



Chris Heaton-Harris
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Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about the World Economic Forum.

I reject your characterisation of Ministers as ‘shadow spokespersons’ for the World Economic Forum. I believe such a belief, in short, to be a conspiracy theory. However, I can assure you that the Government will always govern in the national interest. Where collaboration or partnership occurs between the Government and a non-governmental international organisation, such as the World Economic Forum, this is fully declared in line with transparency requirements.

Under the terms of the Ministerial Code, Ministers must ensure that no conflict arises, or could reasonably be perceived to arise, between their Ministerial position and their private interests, financial or otherwise. On appointment to each new office, Ministers must provide their Permanent Secretary with a list, in writing, of all relevant interests known to them, which might be thought to give rise to a conflict.

Individual declarations, and a note of any action taken in respect of individual interests, are then passed to the Cabinet Office Propriety and Ethics team and the Independent Adviser on Ministers’ Interests to confirm they are content with the action taken or to provide further advice as appropriate.

The Government publishes data on meetings held by ministers with external organisations on a quarterly basis. This includes meetings with or at international organisations.

MPs are required to declare their interests whenever it could be thought that they may have been influenced in what they say or do. This is required whether or not the interest has been formally registered and includes expected future interests as well as the interests of family members.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY