



# PACAC (Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee)

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## Ongoing Ministerial Code Investigations

In your hearing with the Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> June you noted that, when he resigned as the Independent Adviser on Ministerial Interests ("IA"), Lord Geidt had yet to complete one investigation that had been referred to him. You told the Committee that, in the absence of an Independent Adviser, it was your role to advise the Prime Minister on the application of the Ministerial Code. Given that, could you please clarify the following points for the Committee:

- The stage the inquiry had reached when Lord Geidt resigned on 15 July 2022.
- The IA's terms of reference require that their findings be published in a timely manner. If the outstanding inquiry was completed before Lord Geidt resigned, does the requirement for timely publication remain and, if so, whose responsibility is it to ensure publication?
- If the inquiry was not finished before Lord Geidt's resignation, was a draft or interim report produced and, if so, will those involved in the case be informed of its contents? If so, whose responsibility is it to do so and what is the timescale for doing so?
- If the inquiry remains unfinished, can you please set out the process by which an incoming IA will resume the inquiry will be, including:
  - Whether the IA will start their own inquiry or resume the current one;
  - Whether consent will need to be sought from those involved in the case for the incoming IA to access their records and documents.

William Wragg MP

Chair, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee