

**From:** [UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu) <[UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu)>

**Sent:** 05 March 2020 15:20

**To:** <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@ec.europa.eu; [UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu)

**Subject:** Reply to Ares(2020)1383743 - Freedom of Information Request - Meeting between Michel Barnier and Nicola Sturgeon - 10 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

In relation to your Freedom of Information Request, the Commission's Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom (UKTF) would like to suggest two redactions:

- 1) [REDACTED]
- 2) In addition, we would kindly ask to redact the names of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] on the basis of the exception related to the protection of the privacy and integrity of the individual (Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation 1049/2001).

We also noted that your authorises have no objection to disclose the UKTF minutes on the very same meeting and we thank you for your prompt reply.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



**European Commission**

Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom

**From:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 3, 2020 5:43 PM

**To:** UKTF PROCEDURES <[UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu)>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]@gov.scot

**Subject:** Freedom of Information Request - Meeting between Michel Barnier and Nicola Sturgeon - 10 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

By way of an update, in response to your request below, we have sent the Task Force minutes to our First Minister's private office to check that she has no objection to these being released. We do not anticipate any difficulties with this and we will get back to you as soon as possible and certainly by Friday of this week to meet the 5 day deadline.

The Scottish Government has similarly received a Freedom of Information request for the minutes of the meeting between M. Barnier and the First Minister of Scotland on 10 February. Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA), we have a duty to consult any third party with an interest in the information requested.

I have attached the information that we propose to release. As you will see, part of the meeting note has been redacted since exemptions 32(1)(a)(ii) (relations between UK and any international organisation or court) and s.38(1)(b) (personal information) of FOISA apply to that information. With regard to personal information, our normal practice is to redact names of Scottish Government staff who are more junior than Deputy-Director level. On that basis, do you wish us to redact any names of attendees from the Task Force?

I would be most grateful if you could consult your authorities in order to determine whether they oppose disclosure of this information. Please can you respond within 5 working days in order for us to respond to the applicant within the timescale set out in the legislation.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Scottish Government EU Office | Scotland House Brussels | Rond Point Schuman 6, 1040 Brussels | Tel: [REDACTED] | Email: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

**#SCOTLANDISNOW**

**From:** Neilson M (Mike) <[Mike.Neilson@gov.scot](mailto:Mike.Neilson@gov.scot)>

**Sent:** 28 February 2020 12:12

**To:** [UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu)

**Cc:** <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** FW: Consultation pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents – Ref No GestDem 2020/864

[REDACTED]

Many thanks.

We received a similar request, and [REDACTED] will be in contact both to clear this one, and get Commission clearance on ours

Regards

Mike

**From:** [UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu) <[UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu)>  
**Sent:** 28 February 2020 11:57  
**To:** Neilson M (Mike) <[Mike.Neilson@gov.scot](mailto:Mike.Neilson@gov.scot)>  
**Cc:** [UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu](mailto:UKTF-PROCEDURES@ec.europa.eu)  
**Subject:** Consultation pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents – Ref No GestDem 2020/864

Dear Mr Neilson,

Please find enclosed a letter and annex to your attention from the Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom, for which we will need your reply within 5 working days.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**[REDACTED]**



**European Commission**  
Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom

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#### **Note of Meeting between First Minister and Michel Barnier, 10 February 2020**

Attendees:

Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister  
Mike Neilson, Director of EU office  
Ewan Crawford, Special Adviser to the First Minister  
Nicola Dove, Private Secretary to the First Minister

Michel Barnier, Head of Task Force  
[REDACTED], Strategy and Overall Coordination  
[REDACTED], Legal and Interinstitutional Affairs  
[REDACTED], Strategy, Media and Diplomatic Relations

The First Minister set out Scottish Government's position on the future relationship negotiations, emphasising the desire for the UK to have a much closer relationship with the EU than currently envisaged by UK Government. Barnier described the EU's approach to the negotiations, and identified some of the main issues [Redacted]

ENDS



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Minutes of the  
meeting Barnier - St