



**The Commissioner for  
Public Appointments**

**Rt Hon Peter Riddell CBE**  
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Rt Hon Jeremy Wright QC MP,  
Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

17<sup>th</sup> October 2018

*Dean Jeremy*

**RE: Appointment of Interim Chair for the Royal Armouries**

Thank you for your letter outlining your proposal to appoint Mr Hemant Patel, who currently sits on the Royal Armouries board, as interim Chair.

I note that your department recently ran a campaign to recruit substantively, to replace the current Chair whose term ends on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2018. I acknowledge that this campaign received a very low number of applications, and was unsuccessful as a result. You have stated that another campaign is planned to launch as soon as possible, and that you are seeking permission from the Cabinet Office to use headhunters.

It is important that this post does not sit vacant. I am therefore content with the appointment of Mr Patel as interim Chair for a period of six months, commencing the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2018.

I would be grateful if you could keep my office updated on the progress of the next campaign once it has launched.

*All best wishes*

**Peter Riddell**  
**Commissioner for Public Appointments**