



**The Commissioner for  
Public Appointments**

**Rt Hon Peter Riddell CBE**  
**Commissioner for Public Appointments**  
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**29 January 2021**

**Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP**  
Secretary of State for Business,  
Energy & Industrial Strategy  
**Department for Business,  
Energy & Industrial Strategy**  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

Dear Kwasi,

Thank you for your letter consulting me on your intention directly to appoint Professor Alison Park without competition as the interim Executive Chair of the ESRC. I am content with this proposal in view of Professor Park's experience, and following Professor Jennifer Rubin's resignation in order to take up a senior position with the Home Office.

If your officials could notify my office when this has been announced so that I may update our records and website accordingly it would be appreciated. It would also be helpful to be informed of the progress of the competition to find a longer-term replacement to Professor Rubin.

All best wishes

Yours sincerely,

**Peter Riddell**  
**Commissioner for Public Appointments**