the above address. 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. This could lead to a false assumption being made about whether you had complied with the Ministerial Code. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if you propose to extend or otherwise change your roles with, Three Jays Limited, as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for you to seek fresh advice.

Once the appointments have been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish this letter on the Committee’s website and include the main details of the applications, together with the Advisory Committee’s advice, in the regularly updated consolidated list on our website and in the next annual report.

Lord Lang of Monkton

Lord Marland