

- All correspondence (including emails, attachments, typed or handwritten notes, letters, notes/records of phone calls, texts or instant messages, minutes of meetings, briefings or otherwise) **between Roseanna Cunningham and Glasgow City Council relating to COP26. Please limit to the time period of September 2019 - present.**

**Letter from  
Glasgow City  
Council to  
Cabinet  
Secretary**

**Councillor Susan Aitken  
Scottish National Party  
LANGSIDE - WARD 7  
Leader of the Council  
Phone: 0141 287 3751 or 07881 282 652  
E-mail: [susan.aitken@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:susan.aitken@glasgow.gov.uk)**

Our Ref: SA/EM/190919RCMSP

26 September 2019

**By email:** [CabSecECCLF@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecECCLF@gov.scot)

Roseanna Cunningham MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform  
The Scottish Government  
St. Andrew's House  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Dear Roseanna

I am writing on behalf of the Council regarding a motion on COP26 – the UN Climate Change Summit, as attached, which the Council approved unanimously at our meeting on 12 September.

The Council considered the motion (attached) following the announcement that Glasgow will host COP26 in November 2020, subject to ratification at COP25 in Santiago, Chile this December. Council considers it a tremendous honour that the city may host the largest and most complex event ever held in Scotland, with an anticipated 22,500 delegates from 170 states, including many heads of state.

This event will further demonstrate Glasgow's role as a leading global city with a track-record in delivering events attracting global attention, such as the Commonwealth Games and the European Championships. We understand the importance of the city deriving a legacy from hosting such events and have developed a legacy framework to maximise benefits for our city.

This Council is keen to use our hosting of COP26 as an opportunity to showcase Glasgow's innovation in carbon reduction and to provide momentum towards our ambitious net zero targets, which we are revising in light of recommendations made by our Climate Emergency Working Group, whose report (which can be found [here](#)) will be considered by the Council's City Administration Committee on 26 September 2019.

	<p>As part of its response to the announcement that Glasgow is the designated host for COP26, and in line with the findings of our Climate Emergency Working Group, Council called for a global Green New Deal to drive rapid decarbonisation and create jobs and a positive future in a low carbon economy. Council specifically called on the Scottish and UK Governments to be bold in supporting a Green New Deal for Scotland to demonstrate to members of the international community when it assembles in Glasgow the strongest possible action in response to the climate emergency.</p> <p>The Council looks forward to working with the Scottish and UK Governments to deliver this important event and to ensure that it leaves a legacy in terms of the delivery of our ambitious net zero targets.</p> <p>I am copying this letter to Claire Perry MP, UK nominated president of COP26, whose contribution to the successful bid for the UK to host COP26 was recognised by the Council.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Councillor Susan Aitken Leader of the Council c.c. Claire Perry, MP</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p><b>Reply from Cabinet Secretary to Glasgow City Council</b></p>	<p>Councillor Susan Aitken Leader of Glasgow City Council By email: <a href="mailto:susan.aitken@glasgow.gov.uk">susan.aitken@glasgow.gov.uk</a></p> <p>— Your ref: SA/EM/190919RCMSP Our ref: 2019/0028893 October 2019</p> <p>Dear Susan</p> <p>I was pleased to receive your letter of 26th September regarding the motion on COP26 that was unanimously approved by Glasgow City Council. I agree that the event will further enhance Glasgow’s reputation as a leading destination for major events should the UK’s nomination be ratified later in the year. It is fitting that COP26 should take place in Glasgow, given the city’s ambitions to address climate change, and that Scotland is leading UK action in this regard.</p> <p>There is a need for increased global efforts to tackle climate change and the Scottish Government is committed to leading by example through bold actions. For instance, the Climate Change Bill recently passed in parliament adopts a new target to reduce emissions by 75% by 2030, and commits Scotland to becoming a net-zero society by 2045 – five years before the rest of the UK. The global climate emergency and a Green New Deal for Scotland were also at the heart of our latest <a href="#">Programme for Government</a>.</p>

	<p>The Green New Deal will deliver billions of investment in Scotland’s net zero future, including over £500 million in an improved bus infrastructure, plans to decarbonise railways by 2035, and creating a Skills Action Plan that will give people the skills they need for the new net zero economy. Furthermore, a Green Growth Accelerator, combining public and private investment, will unlock additional investment for emissions reductions to help transform cities and regions.</p> <p>These are just some of our new measures that cut across all parts of government. It is clear people across Scotland want to see action and our response needs to be a national endeavour. There is a significant role for the whole of society in supporting transformational change.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to playing its part at COP26 and to playing a central role in leading and driving ambition, and agree it provides excellent opportunity to showcase our innovation in climate action, as well as ensuring that we deliver a transition to net zero that will be just and fair to everyone with no-one left behind.</p> <p>I look forward to working with Glasgow City Council and the UK Government to deliver a successful and far reaching event that will not only serve as a turning point in global action on climate change but also leave a lasting legacy for Glasgow and Scotland. Officials have already been in contact and I would be keen to meet with you soon so that we can discuss how best to achieve this.</p> <p>Yours</p> <p><b>Roseanna Cunningham</b></p>
<p><b>Readout from meeting between Glasgow City Council and Cabinet Secretary (14 January)</b></p>	<p><b>From:</b> Lloyd E (Elizabeth) &lt;<a href="mailto:Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot">Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot</a>&gt;  <b>Sent:</b> 15 January 2020 10:47  <b>To:</b> Berge K (Kersti) &lt;<a href="mailto:Kersti.Berge@gov.scot">Kersti.Berge@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform &lt;<a href="mailto:CabSecECCLR@gov.scot">CabSecECCLR@gov.scot</a>&gt;  <b>Cc:</b> DG Economy &lt;<a href="mailto:DGEconomy@gov.scot">DGEconomy@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Rennie M (Michelle) &lt;<a href="mailto:Michelle.Rennie@transport.gov.scot">Michelle.Rennie@transport.gov.scot</a>&gt;; [REDACTED]@gov.scot  [REDACTED]@gov.scot -Chief Executive Transport Scotland &lt;<a href="mailto:ceo@transport.gov.scot">ceo@transport.gov.scot</a>&gt;; Russell GE (Gillian) &lt;<a href="mailto:Gillian.Russell@gov.scot">Gillian.Russell@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Gillies H (Hugh) &lt;<a href="mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot">Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot</a>&gt;; [REDACTED]@gov.scot  <b>Subject:</b> RE: Briefing for meeting with Cllr Susan Aitken</p> <p>Some feedback from the discussion</p> <p>Cabinet office engagement and interest appears to have picked up from January and Glasgow take the view that they are now more engaged and aware of what they need to do and of some of the issues that hosting in Scotland brings out.</p> <p>Glasgow are setting up their own governance arrangements.</p> <p>They will have a group on the Operational side and are bringing back to life Sustainable Glasgow – as their lead on the policy and wider cultural side. I got the</p>

	<p>impression SG would be welcome at that, with the relevant person potentially varying by subject.</p> <p>As you know – Ms Cunningham has invited Cllr Aitken to attend the ministerial group, providing a forum for them to link into our governance space – which was welcomed.</p> <p>In terms of co-operation - we didn't get too far into the operational side, as that appears to be improving.</p> <p>The other areas where we are all agreed we are looking to achieve similar outcomes and agree we can capitalise by bringing this together – are</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Liz</p> <p><b>Elizabeth Lloyd</b>  <b>Chief of Staff to the First Minister</b>  St Andrew's House  Regent Road  Edinburgh EH1 3DG  Tel: [REDACTED]  Mobile: [REDACTED]  <a href="mailto:Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot">Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot</a></p> <p><i>Please note Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See <a href="http://www.lobbying.scot">www.lobbying.scot</a> for information.</i></p>
	<p>- All correspondence (including emails, attachments, typed or handwritten notes, letters, notes/records of phone calls, texts or instant messages, minutes of meetings, briefings or otherwise) <b>between Roseanna Cunningham and Claire O'Neill relating to COP26. Please limit to the time period of September 2019 - present.</b></p>
<p><b>Text exchange between Cabinet Secretary and Claire O'Neill, 26 and 27 November 2019</b></p>	<p><b>From Claire O'Neill to Cabinet Secretary (1 of 3)</b>  26 Nov 18.03</p> <p>Hello Rosanna it's Claire O'Neill - Perry as was.  Could we speak urgently tonight re the press release on the science centre? Any time for me Claire</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone  <b>From Claire O'Neill to Cabinet Secretary (2 of 3)</b>  Am now commuting - home about 830. Are you free then? If not, I'll try tomorrow.</p>

	<p>Very keen to head off any disorganisation at the pass- the science centre location has not been security cleared for public events, no contract is agreed, the site its needed as your team know for the global media centre and our teams have a working m o u r e comms [REDACTED] I am v keen to establish a good working relations</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p> <p><b>From Claire O'Neill to Cabinet Secretary (3 of 3)</b> Relationship as we have had before. So good to chat! [REDACTED] Yours ever Claire</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p> <p><b>From Cabinet Secretary to Claire O'Neill</b> Sent 07.27 27/11/19</p> <p>Claire, finished very wet &amp; cold campaigning last night &amp; found my phone/email full of messages. Sorry for not being able to get back - I'm in Govt car atm on my way to an engagement but have asked Private Office to sort out some time today for a proper chat about things. Hope your office gets a ping soonish. Roseanna</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p> <p><b>From Claire O'Neill to Cabinet Secretary</b> Super thanks and look forward to chatting. [REDACTED] am 110 per cent cop focused so very busy.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p><b>Readout of meeting between Claire O'Neill and Cabinet Secretary during COP25</b></p>	<p><b>From:</b> [REDACTED] <b>Sent:</b> 09 December 2019 07:04 <b>To:</b> DG Economy &lt;<a href="mailto:DGEconomy@gov.scot">DGEconomy@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Chief Executive Transport Scotland &lt;<a href="mailto:ceo@transport.gov.scot">ceo@transport.gov.scot</a>&gt;; Pryce JM (Jonathan) &lt;<a href="mailto:Jonathan.Pryce@gov.scot">Jonathan.Pryce@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Wightman S (Scott) &lt;<a href="mailto:Scott.Wightman@gov.scot">Scott.Wightman@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Russell GE (Gillian) &lt;<a href="mailto:Gillian.Russell@gov.scot">Gillian.Russell@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Berge K (Kersti) &lt;<a href="mailto:Kersti.Berge@gov.scot">Kersti.Berge@gov.scot</a>&gt; <b>Cc:</b> Hamilton C (Clare) &lt;<a href="mailto:Clare.Hamilton@gov.scot">Clare.Hamilton@gov.scot</a>&gt;; Gillies H (Hugh) &lt;<a href="mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot">Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot</a>&gt;; [REDACTED]@gov.scot <b>Subject:</b> Readout - meeting between Cab Sec ECCLR and Claire O'Neill (off sen)</p> <p>All, please see below readout of meeting between Ms Cunningham and Claire O'Neill that took place on Friday, 6 Dec. Kersti Berge, and [REDACTED] attended for SG. Peter Hill and [REDACTED] attended for UKG.</p>

- Overall the meeting was much more positive in tone than previous, with only cursory mention of GSC. Information was provided that we had not been aware of, and which is useful for planning purposes.
- PH requested an early meeting between FM and PM on COP 26 post GE. (NB: this will be picked up as part of GE commissions already in train).
- [REDACTED]
- They think of the COP26 work in three parts: 1) ops, 2) international work (negotiations, themes) and 3) engagement. Not clear exactly where they draw the line btw international and engagement. We said our membership of ops board means engagement on ops look better (but still so see how it works in practice). We are much less sighted on international and engagement. They agreed to extend the Ops Board in January to include a workshop/longer session on wider policy discussion.
- There was recognition that not joining up on policy/communication side risks duplication, rather than complementary work. CO’N concerned about multiple and different approaches to businesses and wants this to be joined up. Ms Cunningham stressed that Scottish stakeholders will look to SG, and that Scottish arms of UK wide organisations are often distinct entities from their counterparts in England.
- CO’N has appointed Mark Carney to lead the climate finance work. This is in addition to his UN climate finance envoy role. This is confirmed but not yet public.
- They believe there is a landing zone between their police cost estimate and PS estimate. Want to move quickly after security workshop on 16/17 Dec to final cost assessment, to secure budget approval from incoming Govt.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Need to make COP Pavilions accessible as possible. Considering putting green zone/action area at entrance before more secure blue zone.
- Want to be able to assess the actual emissions reductions achieved as a result of all the themes/pledges.
- [REDACTED] Ms Cunningham flagged events already happening that we would link to COP – such as Land Reform Conference.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Best

[REDACTED]

Head, International strategy and outreach | Climate Change Division | Directorate for Energy and Climate Change

**T:** [REDACTED]

**M:** [REDACTED]

: @ScotGovClimate

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**Letter from Cabinet Secretary to Alok Sharma of 27 February 2020**

27 February 2020  
Dear Alok  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I want to reiterate the commitment made by the First Minister to the Prime Minister to work closely and collaboratively with you, and other partners such as the UNFCCC, Glasgow City Council and Police Scotland to deliver a safe, secure and ultimately successful COP26. I recently wrote to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to advise him of the First Minister's proposal that I participate in UK Government Cabinet and Sub Committees on the subject. This could take place in much the same way Scottish Ministers joined EU exit meetings. We must continue to work jointly to ensure COP26 is focused on addressing the global climate crisis, and setting the world on course to transition to a net-zero world in a way that is fair and just without leaving anyone behind. The First Minister will be writing to you separately on this in your role as COP26 President.

[REDACTED]

**Letter from Cabinet Secretary to Alok Sharma (3 March)**

3 March 2020

Dear Alok

- Thank you for your letter to the First Minister of 3 March about the UN Climate Conference – COP26, I am pleased that following the uncertainty of the former President's departure we have been able to make progress in taking forward the arrangements for COP26 in Glasgow.
- I understand that during their recent visit, UNFCCC representatives were incredibly positive about preparations and in particular about the Glasgow location and I know that has given everyone renewed confidence in the event.
- In relation to the logistical and operational side of COP26 I welcome the joint working between our respective officials and Police Scotland which, with the benefit of more advanced planning and receipt of greater information regarding UK Government planning assumptions, has enabled us to put forward a revised set of estimates.
- I understand that the Scottish Police Authority has recently written to Peter Hill with a revised estimate of £180M for policing costs.
- Based on the additional information provided we have also been able to revise down the estimate for the wider safety, security and transport costs, which has reduced by c.£38M, from £107M to £68.6M and my officials have shared that information with your team. I welcome the spirit of joint and collaborative working in which this information was shared and I hope that can continue. I'm also aware that positive discussions have continued with Police Scotland particularly in relation to how mutual aid is funded.
- Significant progress has also been made on the Science Centre and the location of the green zone and I am hopeful we can conclude these discussions in the near future.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I appreciate that a proposal from my officials to Peter Hill, that to assist you with costs, the Scottish Government could operate and fund the green zone, did not fit with your thinking. I welcome the proposal from your team that the green zone could occupy the ground floor, with space on the other floors for a Scottish presence and am confident that we can reach an agreement based on the proposal you put forward.</li> <li>• I should add that the Scottish Government would also be happy to discuss whether the other devolved administrations should be located within the space that we would be using if that would be of assistance to you and amenable to them.</li> <li>• I can also confirm that the Scottish Government is willing to support the deployment of c.100 staff to provide support in the Blue Zone, in line with recent discussions with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.</li> <li>• I am happy to discuss with you at your earliest convenience so that we can focus our full attention on the ambitious policy agenda required to deliver a successful conclusion to the COP26 talks.</li> <li>• My office stands ready to arrange a call or meeting at an early and mutually convenient time, to discuss the operational activities that are underway and the wider policy agenda of COP.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Letter from Cabinet Secretary 10 March</b></p>	<p>10 March 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dear Alok,</li> <li>• In the past week, my officials and I have made a number of attempts to facilitate a discussion between us on matters relating to COP 26. To date, these attempts have proven unsuccessful. However, I understand that you have been in contact with representatives from the Glasgow Science Centre (GSC), indicating that the use of this venue has become a critical factor for you in confirming that Glasgow will host COP26.</li> <li>• As you are aware, we have collaborated with your team throughout the preparations for COP26. We have also responded positively to your proposal that the Scottish Government share the GSC with the UK Government, however I understand that in your interactions with the GSC, you indicated that this is no longer an option and that you require full control and occupancy of the venue, throughout the COP period. Clearly this has put the GSC in a very difficult position.</li> <li>• The Scottish government has no desire for this uncertainty to continue. As you are aware, we are determined that issues relating to the climate change emergency, and by extension, COP26, should transcend politics. Consequently, in the spirit of partnership, we are prepared to transfer control of the GSC to the UK Government. You will be aware, however, that the UK Government currently has provisional bookings on a range of venues in and around the COP26 site. If you choose to take up our offer of the Science Centre, it is clearly important that Scotland has, as an alternative, access to an appropriate equivalent alternative venue from amongst those current provisionally booked by the UK Government so that we can host COP-related events for Scottish stakeholders. These events would take place in addition to any presence that we might have in the COP Blue Zone and in the Green Zone.</li> </ul> <p>I understand that you wish this matter to be concluded without further delay and I look forward to your prompt response. We can then proceed with your team and with Glasgow City Council, to urgently identify alternative locations in Glasgow, where we can showcase Scotland to the world at this pivotal conference.</p>

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The Scottish Government does not have this information

- All correspondence (including emails, attachments, typed or handwritten notes, letters, notes/records of phone calls, texts or instant messages, minutes of meetings, briefings or otherwise) **between Roseanna Cunningham and Alok Sharma relating an consequences of the recent Italian lock down due to corona virus. Please limit to the time period of December 31 2019 - present.**

The Scottish Government does not have this information.