



**The Commissioner for
Public Appointments**

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Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP
Shadow Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
Anneliese Dodds MP
Shadow Secretary of State for Women and Equalities
House of Commons
London
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By email: aysef.veli@parliament.uk

18 February 2022

Dear Ms Rayner and Ms Dodds

Thank you for your letters of 9 and 15 February in relation to the process of appointing the Chair of the National Lottery Community Fund, and recent press coverage of the process involving one particular individual.

The Government's Governance Code states that political activity, including donations to a party, must be declared by candidates. While political activity is not a bar to appointment, it cannot be a reason for an appointment. The public appointments process must be transparent and based on merit.

The role of the Commissioner is to oversee the public appointments process and ensure fairness to all candidates. I intend to review this competition to assure myself and the public that the process was run in compliance with the government's Governance Code for Public Appointments, using my powers under the Order in Council 2019 and the Governance Code. OCPA has today called for the relevant papers from DCMS. I will write again to you, and inform the relevant Select Committee, once that process is concluded. My decision on adherence to the Code will be published on my website, along with the relevant correspondence.

Once again, thank you for bringing this important matter to my attention.

Best wishes.

William Shawcross
Commissioner for Public Appointments