

**PROVIDED INFORMATION**

Correspondence, physical or digital, along with any record or minutes of meetings concerning or occurring during Minister Dr Alasdair Allan's trip to Austria and the Czech Republic in November 2016

**Email trail 1**

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 15 November 2016 16:00  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Request for assistance - Ministerial meetings in Slovakia, Austria, Czech Republic

Hi [redacted]– apologies I missed your call – I must have forgotten to re-divert my phone line. I will pass this onto the Desk Officers to run passed Post, and will ask them to contact you directly, but be prepared that this may prove difficult given the time constraints, but our Posts will know best.

[redacted]

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 15 November 2016 15:52  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** Request for assistance - Ministerial meetings in Slovakia, Austria, Czech Republic

Hi [redacted]

[redacted]

Our Minister for International Development and Europe, Dr Allan, is planning a visit to [redacted], **Austria** (Vienna) and **Czech Republic** (Prague) from **Sunday 20 – Tuesday 22 November**.

[redacted]I was wondering if this is something that the British Embassies in those countries can help us to set up? I'd be more than happy to speak to them directly if you can point me in the right direction.

**Draft programme**

[redacted]

Pm - Austria (Vienna)

*17:25 – flight to Czech Republic (Prague)*

**Tuesday 22 Nov**

Am - Czech Republic (Prague)

*11.05 – flight back to Scotland*

[redacted]

Many thanks in advance!

Best wishes

[redacted]

**Asia Pacific Policy  
International Division  
The Scottish Government**

[redacted] Victoria Quay,

Edinburgh

EH6 6QQ

[redacted]

**Email trail 2**

**From:** [redacted]

**Sent:** 17 November 2016 09:27

**To:** [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Request for assistance - Ministerial meetings [redacted], Austria, Czech Republic

[redacted]

Good news! I've been able at short notice to set up a meeting with the Secretary-General of the Austrian MFA, Dr Michael Linhart from 1400-1430 on Monday. Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz was unable to meet him as he will not be in Vienna on Monday, but Linhart deputises for him (there are no junior ministers in the Austria MFA). As we discussed, our Ambassador Leigh Turner will accompany the Minister, and he has asked me to join him as well. Could you confirm who will be joining Dr Allan's delegation?

My suggestion is that the delegation first come to the embassy at 1315 for an introductory conversation, and that we then strike off to the MFA around 1340.

As Dr Allan will then have a little time spare after the Linhart meeting before needing to go the airport, I suggest setting up a short meeting with the development section of the Austrian MFA. They are in the same building, and this would be a chance to cover the other side of Dr Allan's portfolio. Shall I go ahead with this?

Yours,

[redacted]

[redacted] | Second Secretary Political | British Embassy Vienna | Jaurèsgasse 12, 1030 Vienna, Austria | FTN: 310 2220 | [redacted]

**From:** [redacted]

**Sent:** 16 November 2016 10:40

**To:** [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Request for assistance - Ministerial meetings in [redacted], Austria, Czech Republic

Thanks very much for your call [redacted] – much appreciated. Here is the Minister's biography.

<http://www.gov.scot/About/People/Ministers/Europe-International-Development>

With best wishes

[redacted]

**Asia Pacific Policy**

**International Division**

**The Scottish Government**

[redacted] Victoria Quay,

Edinburgh

EH6 6QQ

[redacted]

**From:** [redacted]

**Sent:** 16 November 2016 08:34

**To:** [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Request for assistance - Ministerial meetings in [redacted], Austria, Czech Republic

Dear [redacted],

My colleagues in the FCO have passed the below on to me. It would be very useful to have a chat early on today to hear your thoughts about who you'd ideally like to meet, and what you'd like to cover in those meetings, as well as logistical questions about how long exactly you're planning on being in Vienna. As you can appreciate, the timings are rather tight, but we we'll do what we can! Our ambassador Leigh Turner would be very happy to accompany the Minister to his calls.

I'm around most of the morning, so please give me a call when you're in.

Out of scope

Yours,

[redacted]

[redacted] | Second Secretary Political | British Embassy Vienna | Jaurèsgasse 12, 1030 Vienna, Austria | FTN: 310 2220 | [redacted]

## Email trail 3

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 17 November 2016 11:45  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Request for assistance - Ministerial meetings in [redacted], Austria, Czech Republic

Fantastic – many thanks[redacted]. This all sounds really positive! I think that Dr Allan would find a meeting with the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs very useful.

[redacted]

I will give you an update tomorrow morning to confirm everything (including accompanying officials).

Hope this makes sense – I'm around all day if you'd like to chat.

Thanks again for all your help.

Best wishes  
[redacted]

**Asia Pacific Policy**

**International Division**

**The Scottish Government**

[redacted], Victoria Quay,

Edinburgh

EH6 6QQ

[redacted]

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 17 November 2016 10:25  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Request for assistance - Ministerial meetings in [redacted], Austria, Czech Republic

[redacted],

Two logistical follow-ups:

Our Ambassador would like to invite Dr Allan to a sandwich lunch during the introductory conversation. He would offer this in the Residence – [redacted].

We can offer transport for the minister and his colleague to the airport at 1545.

Yours,

[redacted]

[redacted] | Second Secretary Political | British Embassy Vienna | Jaurèsgasse 12, 1030 Vienna, Austria | FTN: 310 2220 | [redacted]

<b>EU ENGAGEMENT REPORT</b>	
<b><i>This Report Should Be Submitted To Ministers And Relevant Officials Within 3 Working Days Of Engagement</i></b>	
<b>Minister (or Senior official)</b>	Minister for International Development and Europe, Dr Allan
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Meeting with Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vienna, Austria
<b>Date</b>	21 November 2016
<b>Who</b>	Secretary-General of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr Michael Linhart
<b>Key Points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr Allan (AA) thanked Secretary-General Linhart (ML) for agreeing to meet at such short notice. ML said he was pleased to do so and was keen to hear directly from the SG what Scotland's position is.</li><li>• AA set out the context in Scotland, the vote of the people to remain and desire of the SG to protect Scotland's interests in the EU and continued access to the Single Market – despite the UK's vote to leave and current rhetoric around a 'Hard Brexit' coming from the UKG.</li><li>• AA said Scotland valued its EU partners and wanted to maintain a close relationship with them.</li><li>• [redacted]</li><li>• AA noted it would be a huge loss if Scotland lost its connections with the EU27 and that we wanted to find practical means to maintain those.</li><li>• AA set out the forthcoming proposals from the SG which will include how to maintain access to the Single Market. But made clear that these proposals were for the UKG to consider and the SG was not seeking to negotiate with Member States, but merely to inform them of our position.</li><li>• AA indicated that all EU Ambassadors were</li></ul>

	<p>meeting with the FM at the Slovak Embassy the following day and would have the opportunity to hear more about the proposals ahead of their publication then.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [redacted]</li> <li>• AA set out the SG's positive view on Freedom of Movement, and on the value of those who have chosen Scotland as their home and that it was unacceptable they hadn't been given any guarantees by the UKG yet.</li> <li>• [redacted]</li> </ul>
<b>Attending Official(s)</b>	[redacted]
<b>Copy List</b>	<p><b>Copy List:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs</li> <li>• Minister for International Development and Europe</li> <li>• Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe</li> <li>• International Relations Team</li> <li>• EU Engagement Team</li> <li>• EU Referendum Mailbox</li> <li>• [redacted]</li> <li>• Comms CTEA</li> </ul>

<b>EU ENGAGEMENT REPORT</b>	
<b><i>This Report Should Be Submitted To Ministers And Relevant Officials Within 3 Working Days Of Engagement</i></b>	
<b>Minister (or Senior official)</b>	Minister for International Development and Europe, Dr Allan
<b>Type of engagement</b>	Meeting with Czech Foreign Ministry, Prague, Czech Republic
<b>Date</b>	21 November 2016
<b>Who</b>	Deputy Czech Foreign Minister, Jakub Durr
<b>Key Points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Allan (AA) thanked Minister Durr (JD) for agreeing to meet at such short notice. JD said he was pleased to do so and was keen to hear directly from the SG what Scotland's position is.</li> <li>• AA set out the context in Scotland, the vote of the people to remain and desire of the SG to protect Scotland's interests in the EU and continued access to the Single Market – despite the UK's vote to leave and current</li> </ul>

	<p>rhetoric around a 'Hard Brexit' coming from the UKG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AA said Scotland valued its EU partners and wanted to maintain a close relationship with them.</li> <li>• [redacted]</li> <li>• AA set out the forthcoming proposals from the SG which will include how to maintain access to the Single Market. But made clear that these proposals were for the UKG to consider and the SG was not seeking to negotiate with Member States, but merely to inform them of our position.</li> <li>• AA indicated that all EU Ambassadors were meeting with the FM at the Slovak Embassy the following day and would have the opportunity to hear more about the proposals ahead of their publication.</li> <li>• [redacted]</li> </ul>
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