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Richard Hughes

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Budget Responsibility Committee  
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obr.uk

## Notice period for current members of the Budget Responsibility Committee

Dear Harriet,

We are grateful to the Treasury Committee for the timeliness with which it held its pre-appointment hearing for Tom Josephs and consented to his appointment. The Committee's scrutiny of the independence and expertise of the Government's nominees to Budget Responsibility Committee (BRC) is a vital safeguard of the OBR's independence and capability. Thanks to the speed and efficiency with which the Committee conducted its latest hearing, we will be able to prepare our next forecast for the 2023 Autumn Statement with a full complement of all three BRC members.

We took note of your letter to the Chancellor of 7 June 2023 regarding the 3 months' notice that the Committee was given regarding the departure of Andy King, Mr. Josephs' predecessor, and the challenges that poses for the Committee in conducting its pre-appointment scrutiny of nominees to the BRC.<sup>1</sup> We also took note of the recommendation in both the Committee's 2018 Report on Andy King's appointment<sup>2</sup> and latest Report on Mr. Josephs' appointment<sup>3</sup> that 'nominations to the BRC be made by the Chancellor at least four and a half months before the existing postholder steps down.'

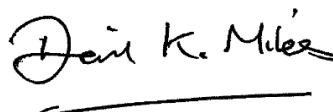
As the Committee notes in this latest report, Mr. Josephs has agreed to a six-month notice period, in response to this recommendation.<sup>4</sup> While both of our contracts currently require only three months' notice of our intention to step down or seek reappointment, as with our new colleague Mr. Josephs, we will also commit to provide the Committee and the Treasury at least six months' notice of any intention to step down or seek reappointment to a second five-year term.

We trust that this will provide the Committee with adequate time in which to perform its vital role in scrutinising and approving nominees to the BRC.

With best wishes,



Richard Hughes



Professor David Miles CBE

<sup>1</sup> [Letter from the Chair of the Treasury Committee to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, 7 June 2023](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Appointment of Andy King to the Budget Responsibility Committee of the OBR \(parliament.uk\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Appointment of Tom Josephs to the Budget Responsibility Committee - Treasury Committee \(parliament.uk\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Appointment of Tom Josephs to the Budget Responsibility Committee - Treasury Committee \(parliament.uk\)](#)