

93

CabinetOffice



Sir Gus O'Donnell KCB

Secretary of the Cabinet and
Head of the Home Civil Service

70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

Telephone 020 7276 0101
Fax 020 7276 0006
E-mail gus.odonnell@cabinet-office.x.gov.uk
Web www.cabinet-office.gov.uk

Tom Watson MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

13 December 2010

Dear Mr. Watson,

REPORTING OF GIFTS FOR SPECIAL ADVISERS

Thank you for your letter of 10 December asking about payment of Mr Coulson's legal fees.

Mr Coulson's evidence to the trial of Mr Sheridan related wholly to his former employment with News International, and it is therefore appropriate that they should pay his legal bill. This arrangement was approved in advance by the Cabinet Office on the same basis as would occur if a former Minister or civil servant were to be involved in legal proceedings as a result of their Government employment, when the Government would normally pay.

Yours sincerely,



Gus O'Donnell

