

From: [REDACTED]
SG Innovation and Investment Hub for Germany
2 February 2018

First Minister
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs & Fair Work
Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT HUB IN GERMANY

Purpose

1. To provide the First Minister and Cabinet Secretaries with an update on progress regarding the Germany Innovation and Investment Hub and draft objectives and priorities for 2018.

Priority

2. Routine.

Background

3. In October 2016, the First Minister announced the intention to establish an Innovation and Investment Hub for Germany (and German-speaking Europe). This would be located in Berlin, and complement SDI's operations from Duesseldorf.

[REDACTED]

4. The hub is located as a distinct entity on the ground floor of the British Embassy, in a central location within a five-minute walk of the German Reichstag. [REDACTED]

5. The hub is jointly owned by the Cultural, Tourism and External Affairs and the Economy portfolios. It sits for administrative purposes in European Relations Division in External Affairs Directorate. The 2017/18 budget has been held by the International trade team within Economy Directorate. It will move on 1 April to External Affairs Directorate.

Purpose

6. The purpose of the Hub is to promote Scotland's interests in Germany, including to:
- complement SDI's presence in Duesseldorf to boost Scotland's trade and investment activities with and from Germany and across central Europe including Poland, and to deliver impact in terms of jobs and growth in the Scottish economy;
 - support innovation-focussed collaboration and entrepreneurial exchange between Scotland and Germany, including between business and academia;
 - explore potential for collaboration between German and Scottish higher education institutes;
 - promote broader exchange through culture, educational engagement and, especially in 2018, sport; and
 - build on Scotland's reputation as a destination of choice to work, study and visit.

Objectives

[REDACTED]

Early Priorities

[REDACTED]

Proposed Launch of Hub in Berlin

7. Preparations are on-going for the Hub’s formal launch as it enters its first year of operation. [REDACTED]

Forward programme of work

8. Since the Germany Hub is in the early days of being established, we will continue over coming months to cement relationships with our agencies and public and private partners both in Scotland and across Germany, using these to develop a programme of activity and engagements. [REDACTED]

Recommendation

- That you note this update. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Head of Germany Hub, External Affairs,
2 February 2018

Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
[REDACTED]					

[REDACTED]