

Annex

Doc 1

From: FitzPatrick J (Joe), MSP
Sent: 18 December 2020 17:41
To: McAllister C (Colin)
Subject: RE: Letter and comment

That's fine.

Thanks Colin

From: Colin.McAllister@gov.scot <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>
Sent: 18 December 2020 17:36
To: FitzPatrick J (Joe), MSP <Joe.FitzPatrick.msp@parliament.scot>
Subject: Letter and comment
Importance: High

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Joe

Draft letter attached.

I would propose that Spads issue the following on your behalf:

"I spoke with the First Minister today and agreed that I should leave government.

"It has been the privilege of my life to serve in the Scottish Government and, during that time, the most heart-breaking and difficult problems I have faced as Public Health Minister is the harms and deaths caused by drug use.

"I have worked with families who have felt the burden and weight of grief from drug use. I want to thank them for their candour and the amazing efforts they make to try and make our country better and safer for all.

"As the minister responsible for this area I, ultimately, take my responsibility. It is clear that my presence as a minister will become a distraction, when we should be focused on achieving the change we need to save lives.

"There is nothing I can express that will ease the loss that so many families have felt due to a death from drugs use. I can only say how sorry I am for their loss, and that hearing the experiences of the families and the recovery communities will never leave me."

Regards

Colin McAllister

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.scotland.gov.uk



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Doc 2

From: Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser
Sent: 18 December 2020 18:02
To: Nicola Sturgeon
Subject: Comment
Importance: High

Proposed comments below to issue from SPADs – appointment of new minister will be in formal SG release.

Joe FitzPatrick said:

“I spoke with the First Minister today and agreed that I should leave government.

“It has been the privilege of my life to serve in the Scottish Government and, during that time, the most heart-breaking and difficult problems I have faced as Public Health Minister is the harms and deaths caused by drug use.

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“There is nothing I can express that will ease the loss that so many families have felt due to a death from drugs use. I can only say how sorry I am for their loss, and that hearing the experiences of the families and the recovery communities will never leave me.”

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said:

“I thank Joe for his work as a minister and the service he has given to Government over the last eight years, firstly as Minister for Parliamentary Business and then as Minister for Public Health.

“While the time has now come to make a change in the public health brief, no one should doubt Joe’s hard work, dedication and sincerity. He will continue to champion the interests of his constituents at Holyrood, and I wish him well in the future.”

From: McAllister C (Colin) <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>
Sent: 18 December 2020 17:39
To: Lloyd E (Elizabeth) <Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>; Hutchison D (David) <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser

<Stuart.Nicolson@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Letter and comment

Adding Stuart

Regards

Colin McAllister



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From: Lloyd E (Elizabeth) <Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>

Sent: 18 December 2020 17:38

To: McAllister C (Colin) <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Hutchison D (David) <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Letter and comment

Add a line from FM

Elizabeth Lloyd

Chief of Staff to the First Minister

St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

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From: McAllister C (Colin) <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

Sent: 18 December 2020 17:36

To: Hutchison D (David) <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>

Cc: Lloyd E (Elizabeth) <Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: Letter and comment

Importance: High

Regards

Colin McAllister



St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.scotland.gov.uk

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From: McAllister C (Colin)

Sent: 18 December 2020 17:36

To: 'joe.fitzpatrick.msp@parliament.scot' <joe.fitzpatrick.msp@parliament.scot>

Subject: Letter and comment

Importance: High

Joe

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Colin McAllister



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