

From: Protocol and Honours Mailbox
Subject: FW: URGENT - RE: Flags - media follow up queries

From: Hynd JS (James)
Sent: 26 January 2018 07:15
To: Lloyd E (Elizabeth); [redacted] Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Booth J (John); News Desk
Cc: [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]
[redacted]Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]
Protocol and Honours Mailbox
Subject: Re: URGENT - RE: Flags - media follow up queries

Liz

Yes, the Parliament has its own policy. I didn't understand the reference.

James

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: [redacted]

Sent: Thursday, 25 January 2018 22:17
To: Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Lloyd E (Elizabeth); Booth J (John); News Desk
Cc: [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]; Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]Hynd JS (James); Protocol and Honours Mailbox
Subject: RE: URGENT - RE: Flags - media follow up queries

Thanks, issuing now.

SG spokesperson:

"As has been made very clear, there has been no change to flag-flying practice since 2010 - and the guidance has merely been updated to reflect that longstanding position."

[redacted]

All

I have today agreed a form of words for with the Daily Mail which should run on page 2 of the Scottish edition tomorrow morning.

In addition the online version of the article and the connecting link to it should be deleted from the Mail website.

The agreed form of words is below.

On the condition that all of this happens, we will accept their apology and not pursue the complaint any further.

John that will require an email from you to the Daily Mail acknowledging the apology and confirming we will not pursue the complaint with IPSO.

I'd be grateful if duty comms could keep an eye out this evening, if the weblink can be checked tomorrow and if the cutting of the apology can be circulated in the morning

Liz

From: [redacted]

Sent: 24 January 2018 11:53

To: Lloyd E (Elizabeth); Permanent Secretary; Hynd JS (James); First Minister

Cc: [redacted]

Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; [redacted]; News Desk; Corporate Communications; [redacted]

[redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities

Subject: RE: Flags - info required asap

Thanks all

I am issuing this now.

The current Scottish Government policy on the flying of flags, including the flying of flags on royal occasions was established in 2010. In line with this policy, the Scottish Government, by Royal Assent, has flown the Royal Banner (the Lion Rampant) and the Saltire on Royal Occasions since 2010.

The current First Minister has made no change to the policy.

Non-Departmental Public Bodies such as Historic Environment Scotland, the Courts Service and the General Registers of Scotland are able to adopt their own policy.

The operational guidance on applying the policy was updated in December 2017. This was not a change on the policy and the updating of the guidance was not a decision of the First Minister or any SG Minister.

[redacted]