Peter Backhouse

peterbackhouse.sj@gmail.com 07402 191377 15 Wilmington Square, WC1X 0ER

Career Special Adviser Home Office

I served as a Special Adviser to the Security Minister. I was responsible for:

- Terrorism and state threats policy. I oversaw a refresh of the UK's counter-terrorism strategy, reformed the way we protect ourselves against espionage and foreign interference through the National Security Act and established the Defending Democracy programme. I helped establish new, pro-innovation initiatives to develop the next generation of intelligence collection techniques.
- Cyber security. I worked with GCHQ, the NCSC and the NCA to shape the UK's cyber security
 policy. I helped develop new powers to seize cryptoassets, change the UK's approach to ransomware
 and protect at-risk elected officials and democratic institutions from malicious interference through the
 Defending Democracy Taskforce.
- Investigatory powers policy. I led on reforms to the way that law enforcement and the intelligence services are able to intercept and analyse data through the Investigatory Powers (Amendment) Act. I oversaw changes to the Notices Regime and the use of Internet Connection Records.
- Online safety policy. I oversaw the Online Safety Act, and led on the Home Office's approach to End-to-End Encryption. I was responsible for developing of the Fraud Strategy, and worked with tech companies such as Meta to deliver the first Online Fraud Charter and Global Fraud Summit.
- Communications strategy and media appearances. I helped shape the Home Office's communications strategy, briefed the press and accompanied Ministers on challenging broadcast rounds. I was responsible for strategic comms on sensitive national security issues.

(2022) Special Adviser Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

I served as a Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for Business. I was responsible for:

- Science, innovation and growth policy. I oversaw a policy portfolio that included R&D strategy, technology strategy and security, life sciences, artificial intelligence, quantum technology, the UK space programme and energy including nuclear fusion.
- Key policy implementation and critical project delivery. I helped shape and stress-test Horizon
 Plan B and oversaw interim arrangements for Horizon, Copernicus and Euratom. I helped develop a
 more strategic approach to R&D investment and a new pro-innovation approach to regulating Al. I
 worked to ensure that the National Quantum Strategy delivers a strategic advantage for the UK.

(2021 - 2022) Special Adviser Department of Health and Social Care

I served as a Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. I was responsible for:

- Leading on the Health and Care Bill. Considered to be the most significant health legislation for a
 decade and one of the most challenging Bills of the Parliament. During its passage I quadrupled our
 majority on charging reform, resisted several 'genocide amendments' and developed what was
 described as the 'most significant advance in supply chain regulation since the Modern Slavery Act'.
- Policy development. I oversaw a policy portfolio that included capital projects, adult social care, major diseases, life sciences and clinical negligence, working with other advisers to help develop the Secretary of State's reform agenda. I led on the Union and DHSC's work with the DAs.
- **Policy delivery**. I was responsible for implementing flagship policies such as social care charging reform. I was tasked with finding a politically acceptable method of mitigating the risks that the policy posed to the sustainability of care markets and convincing hostile stakeholders of our approach.
- Drafting speeches, op eds and social media content. This included political speeches at Party Conference, ministerial statements, and urgent questions and op eds for national media outlets. I also drafted and cleared copy for the Secretary of State's social media channels.
- Working with Members of Parliament on local health and care issues. I helped secure favourable outcomes to health and care issues in MPs' local areas. These included capital projects, reconfigurations, negotiations and sensitive issues such as local investigations.

Education

University of Sheffield

(2013-2016)

BSc Biomedical Science (Neuroscience) (2:1)

National University of Singapore (2014-2015)

BSc Biomedical Science (Neuroscience) (68)

Monkton Combe Senior School (2008-2012)

GCSE: 7A* A-Level: AS Maths: A Biology: A

3A Physics: A Chemistry: B