



PACAC (Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee)

House of Commons · London SW1A 0AA

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Rt Hon Lord Geidt
Independent Adviser on Ministerial Interests
c/o Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London, SW1A 2AS

18th May 2021

Dear Lord Geidt,

Post-appointment Hearing: The Independent Adviser on Ministers' Interests

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your attendance before the Committee on Thursday 13th May to discuss your appointment to the post of Independent Adviser on Ministers' Interests and for the detailed manner in which you responded to the Committee's questions. The Committee has no formal role in approving your appointment but was grateful for the way in which you engaged with us and the manner in which you answered our questions.

The Committee noted that you aim to publish the most up to date version of the official list of Ministers' interests by the end of this month, and we look forward to seeing this publication in due course and we also hope that you are able to ensure it is kept up to date, by regular publication of the entire list and updates in the interim to reflect changes in individuals' circumstances.

The Committee was particularly interested in the revised Terms of Reference and welcomes the more proactive role in the initiation of investigations in alleged breaches of the Ministerial Code. Moreover, we noted with interest your indication that the Terms of Reference are evolutionary in nature, and will be reviewed periodically to ensure ongoing operability. We appreciate that you are only recently installed in the role and therefore the revised Terms of Reference are yet to be tested, but the Committee is keen to monitor the effectiveness of the revised terms and their capacity to restore public and parliamentary confidence in the effective and independent discharge of your relevant responsibilities.

You expressed a willingness to return to the Committee in the future to discuss the operation of those Terms of Reference and their suitability after an appropriate period of time. The Committee welcomes this and will arrange such a follow up session at the right juncture.

The Committee wishes you well in your new role.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. Wragg', with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Wragg MP
Chair, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee