

Office of the Registrar of Consultant Lobbyists

Summary of investigation

October 2018 to December 2018

Organisation or person investigated: Calvert Communications Ltd

Matter(s) investigated: possible unregistered consultant lobbying by Calvert Communications Ltd

Registrar's decision: Calvert Communications Ltd did not meet statutory criteria for consultant lobbying

Summary of rationale for decision: Explicit confirmation from Calvert Communications that their communications on behalf of paying clients were only with local government. Accordingly, Calvert Communications Ltd did not meet a key criterion in the statutory definition of consultant lobbying, i.e. communications with UK Government Ministers or Permanent Secretaries (or equivalent).

Chronology:

1 October 2018	Indicative general evidence of possible unregistered consultant lobbying activity by Calvert Communications received from third party (anonymity requested).
11 October 2018	Email to whistleblower from ORCL seeking any further evidence of specific activities of potential statutory breach
29 October 2018	Letter from Registrar to Calvert Communications. Explained remit of Registrar, referred to published guidance on consultant lobbying, and indicative evidence received, and asked for a response.
20 November 2018	Substantive response from Calvert Communications, explicitly stating they have no access to UK Government Ministers.
Late November 2018	Consideration of papers and evidence by Registrar.
4 December 2018	Having considered all information received, Registrar writes to Calvert Communications to confirm they did not appear to meet the statutory criteria for consultant lobbying.