



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Gareth Davies
Comptroller and Auditor General
National Audit Office
157–197 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 9SP

9 September 2025

Dear Gareth,

Re: Request for NAO Investigation

I am writing to you to request a National Audit Office investigation into allegations that the former Prime Minister Boris Johnson has potentially misused public funds, namely his £115,000 a year taxpayer funded Public Duty Costs Allowance (PDCA) to manage his commercial endeavours.

The allegations were reported in the Guardian on Monday 8th September in which it was said that the former Prime Minister had used PDCA payments to pay for staff salaries in his private office, the Office of Boris Johnson, a limited company established a month after he left Number 10. The leaks reported in the Guardian suggest that he then used this company to secure deals with the Daily Mail and GB News, and to give speeches across the world. The reporting also said that between October 2022 and May 2024, these speeches had netted Johnson around £5.1 million.

As you will know, the PDCA is not meant to be used for private or commercial activities but instead “only to meet the actual cost of continuing to fulfil public duties”. The public have a right to know if Boris Johnson abused the £182,000 worth of PDCA money he has claimed in order to carry out private activities rather than to support an ex-Prime Minister’s public duties.

The reporting about the potential abuse of the PDCA comes alongside a slew of other allegations about Johnson’s behaviour. It includes potentially contravening ACOBA rules to do with private lobbying, similar to the recent Greensill scandal involving another former Prime Minister, David Cameron.

ACOBA has already announced that they are investigating this and reiterate that they had “already investigated and reported breaches of the business appointment rules by Mr Johnson” previously. I hope that you will follow suit amidst the understandable public fury that their money may have been misused in this way.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Olney
Member of Parliament for Richmond Park and Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Business and the Cabinet Office