

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Minister for Social Security  
**Sent:** 15 November 2017 12:24  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] McVie A (Ann); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Wallace D (David); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Kerr S (Stephen) (Social Security Director); Minister for Social Security  
**Subject:** RE: Programme for Visit to Dublin

**Follow Up Flag:** For info.  
**Flag Status:** Completed

[REDACTED]

We've managed to change the flights to Sunday, 28 January and Monday, 29 January.

Can you advise if Monday, 29 January would work for Minister McGrath and Minister Doherty?

Thanks

[REDACTED]  
PS/Minister for Social Security



Please see the Ministerial Preferences which may be of assistance to you.

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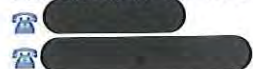
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**From:** [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Social Security  
**Sent:** 14 November 2017 13:50  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; McVie A (Ann); [REDACTED] Wallace D (David); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Kerr S (Stephen) (Social Security Director); Minister for Social Security  
**Subject:** RE: Programme for Visit to Dublin

Thanks [REDACTED]

We'll be in touch when we've had the chance to discuss an alternative date with the Minister.

[REDACTED]  
PS/Minister for Social Security



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 December 2017 13:39  
**To:** Minister for Social Security  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Visit by Minister Freeman to Dublin  
**Attachments:** Itinerary Ministerial Visit.doc

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi

To see below confirmation from Minister McGrath and Minister Doherty for a re-arranged visit for Minister Freeman on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

The programme will be the same as that agreed upon for the earlier visit.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
[REDACTED] | Mob [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 December 2017 09:02  
**To:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit by Minister Freeman to Dublin

Thanks [REDACTED]

I was proposing that the visit would follow the same programme as that arranged for the cancelled visit, attached.

Cheers  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
[REDACTED] | Mob [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 December 2017 17:59  
**To:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit by Minister Freeman to Dublin

Hello [REDACTED]

I can confirm Minister Doherty's availability to meet Minister Freeman on January 29th.

Can you advise preferred time at your earliest convenience please?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Windows Phone

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06/12/2017 17:30  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit by Minister Freeman to Dublin

Thanks [REDACTED]

I'll confirm the date with Minister Freeman once I get confirmation from Minister Doherty's office.

Cheers

[REDACTED] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
[REDACTED] | Mob [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 December 2017 15:48  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Visit by Minister Freeman to Dublin

Afternoon [REDACTED]

Monday 29th January looks good for Minister McGrath and I will provisionally hold this date in his diary pending further confirmation from Minister Doherty's office.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Private Secretary to the Minister for Disabilities  
Department of Health  
Hawkins House  
Dublin 2  
DO2 VW90

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 05/12/2017 15:33  
**Subject:** Minister Freeman

Hi [REDACTED].

I'm following up on [REDACTED] email below regarding the re-scheduled visit of Minister Freeman.

The previously agreed programme looks good so we're just looking to finalise dates. Does Monday January 29<sup>th</sup> work for your Ministers?

Grateful if you could let us know and we can start to put arrangements in place.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland  
| Directorate for External Affairs | Scottish Government | 29 Merrion Road | Dublin | [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] | Mob [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 November 2017 13:12  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Minister Freeman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ms Freeman's team have asked if a rescheduled visit to Dublin on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January would work for Minister McGrath and Minister Doherty?

Please do let me know if these dates might work for your Ministers.

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 December 2017 12:51  
**To:** Minister for Social Security; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Visit to Dublin January 29th

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi All

The attached programme for the Ministerial visit on January 29<sup>th</sup> has now been confirmed.



Itinerary  
Ministerial Visit...

Minister of State Finian McGrath has requested a list of issues ahead of time that Ms Freeman would like to discuss for their engagement. It would also be helpful to have a list of officials accompanying Ms Freeman in order to arrange access. Grateful if these actions could be taken forward.

If you let us know travel plans then we can arrange for quotes for transport. Our recommendation would be that an Embassy car and driver are used. We will get quotes to you on this when travel is firmed up.

If you need anything else please let me know.

Cheers  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
Directorate for External Affairs | Scottish Government | 29 Merrion Road | Dublin | D04 P272 | [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] | Mob [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 December 2017 13:58  
**To:** [REDACTED] Minister for Social Security; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

[REDACTED]

Thanks for providing these details.

[REDACTED] will be the lead contact from our side. I'm moving to a new role after Christmas so please copy him and [REDACTED] into anything regarding the trip.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Communications and Engagement Unit | Social Security Directorate | Scottish Government  
[REDACTED] Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ,  
T: [REDACTED]

*Please note I only work on Mondays and Thursdays*

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 December 2017 12:51  
**To:** Minister for Social Security; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Visit to Dublin January 29th

Hi All

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If you need anything else please let me know.

Cheers

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
Directorate for External Affairs | Scottish Government | 29 Merrion Road | Dublin | D04 P272 | [Redacted]  
[Redacted] | Mob [Redacted] | [Redacted]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2017 08:57  
**To:** Minister for Social Security; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

[REDACTED],

I will book transport today.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Office and Events Manager | Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland | 29 Merrion Road  
| Dublin | D04 P272 | [REDACTED] mobile [REDACTED]  
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9.30am -2.30pm

---

**From:** [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Social Security  
**Sent:** 20 December 2017 07:25  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Minister for Social Security  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

[REDACTED] - Thanks for the attached programme. We will provide details of officials accompanying Ms Freeman in due course.

[REDACTED] - You kindly arranged transport when we were due to come over last month. Grateful if you could take that forward.

We're still to book our accommodation but likely to be the [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Can a car pick us up on the Sunday evening to take us to the hotel?

**Flight details:**

Sunday, 28 January - 1635-1750 (Glasgow to Dublin) - EI3227 (Aer Lingus)

Monday, 29 January - 1820-1930 (Dublin to Glasgow) - EI3228 (Aer Lingus)

Thanks

[REDACTED]  
PS/Minister for Social Security





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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 13 December 2017 12:51  
**To:** Minister for Social Security; [Redacted]; [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted]; [Redacted]  
**Subject:** Visit to Dublin January 29th

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If you need anything else please let me know.

Cheers  
[Redacted]

[Redacted] Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
Directorate for External Affairs | Scottish Government | 29 Merrion Road | Dublin | D04 P272 | [Redacted]  
[Redacted] | Mob [Redacted] | [Redacted]



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Thanks

[REDACTED]  
PS/Minister for Social Security

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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If you need anything else please let me know.

Cheers

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
Directorate for External Affairs | Scottish Government | 29 Merrion Road | Dublin | D04 P272 | [Redacted]  
[Redacted] | Mob [Redacted] | [Redacted]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 December 2017 09:26  
**To:** [REDACTED] Minister for Social Security; [REDACTED]; Wallace D (David)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

**Follow Up Flag:** Can you send hotel details to David once booked?  
**Flag Status:** Completed

[REDACTED]

Just to confirm that David Wallace, Chief Executive of the Social Security agency will be accompanying the Minister on this visit. Please can you make sure he's copied into any other emails about arrangements as he will wish to book the same hotel as the Minister and be included in the travel plans.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Communications and Engagement Unit | Social Security Directorate | Scottish Government  
[REDACTED], Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ,  
T: [REDACTED]

*Please note I only work on Mondays and Thursdays*

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2017 08:57  
**To:** Minister for Social Security; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

[REDACTED]

I will book transport today.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Office and Events Manager | Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland | 29 Merrion Road  
| Dublin | D04 P272 | ☎ [REDACTED] | mobile [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]  
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9.30am -2.30pm

**From:** [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Social Security  
**Sent:** 20 December 2017 07:25  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] Minister for Social Security  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

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Thanks

[REDACTED]  
PS/Minister for Social Security

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Please see the [Ministerial Preferences](#) which may be of assistance to you.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 December 2017 12:51  
**To:** Minister for Social Security; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Visit to Dublin January 29th

Hi All

The attached programme for the Ministerial visit on January 29<sup>th</sup> has now been confirmed.

<< File: Itinerary Ministerial Visit.doc >>

Minister of State Finian McGrath has requested a list of issues ahead of time that Ms Freeman would like to discuss for their engagement. It would also be helpful to have a list of officials accompanying Ms Freeman in order to arrange access. Grateful if these actions could be taken forward.

If you let us know travel plans then we can arrange for quotes for transport. Our recommendation would be that an Embassy car and driver are used. We will get quotes to you on this when travel is firmed up.

If you need anything else please let me know.

Cheers

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
Directorate for External Affairs | Scottish Government | 29 Merrion Road | Dublin | D04 P272 | [Redacted]  
[Redacted] | Mob [Redacted] | [Redacted]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Minister for Social Security  
**Sent:** 21 December 2017 13:11  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs  
**Cc:** First Minister; Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities; Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe; Permanent Secretary; DG Education, Communities & Justice; DG Organisational Development & Operations; Hogg KJ (Kenneth); Watt K (Karen) (Director for External Affairs); Bird L (Lisa); [REDACTED]; Campbell J (Jeanette); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Communications CTEA; Communications CSSE; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Kerr S (Stephen) (Social Security Director); Wallace D (David); McVie A (Ann); McClintock A (Andy); MacDougall A (Audrey); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] Minister for Social Security  
**Subject:** RE: Overseas Travel Request

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

[REDACTED]

Please find attached a revised overseas travel request for the Cabinet Secretary's consideration.



Ministerial  
Overseas Travel ...

Thanks

[REDACTED]  
PS/Minister for Social Security



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**From:** [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Minister for Social Security  
**Sent:** 16 November 2017 12:58  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs  
**Cc:** First Minister; Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security and Equalities; Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe; Permanent Secretary; DG Education, Communities & Justice; DG Organisational Development & Operations; Hogg KJ (Kenneth); Watt K (Karen) (Director for External Affairs); Bird L (Lisa); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Campbell J (Jeanette); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Communications CTEA; Communications CSSE; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Kerr S (Stephen) (Social Security Director); Wallace D (David); McVie A (Ann); McClintock A (Andy); MacDougall A (Audrey); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]



Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL BY CABINET SECRETARY FOR CULTURE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL**

**Purpose**

1. As required by Chapter 9 of the Scottish Ministerial Code I am writing to seek your prior approval for me to undertake a visit to Dublin on Sunday, 28 January to Monday, 29 January.

**Details of the Visit**

2. The purpose of my visit is to meet with my social security Ministerial counterpart Regina Docherty TD; and my disability Ministerial counterpart, Finian McGrath TD. The programme will also include a visit to a social security local office to learn about the Irish social welfare delivery system and a visit to the National Disability Authority.

3. Insofar as my social security interests are concerned, Regina Doherty has invited me to speak about progress on the devolution of social security in Scotland and how we're engaging people around this. I will be delighted to have the opportunity to share our experiences to date and hope that this will help to cement a mutually beneficial on-going relationship. There is much that Scotland can learn from the Irish example about delivering not only the benefits we will have control over but also working age and pension benefits. I look forward to hearing from the Minister about the challenges and complexities of running such a large social security operation and hope to see some of this first hand during my visit to a local office.

4. On the disability side of the portfolio, one of the key employment commitments in our Disability Delivery Plan is to set a target for disability employment in the public sector. Officials are about to start work on this commitment. In recent weeks it has been brought to my attention that Ireland has had a 3% public sector target in place for some years which has been exceeded. On the back of this success they will shortly legislate to set a new target of 6%. I want to learn more about how they went about setting the initial target and the programmes and processes which they put in place in order to deliver it.

5. The visit will take place in the aftermath of the First Minister's most recent visit to Dublin and I am keen to build on the on-going expressions of goodwill and willingness to work in partnership with us on key areas of common interest. A closer working relationship with our Irish counterparts on these portfolio matters will stand us in good stead on the broader European stage in terms of conveying the message that we are pursuing our own distinctive agenda on social security and on disability which is markedly different from that of the UK Government.

**Post-visit report**

6. Subject to your approval, I will of course provide a note on its value in terms of the objectives and any substantive discussions with representatives of other countries, as required by paragraph 9.14-9.16 of the Scottish Ministerial Code. This note would then inform a subsequent note from International Division officials to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, acting as an official record of the visit.

7. The table at Annex A gives details of my proposed travelling party and the full costs involved. It also provides International Division and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office with all the necessary details.

**Conclusion**

8. I would be grateful if you could confirm if you are content for me to undertake this visit as outlined above and at Annex A.

JF

JEANE FREEMAN

Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
First Minister					X
Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Security & Equalities					X
Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe					X

Permanent Secretary DG Education, Communities & Justice DG Organisational Development & Operations Kenneth Hogg Karen Watt Lisa Bird [Redacted] [Redacted] Jeanette Campbell [Redacted] Comms Culture & External Affairs Comms CSSE [Redacted] [Redacted]	Stephen Kerr David Wallace Ann McVie Andy McClintock Audrey MacDougall [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]
--	--

[Redacted]  
From: [Redacted] on behalf of Minister for Social Security  
Sent: 22 December 2017 11:17  
To: [Redacted]; Wallace D (David)  
Cc: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]  
Subject: RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th  
Follow Up Flag: Follow up  
Flag Status: Completed

Copying in Comms colleagues so they are aware.

Thanks

[Redacted]  
PS/Minister for Social Security  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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Cc: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]  
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[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
Communications and Engagement Unit | Social Security Directorate | Scottish Government  
[Redacted] Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ,  
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**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

[REDACTED]

I will book transport today.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Office and Events Manager | Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland | 29 Merrion Road  
| Dublin | D04 P272 | [REDACTED] | mobile [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]  
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9.30am -2.30pm

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**Cc:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Minister for Social Security  
**Subject:** RE: Visit to Dublin January 29th

[REDACTED] - Thanks for the attached programme. We will provide details of officials accompanying Ms Freeman in due course.

[REDACTED] - You kindly arranged transport when we were due to come over last month. Grateful if you could take that forward.

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PS/Minister for Social Security

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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If you need anything else please let me know.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Deputy Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland |  
Directorate for External Affairs | Scottish Government | 29 Merrion Road | Dublin | D04 P272 | [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]