



Propriety and Ethics Team

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Charles Andrew Harrison (request-10371-0807a09a@whatdotheyknow.com) 27 July 2009

Internal Review Request: IR265368

Thank you for your email of 13 May in which you requested an internal review of my response of 13 May relating to your Freedom of information of 14 April. You asked:

- What actions did the Prime Minister take during the period 10 April 2008 to 13 April 2009 to monitor the compliance or otherwise of his Special Advisers to their Code of Conduct, in particular - but not limited to - articles 5 and 6 of the Code.

I have carefully considered your request.

As set out in the *Code of Conduct for Special Advisers*, Special Advisers are temporary civil servants and are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the *Civil Service Code* which sets out the standards of behaviour expected of all civil servants. Special Advisers should conduct themselves with integrity and honesty and not deceive or knowingly mislead Parliament or the public. They are personally responsible for their own actions.

As the Prime Minister made clear at the time the actions of Damian McBride was wholly inappropriate and unacceptable and that he had no knowledge of the matter in question. No further information is held.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request for information you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Paul Ballinger

