
From: Trevor Cowin <chloemay@manx.net>

Sent: 25 November 2022 14:53

To: CO, Chief Minister Private Office <Chiefminister.privateoffice@gov.im>

Subject: RE: Rob Callister's "alleged" sacking.

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Dear Sam

Thank you for your reply.

I note that you say that "The Chief Minister informed His Excellency on 15 November that Mr Callister MHK no longer had his concurrence to be appointed as a Minister."

But, that was 4 days after the Chief Minister announced in this Manx Radio interview and Report <https://tinyurl.com/386526ed> that Rob had been "sacked".

So, what powers did the Chief Minister have on the 11th November 2022 to "sack" Rob?

And, for the reasons explained below, even though the Chief Minister may well have notified the Governor on the 15th November that Rob "...no longer had his concurrence to be appointed as a Minister", this did not override the requirement for the Governor to sign an appropriate instrument to remove Rob from his Office as a Minister.

I repeat, therefore, these paragraphs from my e-mail to you –

"Where does the Act state that Assignment of Ministers Instruments under section 5 of the COMIN Act supersede the last such assignment of Ministers?"

"To clarify the position please let me have a copy of the Instrument under which Rob was allegedly "sacked" i.e. removed from his office as the Minister for the DHSC, by the Chief Minister and a copy of the Instrument under which Lawrie Hooper was apparently appointed to the office of Minister for the DHSC by the Chief Minister."

"On the assumption that you agree, and the Act makes it clear that you must agree, please let me have your confirmation that –

- (a) the Chief Minister doesn't have the power to "sack" Ministers; and
- (b) for Ministers to be removed from their office, which they hold at the pleasure of the Governor by whom they were appointed, it would be necessary for the Governor to remove them from their office by an appropriate Instrument signed by the Governor.

Unless, therefore, the Governor has already signed an appropriate Instrument removing Rob Callister from his office as a Minister, Rob is still in law a Minister, but in the light of the assignment of Lawrie Hooper to the Department of Health and Social Care, Rob is now a Minister without portfolio.

If there is an Instrument signed by the Governor removing Rob from his office as a Minister, please let me have a copy of it.

If there isn't any such instrument, then do you agree that in the light of the attached Assignment and on the assumption that such Assignment lawfully supersedes the previous Assignment of Rob as Minister for the DHSC, Rob is now a Minister without portfolio?" which you've conveniently overlooked in your reply.

For the second time of asking please let me have your answers to my questions and requests.

You are better laced to obtain copies of Warrants of Appointment from the General Registry than I am and I expect you to do so and provide them to me.

Kind regards
Trevor Cowin