

Summary of investigation

May 2023

Organisation or person investigated

Laurence Robertson MP (“Mr Robertson”)

Matter(s) investigated

Whether Mr Robertson conducted unregistered consultant lobbying

Registrar’s decision

Based on assurances received, Mr Robertson has not conducted unregistered consultant lobbying activity.

Summary of rationale for decision

Based on Mr Robertson’s unequivocal and complete written assurances, he is not registered for VAT. Under the Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014, registration under the Value Added Tax Act 1994 is one of three conditions that define consultant lobbying.

Chronology

Date	Action
4 May	Item in Politico London Influence newsletter regarding Mr Robertson’s paid work for the Betting and Gaming Council.
5 May	Formal letter from the Registrar giving background on the requirement for registering and asking if his activities fall within the criteria to be registered with particular reference to, but not limited to, Mr Robertson’s work for the Betting and Gaming Council.
9 May	Email response from Mr Robertson confirming he has not undertaken relevant communications.
10 May	Letter from the Registrar requesting further information regarding Mr Robertson’s work for the Betting and Gaming Council and his VAT registration status.

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Date	Action
10 May	Email response from Mr Robertson answering all questions raised and confirming that the Betting and Gaming Council payment is to him as an individual and he is not VAT registered.
12 May	Letter from the Registrar concluding his investigation.

12 May

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