



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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Dear Mr Crothers,

The Committee has considered your request to accept a commission as an advisor to Green Park's senior team. Your focus will be across Green Park's whole business and include areas such as improving governance, creating a sustainable capability, and developing strategies for approaching different market segments. It would be an internal-facing role. You have given an undertaking that you would not lobby Government or sell services on behalf of the company.

The work is likely to be no more than a day or two per month. You have yet to agree the duration though it will likely be an initial arrangement of no less than six months.

You informed the Committee that you had some minimal contact with Green Park while in Government but you did not agree commercial terms with the company and were not responsible for selecting them to provide recruitment services to the Cabinet Office.

The Committee agrees that this commission is permissible within the terms of your consultancy, which you described as offering advisory services providing general business advice, typically in areas such as governance, strategy, procurement, sales and technology.

The conditions that apply to your consultancy are:

- You should not draw on privileged information available to you from your time in Crown service;
- For two years from your last day in service, you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of any of your clients or those you advise or make use, directly or indirectly, of your contacts in Government and/or Crown service to influence policy or secure business on behalf of any of your clients or those you advise;
- For two years from your last day of service, before accepting any new commission you should apply to the Committee for approval to confirm that it is acceptable under the Committee's guidelines. In considering the matter on such further reference, the Committee may seek the views of relevant departments. If, after enquiry, the Committee takes the view that a commission is, or may be, outside the terms of the consultancy you will be expected to submit a fresh application).

In view of the services that Green Park provides to the Cabinet Office (and Government more widely) the Committee has imposed the following additional condition:

- For two years from your last day of service you should not undertake any work as a consultant that involves providing advice to Green Park on the terms of bids or contracts with the UK Government.

By 'privileged information' we mean official information to which a Minister or Crown servant has had access as a consequence of his or her office or employment and which has not been made publicly available. Applicants are also reminded that they may be subject to other duties of confidentiality, whether under the Official Secrets Act, the Civil Service Code or otherwise.

The Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that the former Crown servant "should not engage in communication with Government - including Ministers, special advisers and officials - with a view to influencing a Government decision or policy [including applications for awards or grants] 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 let me know when you take up this piece of work, or if it is announced that you are to do so. This will enable the Committee to publish this letter and brief details on the regularly updated consolidated list on its website and in its next annual report.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Richardson
Committee Secretariat