PS Minute

ADVICE FOR: DEREK MACKAY

MACCS Case Number:	2016/0041476		Respond b	y: 04/01/2017
Correspondent/Organisation:	Mark Tanzer, Chief Executive, ABTA- The Travel Organisation			
Date and time of Event:	Date is flexible			
Location of Event:	Correspondent happy to meet in Edinburgh			
Overview of invitation and audience profile:	Mr Mackay has been invited to meet with Mr Tanzer, to discuss the Scottish Government's plans regarding ADT in more detail. ABTA responded to the Scottish Government's APD consultation and is a member of the Scottish Government's APD stakeholder forum. ABTA supports the reduction in overall ADT. ABTA enclosed a copy of their report that outlines priority considerations for the UK travel industry following the vote by the UK public to leave EU. It highlights the considerable economic uncertainty created by the outcome of the EU referendum as the major concern for the travel and tourism industry.			
Has the Minister been asked to attend of behalf of FM?	Yes 🗌 🔠	No 🗵		Don't Know
RECOMMENDATION:	Decline			
	Comments: Mr Mackay has had contact with ABTA through the APD stakeholder forum which he chairs. Susan Parsons, Trade Relations Manager, is to represent ABTA on the next meeting on 12 January 2017. We would recommend that, at present, Mr Mackay engages these stakeholder through the forum. Now that the Bill has been introduced in Parliament, the stakeholders will have further opportunities to express their views/concerns regarding ADT by responding to the Parliament's call for evidence and future public consultations. If recommendation is to accept, has this advice been agreed with your Head of Division? Yes No			
Has another Minister been asked to attend:	If so, who and have they accepted?			

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Main theme that the event supports:	The Scottish Government will use the Scottish Parliament's new powers over APD in Scotland to put in place new arrangements which better supports the Government's strategic objective (set out in Scotland's Economic Strategy) of boosting Scotland's international connectivity and delivering sustainable growth – priorities that are even more pressing as a result of the EU		
Main purpose of attending:	 Explain new policy or a major policy shift Reinforce or illustrate existing policy 		
(Tick as many as apply)	 Reinforce of illustrate existing policy Improve relations with stakeholders Encourage participation in consultation Recognise contribution to policy implementation Announce funding Other (please specify): 		
Main message to communicate:	 We have made clear that we have an ambition to deliver a 50% reduction in APD by the end of this Parliament, with the reduction beginning in April 2018, and we will work across the Parliament to do so. We will also abolish APD in Scotland entirely when resources allow. Introduction of the Bill is an important first step in progressing these plans. 		
Most appropriate type of Ministerial input:	Face to face meeting		
Private Office view:	Diary should be checked as that may influence whether another Minister should be asked to take Private Office contact:		
	Comments:	Agreed no need for separate meeting	
Communications Office view:	Communications Office contact:	[redacted]	
Action Officer:	[redacted]		