

From the Chairman



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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You asked for the Committee's advice about resuming part-time, unpaid appointments as a Board member to the X-Pert Health Training and Education Ltd (XPHE) and as a Trustee for Pennine Heritage (PH).

When considering your applications, the Committee took into account that you did not have any direct official dealings with your prospective employers or any competitors during your last two years in office. The Committee noted that it is unlikely that you will be required to lobby Government in your proposed roles and that it is now over fourteen months since you left ministerial office. The Committee also took into account that you held both of your proposed roles until you took up ministerial office.

Taking into account all the circumstances, the Committee is content to approve the appointments subject to the following conditions:

- that you should not draw on any privileged information available to you as a Minister;
- for two years from your last day in ministerial office, you should 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 role with XPHTE or PH, as depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for you to seek fresh advice.

Once the appointment has 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

The Rt Hon Lord Shutt of Greetland OBE FCA