

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 March 2017 15:12
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MEDIA ENQUIRY - Am Bratach - NFUS secondment to SG

Afternoon,

Please see proposed response to journalist enquiring whether we had anything to add to FM's response at FMQs to Andy Wightman re NFUS and Association of Salmon Fishery Boards secondments to the Scottish Government.

We have nothing to add to the First Minister's response but we would point you toward the following Parliamentary Question;

[Question S5W-07178: Andy Wightman, Lothian, Scottish Green Party, Date Lodged: 20/02/2017](#)

To ask the Scottish Government for what reason it has seconded the **director of policy of NFU Scotland** to it on a part-time basis; who is paying for his remuneration, and what assessment it has made of any potential conflict of interest.

Answered by Fergus Ewing (02/03/2017):

Seconding external expertise into the Scottish Government is not unusual. As with all secondments, we assessed the benefits and any potential conflict of interest prior to seconding in the Director of Policy of NFU Scotland to provide technical expertise in agriculture and rural affairs from an industry perspective. NFU Scotland is covering the whole of the costs of the secondment including salary, national insurance contributions, pension and annual pay award costs.

We have also been advised by HR that we cannot name the secondee.

Grateful for remarks or okay to send to journalist

[REDACTED]



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