

From: Protocol and Honours Mailbox
Subject: FW: Flags guidance query

From: [redacted]
Sent: 23 January 2018 18:26
To: 'Simon Johnson'
Subject: RE: Flags guidance query

Simon,

As discussed, see below:

- It has been SG practice for many years to fly the Royal Banner (Lion Rampant) on royal occasions. There is therefore no reduction in days the union flag will be flown.

- If a building has one flagpole then on Remembrance Sunday, we would advise them to fly the Union Flag. However, we have no locus to order other organisations which flags to fly.

Thanks,
[redacted]

From: Simon Johnson [redacted]
Sent: 23 January 2018 12:33
To: [redacted]
Subject: Flags guidance query

Hi

As discussed, I am looking at a story about a major change in the Scottish Government's flag-flying guidance for its buildings this year.

The guidance shows the Scottish Gov intends to reduce the days the Union Flag will be flying from Scottish Government buildings from 15 days to one.

In 2018, Remembrance Day will be the only time the Union Flag flies. On all other days, like the Queen's Birthday, it will be the Saltire. Under the 2017 guidance, both the Union flag and Saltire would be flown on Royal birthdays.

I would be grateful for a comment on:

- (a) who ordered the change
- (b) when it was ordered
- (c) the reason for the change
- (d) a political quote on a Tory claim this is evidence of the Scottish Government trying to "push a separatist agenda by stealth."

Many thanks
Simon

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Simon Johnson
Scottish Political Editor
Daily Telegraph
[redacted]