

Gibson AI (AI)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Minister for Parliamentary Business
Sent: 06 April 2017 13:40
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Minister for Parliamentary Business
Subject: RE: Mr FitzPatrick's visit to Dublin Arrangements

Hi [REDACTED]

We are meeting with Minister Paschal Donohoe to discuss FOI and Open Government from 15:00 – 16:00 and this is then followed by a meeting with Minister Simon Coveney to discuss Electoral Policy from 16:00 till 17:00.

Thanks for the other information.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
Deputy Private Secretary
Minister for Parliamentary Business
T4.21
Scottish Parliament
[REDACTED]
MinisterPB@gov.scot

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 April 2017 13:32
To: Minister for Parliamentary Business
Subject: Re: Mr FitzPatrick's visit to Dublin Arrangements

Hi [REDACTED]

On your first point did you mean to say Minister Coveney? If not I don't know anything about a meeting with Minister Donohoe!

I am waiting to hear back about the lunch on Wednesday.

The location of the meeting with Parliament will take place in the Clerk's Office in Leinster House.

Taoiseach officials meeting is in the morning at 10.30 in Leinster House.

Regards,



--06/04/2017 12:48:46 [REDACTED] We are finalising out programme for Mr Fitzpatrick's trip to Dublin and need to clarify a few p



--06/04/2017 12:48:46 [REDACTED] We are finalising out programme for Mr Fitzpatrick's trip to Dublin and need to clarify a few p

From: <MinisterPB@gov.scot>
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: <MinisterPB@gov.scot>
Date: 06/04/2017 12:48
Subject: Mr FitzPatrick's visit to Dublin Arrangements
Sent by: [REDACTED]

We are finalising out programme for Mr Fitzpatrick's trip to Dublin and need to clarify a few points which I would be grateful if you could respond to by return:

- I'd like to confirm that Mr FitzPatrick will now also be meeting with Mr Donohoe on Tuesday.
- I'd like to check whether the Dail Speaker will be lunching with Mr FitzPatrick on Wednesday, 12th April.
- I'd like to check the location of the meeting with Parliament and Taoiseach Officials (14.30 on Wednesday, 12th April)

Grateful if you could clarify these points.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]
Deputy Private Secretary
Minister for Parliamentary Business
T4.21
Scottish Parliament

MinisterPB@gov.scot

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Gibson AI (AI)

From: Harvey E (Emma)
Sent: 16 March 2017 12:27
To: Gunn A (Andrew)
Cc: Gibson AI (AI)
Subject: RE: Visit to Ireland

Hi Andrew,

From what I can see the Minister with overarching responsibility is the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform. I've got the contact details for their OGP point of Contact and as we've not had any dealings with them yet I think I'd prefer to have a preliminary discussion with them to sound out any areas where we might want to work together. I think I'd rather hold off suggesting a Ministerial meeting until I've had that discussion, but happy for you to mention that we are exploring that as an option.

Cheers

Emma

From: Gunn A (Andrew)
Sent: 16 March 2017 11:40
To: Harvey E (Emma)
Cc: Gibson AI (AI)
Subject: RE: Visit to Ireland

Emma

On the back of AI's email, I'll be emailing my Irish Government contact later today to start the ball rolling for my interests here – if it's helpful I'm happy to include reference to OGP in this initial contact aimed at identifying people (Ministers and/or officials) for Mr FitzPatrick to meet.

Andrew

From: Gibson AI (AI)
Sent: 16 March 2017 11:33
To: Harvey E (Emma)
Cc: Hynd JS (James); Macgregor S (Steven); McCann M (Maria); Gunn A (Andrew); Angus R (Roddy); Minister for Parliamentary Business
Subject: RE: Visit to Ireland

Emma

Many thanks for your call just now. I said that I would e-mail to bring you into the group considering Mr FitzPatrick's forthcoming visit to Ireland.

You mentioned that Mr FitzPatrick was keen to speak to Irish contacts about their open government initiatives, so this provides a fourth strand to the visit (joining business management, FOI and Elections).

Grateful for your willingness to pursue with open government leads in Ireland. Andy Gunn is kindly doing similar in respect of FOI and I'm going to see if I can identify an electoral policy lead in Ireland (unless Roddy is already aware)?

As discussed (and as per below), precise timings remain up in the air, and the introduction of new business perhaps equates to 90 minute slots on each respective policy topics – dependent on practical logistics.

Please keep in touch. I'm on leave next week but Steven Macgregor will keep an eye on things in my absence.

Regards

AI

From: Gibson AI (AI)

Sent: 13 March 2017 15:30

To: Minister for Parliamentary Business

Cc: Hynd JS (James); Macgregor S (Steven); McCann M (Maria); Gunn A (Andrew); Angus R (Roddy)

Subject: Visit to Ireland

[REDACTED]

I noted Steven's e-mail a little earlier about the London visit.

[REDACTED] perhaps mentioned my call this am to double check scheduling of the anchor meeting for the **Minister's visit to Ireland** (circa 11-13 April). Understand [REDACTED] is in contact with Regina Doherty's office about same. Grateful for confirmation of that slot, together with the Minister's travel plans when possible.

On the back of that material we will look to arrange additional meetings on the themes of FOI and Electoral Policy. The aim of those meetings will be to inform Mr FitzPatrick about the Irish position on each of those topics and offer some background to recent practice/developments in Scotland. I spoke with relevant SG colleagues (Andrew Gunn and Maria McCann) this am about preparation of core briefing to support same. Andrew and Maria will see if they can identify opposite numbers in Ireland, but happy to speak to Ms Doherty's office direct if required.

AI

AI Gibson
Parliament and Governance Team
Parliament and Legislation Unit
Cabinet, Parliament and Governance Division
Scottish Government
Room 4N.02
SAH
Tel: 0131-244-5560 (Ext 45560)

Gibson AI (AI)

From: Harvey E (Emma)
Sent: 29 March 2017 09:40
To: Gibson AI (AI); Gunn A (Andrew)
Subject: RE: MR FITZPATRICK IN DUBLIN

Hi AI,

I've had an initial conversation with my OGP counterparts in Ireland and in principle they are happy for a meeting if we can make timings work. My understanding is it's the same Minister with responsibility for FOI and they were already aware of Andrew's approach, so that should make things a little more straightforward in terms of the programme. I left it that we'd be in contact again once I had a better idea on the programme.

Happy to have a chat when Andrew's back, either by telecon or when I'm next in SAH, my calendar is up to date.

Cheers

Emma

Emma Harvey | Ingage | Directorate for Local Government and Communities | Scottish Government | 3-F North, Victoria Quay | EH6 6QQ | T: 0131 244 0706

From: Gibson AI (AI)
Sent: 29 March 2017 08:32
To: Gunn A (Andrew); Harvey E (Emma)
Subject: MR FITZPATRICK IN DUBLIN

Andrew (o/r)
Emma

I'm back from leave and picking up on arrangements for MfPB's visit to Dublin.

Just **wanted a quick word when convenient** to update on what might have been discussed with Irish Gov colleagues last week? The Minister's time in Ireland has been cut (now just 1.5 days) so we may have to restrict events.

Cheers

A

AI Gibson
Parliament and Governance Team
Parliament and Legislation Unit
Cabinet, Parliament and Governance Division
Scottish Government
Room 4N.02

Gibson AI (AI)

From: McCann M (Maria)
Sent: 31 March 2017 13:37
To: Gibson AI (AI); Gunn A (Andrew)
Cc: Harvey E (Emma)
Subject: Re: Overseas Travel Approval Form - Dublin

AI

That is fine. We will send the briefing to you on Monday.

Kind regards

Maria

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Gibson AI (AI)
Sent: Friday, 31 March 2017 13:15
To: Gunn A (Andrew)
Cc: Harvey E (Emma); McCann M (Maria)
Subject: RE: Overseas Travel Approval Form - Dublin

Andrew

Minister hasn't ruled out the possibility of meeting with Mr Donohoe if he is available.

I attach the latest draft of the visit programme. As discussed a little earlier there is potential to fit this in either from the airport or perhaps first thing on the 12TH. Doubtful whether Mr Donohoe's diary would permit but happy for you to explore with your FOI lead. They should be able to check with Mr D's private office? If difficulties arise I can approach the Taoiseach's office on Monday.

Emma - This I guess will usefully rule out or in a slot for discussion of Open Government (as folk have pointed out the same Minister).

I'll have to get back to John Webster to discuss a visit to his Hub. If Mr Donohoe is free we would presumably give that priority.

Maria – You e-mailed separately about briefing for the meeting with Simon Coveney to discuss Electoral Issues. Apologies for not getting back before now. I reckon its falling into what I hope is off-the-shelf material (as provided for London?) such as:

- Overview of Electoral Arrangements in Scotland at National and Local level (and possibly a comparison to Irish equivalent models)?.
- Summary of new electoral powers obtained via Scotland Act 2016?
- Current electoral policy initiatives/innovations in Scotland (any significant developments in Ireland)??
- Relationship with the Electoral Commission (Scotland)?

Thanks

AI

AI Gibson

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Gibson AI (AI)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 April 2017 13:02
To: Gibson AI (AI); Macgregor S (Steven); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT VISIT TO DUBLIN: 11-12 APRIL 2017

AI,

To follow up on our conversation earlier if you and Steven are not needed for Minister FitzPatrick's meetings with Minister Donohoe and Minister Coveney between 3 and 5 on Tuesday I'm sure we could arrange a meeting here in Taoiseach's to discuss the interaction of Government and Parliament. I know we are very interested in learning what we can from your experience.

I think it would be very useful to have that meeting in advance of the Ministers themselves meeting at 10.30 on Wednesday morning.

[REDACTED] and myself in this office deal with that Government/Parliament link here on Government Legislation and Private Members Bills and should be available to meet when you are free on Tuesday.

Come back to me when you have an idea of what time will work for you and we might list a few items that we could discuss.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Policy Adviser to the Government Chief Whip
Department of the Taoiseach
Government Buildings
Dublin 2

Tel.: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

From: AI.Gibson@gov.scot
Date: 7 April 2017 at 09:41:01 IST
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Steven.Macgregor@gov.scot
Subject: SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT VISIT TO DUBLIN: 11-12 APRIL 2017

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT VISIT TO DUBLIN: 11-12 APRIL 2017

Many thanks for your assistance in arranging the schedule for our visit next week to Dublin. My colleague [REDACTED] in Joe FitzPatrick's ministerial office passed me your details.

My colleague Steven Macgregor and I were exploring the possibility of dropping in on our opposite numbers in the Irish Government at certain points. We wondered if you could provide us with contact details for colleagues who oversee the Irish Government's Primary and Secondary

Legislative programmes, and possibly any colleagues involved in liaison with parliamentary officials in the Ceann Comhairle?

If you would prefer to speak to relevant colleagues directly, we see opportunities to detach from the core Ministerial schedule either on Tuesday afternoon (between 3-5pm) or possibly on the Wednesday between (12 Noon and 2pm).

I appreciate this request comes at short notice, so we would fully understand if colleagues diaries are otherwise committed.

Kind regards

AI

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Tha am post-d seo (agus faidhle neo ceanglan còmhla ris) dhan neach neo luchd-ainmichte a-mhàin. Chan eil e ceadaichte a chleachdadh ann an dòigh sam bith, a' toirt a-steach còraichean, foillseachadh neo sgaoileadh, gun chead. Ma 's e is gun d'fhuair sibh seo le gun fhiosd', bu choir cur às dhan phost-d agus lethbhreac sam bith air an t-siostam agaibh, leig fios chun neach a sgaoil am post-d gun dàil.

Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

Gibson AI (AI)

From: Gibson AI (AI)
Sent: 05 April 2017 10:25
To: Minister for Parliamentary Business
Cc: Macgregor S (Steven)
Subject: DUBLIN PROGRAMME

David

I attach the latest version of the programme for Dublin.



VISIT OF
MINISTER FOR P...

Transport

As discussed yesterday, we need to finalise cars. I've done a bit of detective work and included where the party can easily walk and where transport will be required.

Chloe Duxbury at the SG Hub in Dublin appears happy to arrange cars but I'm not sure whether [REDACTED] in the Taoiseach's office was considering same – **could you please confirm?**

Chloe is keen to support us throughout the visit and to attend all meetings with Irish politicians. The Hub views this as reflective of normal diplomatic practice. **Grateful if you would check that Mr FitzPatrick is content with that arrangement?** If so, cars to and from the Hub on Wednesday would need to carry 5 passengers. (Cars from and to the Airport need only carry 4 passengers.)

Final details

The remaining issues as I see it are:

- To confirm to the Taoiseach's office that Mr FitzPatrick will now also be meeting with Mr Donohoe on Tuesday.
- To confirm with the Taoiseach's office whether the Dail Speaker will be lunching with Mr FitzPatrick on the 12th? (time is tight).
- To confirm with the Taoiseach's office the location of the meeting with Parliament and Taoiseach Officials (14.30 on Wednesday)

Would you be able to follow up these points with [REDACTED]?

I propose to send you a draft briefing pack for the visit on Thursday – still OK?

Happy to discuss.

A