

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

British American Tobacco Aus. (BATA) & Bruce Lehrmann Meeting

18 June 2021, 2pm via Teams

Thank you for arranging this meeting today and the flexibility afforded to having this meeting via videoconference.

From Josh's email on the 11th of June, I understand you wish to discuss and to bring to a conclusion the allegation made against me by Rosie Lewis, a journalist at The Australian on the 15th of February 2021 and the impact the allegation may have adversely reflected on my ability to actively engage the Government on behalf of BATA.

These allegations were first brought to my attention by Josh and Jamie in a meeting conducted around 2pm on the 15th of February and confirmed via email to my work email address soon after.

This is also the first time I had heard of this allegation in the over 2 years since leaving federal parliament as a Ministerial Adviser.

About the allegation in question by Rosie Lewis, I wish to state it is categorically false and I appreciate the phone contact from my line manager Josh during what has been the most challenging and traumatic time of my life.

While I will always seek to be as open and honest with BATA as much as possible, you would appreciate that I am unable to go into specific detail about the allegation and processes that may have taken place over the past few months, however my legal team and support network are confident of a resolution to clear this matter in the near future.

I appreciate the position BATA, like me has been put in with such an allegation being made, especially through frivolous and politically strategic means in the media. I feel the successful start I have made to joining BATA over 6 months ago positions me well to now continue in my employed role and I am open to having discussions regarding all options for me continuing the regulatory and external affairs work for BATA which I have and will continue to enthusiastically support.

I have been well supported medically and otherwise from my mums' home in Toowoomba, Queensland and for the short to medium term this would be a preferable location for a gradual return to work, with close proximity access to airports for travel if needed as well as BATA's Brisbane office.

In relation to my ability to engage the Government on behalf of BATA, these false allegations in my view have not hindered the relations within my political network, my unique skillset to effectively advise the business on regulatory affairs and policy or effect state and federal policy changes to further the business financially.

I look positively toward returning to support BATA's core business undertakings as I had successfully been doing prior to the 15th of February.