

Fri 26/01/2018 19:34

[Redacted] RE: Good News Story (Bill Gates meetings)

Thanks [Redacted], and thanks to all involved in what looks to have been a really successful couple of events.

Just copying to a few wider some quick bullet points on my read out between the 2 meetings:

- **During the SG roundtable:**
 - FM emphasised that the **good work that was already being undertaken by NHS staff, most often on a voluntary basis – the new Global Health Coordination Unit which was in the planning, however, would help to systemise and coordinate this** further
 - BGF ([Redacted]) was also interested in **systemic support in health from Governments** – we highlighted the existing Hydration work that SG Water Division carry out in partnership with their peer Water Dept in the Government of Malawi – on water management – and that this was also bringing home learning for Scotland, about water management in rural areas, and in particular the role of women in that regard. [Redacted] looked particularly interested in that angle.
 - BGF seemed to me to be **particularly taken with the Grampian engineers initiative, using wider health staff** – the differences that infrastructure makes to service delivery. The engineers spoke passionately about that issue of “how much better medical staff can do if there is better (working) infrastructure, like basic water and electricity supplies”. This is really the holistic approach that we are aiming for the Centre to carry out, that it will not just be to tap into medical staff expertise, but all expertise that helps to deliver health care in the NHS.
 - **We confirmed that identifying need locally was key to our approach** - hearing views of and working with Government and local health delivery partners in our partner countries was key – to identify need via them – and indeed we had started this process in Zambia last week during the visit of officials, meeting with Zambia Govt Permanent Secretary for Health, as well as all the local Provincial and District Health Authority leads for Central Province where we are now principally working and building up our Zambia programme.
 - A clear theme for BGF, given their campaigning on 0.7%, was that **frontline health workers are key advocates for international development and contributing to global health. How do we use them as the biggest champions of aid?**
- **At the CPG meeting in the Parliament, 3 take away points:**

- BG said at the very outset of his opening remarks that, in the car on the way from the SG meeting to the CPG, the case studies that they had heard had got them to thinking and discussing amongst themselves – **what was happening in Scotland that had NHS staff etc interested and inspired to give of their own time and get involved in global health? They were interested in how they could learn from this.**
- Again commented to the CPG that they were very interested in “**how we showcase the examples NHS workers they had heard from**” [*we’ve raised that this is a function that the Centre could perform too*]
- And were interested, having heard the strong Scotland/Malawi connections, as to whether this might explain some of the odd variants in Malawi on health – ie that Malawi is so low on the HDI yet has better health services/outcomes relative to its development status. **Does the Scotland connection explain Malawi’s (relative) better health outcomes to them?** *[[Redacted]]*.

Minister suggested to BGF that would be good to work with them on some of these issues – [Redacted] and I also spoke and agreed we’d be in touch further.

CHOGM

- Final point to note: BGF said that BG would be back to the UK in April for CHOGM.
- There is a session being planned by [Redacted] of Scotland’s International Development Alliance, to take place in Scotland House. She is keen to use SH to showcase Scotland’s connections with our partner countries in particular.
- Could invite BG to SH in April to continue some discussions on global health? By that time, the new Global Health Programme will have officially launched (due to launch April).

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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