

IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT – KENMURE ST PROTESTS

Purpose

1. To provide Ministers with an update on UK Government immigration enforcement activity following the recent immigration exercise in Kenmure Street Glasgow.

Background

2. On Thursday 13 May UK Government Immigration Enforcement detained two Indian Sikh men in an immigration enforcement van following a raid in Pollokshields. Following approximately 7 hours of protests by members of the local community the men were temporarily released back into the community.

3. The Scottish Government were not informed of the raid in advance. This is in line with normal practice. Immigration Enforcement will notify Police Scotland, especially as they may be required to attend but there is no mechanism for informing Scottish Government. Police Scotland were asked to support the operation at 09.55. Protests grew over the course of the day. Protestors surrounded the van with one person lying underneath it. Police Officers were at the scene to manage the protest and to ensure public safety. Two Gold Command meetings involving Police Scotland and Home Office were held at 14:00 and 16:00. Following the 16:00 meeting Police Scotland took the decision to release the men in order to protect public safety, public health and order.

UK Government engagement

As the protest developed the then Cabinet Secretary for Justice asked to meet with Home Office Ministers. No Minister made themselves available and instead a meeting was offered with [redacted]. In that discussion the Cabinet Secretary set out his concerns in relation to public health and community relations.

4. Subsequently the First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Justice spoke with Kevin Foster MP, UK Minister for Future Borders and Immigration. The First Minister set out her concerns about the impact on public health and community relations given the timing of the raid. There was no acknowledgement of these concerns from Home Office Ministers..

Update

5. Home Office requested a meeting at official level on 20 May and provided further information on the two individuals and planned next steps. [redacted] and [redacted], who are working as a mechanic and chef respectively were temporarily released back into the community on 13 May. The Home Office's position remains that the two men have exhausted all appeals and therefore they have no legal right to remain in the UK.

6. The two men have been asked to report to the Home Office Brand St office in Glasgow at 15:00 on Thursday 27 May. This is a standard procedure. [redacted]

7. One of the men now has legal representation but it is not clear if the other has sought further legal advice. No applications have been made to the Home Office on their behalf since their attempted removal last week but it is anticipated that they will now make fresh representations.

8. In addition to [redacted] and [redacted] there has been some media interest in the fact that a third individual was also detained by Immigration Enforcement in Glasgow on the same day as the Kenmure Street protest. We understand that in this case, unlike the cases of [redacted] and [redacted], [redacted]

Update on immigration enforcement activity in Scotland

9. Following the events in Kenmure Street there has been significant interest on social media in seeking to identify further planned immigration enforcement activity in Glasgow with rumours circulating on-line about the presence of enforcement vans in different parts of the city. A number of groups have emerged in the city seeking to monitor the activity of Immigration Enforcement operations and organise protests.

10. The UKG Immigration Enforcement have not undertaken any raids in Scotland since the Kenmure Street protests. [redacted]

11. Given the high level of interest in their activities Immigration Enforcement are reconsidering how they operate, especially in Glasgow. Home Office's preferred approach to removals is through the Voluntary Returns Scheme. This work has been paused due to the pandemic, however, they are planning to recommence this work and refresh their approach. We know that the Home Office have approached Sikhs in Scotland with little success and understand that are meeting the Scottish Refugee Council today (Friday 21 May).

12. [redacted]

Scottish Government position

13. The recent events at Kenmure Street cut across a number of Ministerial portfolios. While the Cabinet Secretary for Justice led on the issue because of the involvement of Police Scotland, immigration policy including immigration enforcement rests with the External Affairs. However when it relates to an individual who has claimed asylum the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government also has an interest.

14. Where possible we seek to avoid focusing on the merits of action in individual cases because Home Office do not generally share details with us to allow an assessment of whether a removal is linked to security or criminality but instead on the wider policy of the hostile environment.

15. There is likely to be ongoing interest in Home Office immigration enforcement action and the potential to build cross-party support with Labour and the Greens for alternative approaches and to argue for further powers for Scottish Ministers to develop a tailored approach to migration. There are also further questions about the

role of Police Scotland and we are working closely with Justice colleagues to clarify the legal roles and agreements and will provide further advice in due course.

16. Ministers are invited to note the information provided. We will continue to provide updates as the situation progresses.

[redacted]
Population and Migration Division
21 May 2021

From: [redacted]

Sent: 21 May 2021 16:23

To: Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development

<MinisterCEID@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CabSecSJHLG@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; [redacted] Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot [redacted]@gov.scot>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Malhotra M (Madhu) <Madhu.Malhotra@gov.scot>; Laing SG (Shirley) <Shirley.Laing@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>

Subject: Update - Immigration enforcement - Kenmure St Protests - 13-05-2021

PO Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture
PO Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development

Please find attached an update on the Kenmure St protests and immigration enforcement activity in Scotland.

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 20 May 2021 17:36

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>;
Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>

Subject: Sensitive - In confidence - SG-HO Brand St discussion - Kenmure St protests -
update and next steps - 20-05-2021

Hi all,

Had a chat with Home Office (HO) Brand St today regarding next steps following the
Kenmure St protests – please treat this information in confidence and do not share
more widely.

[redacted]

I will do a note for Ministers that will go up tomorrow morning.

Many thanks,

[redacted]Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division |
Scottish Government

[redacted]

From[redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 May 2021 16:27

To: Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development <MinisterCEID@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CabSecSJHLG@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; [redacted]; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [redacted]@@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot[redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; Malhotra M (Madhu) <Madhu.Malhotra@gov.scot>; Laing SG (Shirley) <Shirley.Laing@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Director for Housing and Social Justice <DirectorHSJ@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Update - Immigration enforcement - Kenmure St Protests - 13-05-2021

**PO Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture
PO Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development**

Please see the below update in relation to the Kenmure Street protests:

Migration officials had a call with Home Office officials this afternoon in relation to the two individuals detained at Kenmure Street. Home Office confirmed that the plan is still for the two men to report to Festival Court (Brand Street) in Glasgow tomorrow Thursday 27 May at 15:00 and reiterated that this is a standard procedure. [redacted]

Officials are drafting a letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture to the Home Secretary which will be provided tomorrow for ministerial sign off and issue.

Kind regards,
[redacted]

[redacted]
Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted][redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 21 May 2021 16:23

To: Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development <MinisterCEID@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CabSecSJHLG@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; PAM : Migration

Strategy Team <DLCEABPAMMST@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot> [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; Malhotra M (Madhu) <Madhu.Malhotra@gov.scot>; Laing SG (Shirley) <Shirley.Laing@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Director for Housing and Social Justice <DirectorHSJ@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs dgcea@gov.scot

Subject: Update - Immigration enforcement - Kenmure St Protests - 13-05-2021

**PO Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture
PO Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development**

Please find attached an update on the Kenmure St protests and immigration enforcement activity in Scotland.

Yours Sincerely,
[redacted]

[redacted]
Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted][redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 24 May 2021 15:30

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CommunicationsSocialJusticeHousing&LocalGovt@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: STV News looking for response to Priti Patel comments

Hi [redacted]

I think it is fine for SG to lead on a response – it would most likely be for Mr Robertson to respond if you wanted a ministerial quote. Given that FM has been involved in the Kenmure St events I would also copy FMPO for clearance.

Suggested lines below:

Scottish Government Ministers sought a safe resolution to the scenes on Kenmure Street, motivated in large part by concern over the risks to public health. Whilst we recognise a need to deter and prevent abuse of our immigration and asylum systems, we are clear that people should be treated with dignity and respect.

We have repeatedly called on the UK Government to deliver more humane and flexible asylum and immigration policies and their hostile environment has no place in Scotland.

People who have come to Scotland because they need a place of safety must be supported, particularly at this time of crisis. They should be accommodated within our communities with support to recover from the trauma they have suffered and to rebuild their lives.

The Scottish Government welcomes people from all over the world, not only for their contribution to our economy and society, but for the diversity they bring to our communities. Scotland is stronger for our multiculturalism and non-UK citizens are an important part of our country's future.

Best,

[redacted] Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division |
Scottish Government

[redacted]

From: [redacted]>
Sent: 24 May 2021 15:09
To: [redacted]>
Cc: [redacted]>; News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; [redacted]>; Communications CSSE <CommunicationsCSSE@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: STV News looking for response to Priti Patel comments

[redacted]

A quick introduction – I've just moved to our new team from Rural Affairs and look forward to working with you in the months ahead.

I wonder if you can offer some policy assistance on a query from STV (below)? Initially, I thought it was something that might be taken into party space but, as you can see from [redacted]email, they're happy for SG to lead with a comment.

Many thanks in advance!

[redacted]

From: [redacted]>
Sent: 24 May 2021 14:57
To: [redacted]>
Cc: News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>[redacted]; Communications CSSE <CommunicationsCSSE@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: STV News looking for response to Priti Patel comments

I don't mind it being SG now. Please note I've got intermittent scots today

From[redacted]

Sent: 24 May 2021 14:55

To: [redacted]

Cc: News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; [redacted]>; Communications CSSE <CommunicationsCSSE@gov.scot>

Subject: STV News looking for response to Priti Patel comments

[redacted]

STV query (below) on Ms Patel's comments....happy to be guided on whether you want to take this query into a party space or leave it for us to advance with policy officials?

Kind regards

[redacted]

MEDIA ENQUIRY

From: [redacted]

Sent: 24 May 2021 14:22

To: [redacted]

>

Subject: Priti Patel

Hi [

Good to speak with you on the phone.

I was looking for a comment relating to Priti Patel's comments today following the protest at Kenmure Street in Glasgow earlier this month.

In a speech, the Home Secretary said: "In response to Glasgow and the removal of people that had no legal right to be in the UK, I've already said in my remarks today, we will continue to do that.

"That is effectively what the British public have voted for, they want, and actually it's part of my legal duty as well and responsibility in terms of not just immigration enforcement but removing those with no legal right to be here."

Kind regards,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]

[redacted]STV |



**The home of
Scottish news**

3000 [redacted]

Please consider the environment before printing this email

[redacted]

Working from home, contact me via Microsoft Teams

Scottish Government | Communications | St Andrew's House | Regent Road |
Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

[redacted][redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 18 May 2021 09:38
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Request for Briefing - Podcast with Holyrood & Possible Urgent Question - 18/05/21

Great will send it over shortly

[redacted] Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted]

From[redacted]>
Sent: 18 May 2021 09:34
To: [redacted]>
Cc: [redacted];[redacted]; [redacted]>
Subject: RE: Request for Briefing - Podcast with Holyrood & Possible Urgent Question - 18/05/21

Thanks for confirming [redacted].

I am planning to send up the briefing for the rest of the points before ten so if you would like me to send yours up with that then happy to do that.

Kind regards,

[redacted]
[redacted] | Police Powers Policy Manager

Police Powers Team | Police Division | Scottish Government
e| [redacted]

From: [redacted]<[redacted]>
Sent: 18 May 2021 09:33
To: [redacted]**Cc:**[redacted]<[redacted]>;[redacted]>; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Request for Briefing - Podcast with Holyrood & Possible Urgent Question - 18/05/21

Hi [redacted],

Yes I'm sending up an FMQ document today.

Thanks,
[redacted] Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted][redacted]

From: [redacted]<[redacted]>

Sent: 18 May 2021 09:02

To: [redacted]<[redacted]<[redacted]>; [redacted]**Subject:** FW: Request for Briefing - Podcast with Holyrood & Possible Urgent Question - 18/05/21

Morning [redacted],

I hope this email finds you well.

I am just emailing to check if you plan to send up your own separate briefing for point one below? If not, we can take stuff from the PQ pack you sent on Friday.

Kind regards,

[redacted] | Police Powers Policy Manager

Police Powers Team | Police Division | Scottish Government

e | [redacted]

w | www.gov.scot

From: [redacted] on behalf of: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>

Date: Monday, 17 May 2021, 3:40 pm

To: [redacted]<[redacted]>[redacted], Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot[redacted]>, Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>, [redacted]>, [redacted]>[redacted]

Cc: Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>, Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>

Subject: Request for Briefing - Podcast with Holyrood & Possible Urgent Question - 18/05/21

Good Afternoon

Podcast with [redacted] – Holyrood Magazine – Tuesday 18 May @12noon

The Cabinet Secretary has agreed to do a podcast with Mandy Rhodes at Holyrood Magazine tomorrow on recent events at Kenmure Street and Ibrox/George Square.

I'd be grateful for light briefing and top lines by 10am tomorrow that covers the following

- Immigration
- Policing Response to both incidents
- Marches and parades
- Sectarianism
- Football

[redacted]– Mr Yousaf does not require comms support for this but I will be in Parly with him anyway. Are you able to find out the format that this is being done by please?

[redacted]

[redacted]

Many thanks

[redacted] Private Secretary, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Humza Yousaf MSP – 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG - [redacted], [redacted] CabSecJustice@gov.scot

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [redacted]>

Sent: 17 May 2021 15:40

To: Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: Micase - Kenmure St protests - Template

Hi all,

Various policy areas seem to be getting micase about the Kenmure St protests I have drafted the below template to try and ensure we are consistent in our response. My team will respond to queries relating to immigration enforcement and wider migration policy – grateful if police powers colleagues could lead on cases specific to the role of Police Scotland and if Jackie/Aileen could lead on Asylum specific queries. Grateful for additions and/or amendments:

Scottish Government ministers spent a significant amount of time engaging with both the Home Office and Police Scotland to seek a safe resolution to the scenes we saw on Kenmure Street.

In discussion with UK Government Ministers, the First Minister expressed the Scottish Government's deep concern and anger about this operation, especially in the heart of a community celebrating Eid. To take this action in Pollokshields, a day after the First Minister warned of an upsurge of COVID-19 cases in the South Side of Glasgow is completely reckless.

The Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Humza Yousaf MSP, was in regular discussion with Police Scotland allowing them to update on their operational approach to Home Office action. Police Scotland were unequivocal in the public statements they made in relation to the situation: they do not assist in the removal of asylum seekers and the individuals were released on public safety and health grounds. Police Officers were at the scene to manage the protest and to ensure public safety – the protest was non-violent and discussions between Police Scotland and protestors were positive and non-threatening. Once those detained had been released back into their community and subsequently that those protesting dispersed peacefully.

Assurances were sought from the UK Government that they will never again create, through their actions, such a dangerous situation. They did not provide those assurances and it is increasingly clear that the UK Government is incapable of delivering policies that reflect Scotland's values, circumstances or interests.

Whilst we recognise a need to deter and prevent abuse of our immigration and asylum systems, the Scottish Government is clear that people should be treated with compassion, dignity and respect. People who have come to Scotland because they need a place of safety must be supported, particularly at this time of crisis. They should be accommodated within our communities with the support they need to recover from the trauma they have suffered and to rebuild their lives.

The Scottish Government remains committed strongly committed to strengthening the relationships with all communities including our valued immigrant communities in

Glasgow. We will continue to support integration from day one, through our New Scots strategy approach and will work in partnership with other public bodies such as Glasgow City Council to strengthen community cohesion for all of our citizens.

Best,

[redacted] Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 17 May 2021 15:44
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Request for Briefing - Podcast with Holyrood & Possible Urgent Question - 18/05/21

FYI – [redacted] is drafting an FMQ which should cover for our interests.

[redacted]

Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted][redacted]

From: [redacted]<[redacted]> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Justice
Sent: 17 May 2021 15:41
To: [redacted]<[redacted]>; [redacted]>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot[redacted]>;
Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [redacted];[redacted]>;[redacted]**Cc:**
Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for
Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>
Subject: Request for Briefing - Podcast with Holyrood & Possible Urgent Question - 18/05/21

Good Afternoon

Podcast with [redacted] – Holyrood Magazine – Tuesday 18 May @12noon

The Cabinet Secretary has agreed to do a podcast with [redacted] at Holyrood Magazine tomorrow on recent events at Kenmure Street and OUT OF SCOPE.

I'd be grateful for light briefing and top lines by 10am tomorrow that covers the following

- Immigration
- Policing Response to both incidents
- Marches and parades
- Sectarianism
- Football

Cameron – Mr Yousaf does not require comms support for this but I will be in Parly with him anyway. Are you able to find out the format that this is being done by please?

OUT OF SCOPE

Many thanks

[redacted]Private Secretary, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Humza Yousaf MSP – 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG - [redacted] CabSecJustice@gov.scot

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From: [redacted]<[redacted]>
Sent: 17 May 2021 15:33
To: [redacted]<[redacted]>;[redacted]<[redacted]>
Subject: FW: MiCase - [redacted] - Urgent action required in Pollokshields

Any kenmure st cases that relate specifically to the role of Police Scotland please assign to [redacted].

[redacted] Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted][redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 14 May 2021 10:46
To: [redacted]<[redacted]><[redacted]>;[redacted]>;[redacted] <[redacted]<[redacted]>;[redacted] <[redacted]Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot[redacted]<[redacted]>
Subject: RE: MiCase [redacted] - Urgent action required in Pollokshields

Hi [redacted]

We had some discussions yesterday with Clare Hicks and we are happy to lead on the immigration aspects of the Kenmure street situation however the correspondence seems to be focus on the police presence and so it would be for your area to lead on the role of Police Scotland in yesterday's events. My understanding is that Police Scotland are contacted by immigration enforcement for assistance in the event of public order concerns and yesterday it was ultimately a police Scotland decision to insist on the abandonment of the immigration enforcement operation due to public safety concerns.

In relation to migration lines that can be used below is comment that issues yesterday on behalf of Mr Yousaf and I wouldn't say much more than this on the matter:

"I have expressed the Scottish Government's deep concern and anger about this operation by the Home Office, especially in the heart of a community celebrating Eid.

"To take this action in Pollokshields, a day after the First Minister warned of an upsurge of Covid cases in the South Side of Glasgow in completely reckless.

"We welcome people from all over the world, not only for their contribution to our economy and society, but for the diversity they bring to our communities. Scotland is stronger for our multiculturalism and non-UK citizens are an important part of our country's future.

"Immigration is fully reserved to the UK Government. The Scottish Government has no control over the operation and enforcement of the immigration or asylum system, which is dealt with by the Home Office.

“I have spoken to the Home Office, as has the First Minister and it is right that the UK Government have abandoned their operation.

“We have repeatedly called on the Home Office to deliver more humane and flexible asylum and immigration policies. It is increasingly clear that the UK Government is incapable of delivering policies that reflect Scotland’s values, circumstances or interests.”

And a comment issued on FM’s views:

“The First Minister made crystal clear to the Home Office that their actions today were utterly unacceptable.

“She expressed the Scottish Government’s deep concern and anger about this operation, especially in the heart of a community celebrating Eid.

“To take this action in Pollokshields, a day after the First Minister warned of an upsurge of Covid cases in the South Side of Glasgow is completely reckless.

“Assurances were sought from the UK government that they will never again create, through their actions, such a dangerous situation. They did not provide those assurances.”

Best,

[redacted] Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>

Sent: 14 May 2021 09:57

To: [redacted] <[redacted]> <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]> <[redacted]>

Subject: MiCase - [redacted] Urgent action required in Pollokshields

Good morning [redacted],

We have received the attached [redacted] and I would appreciate your views on the best approach to respond.

As the action taken yesterday is a reserved matter to the UK Government we wonder if this would sit better with your team to respond? We would of course be offering a contribution in regards to Police Scotland’s actions on this matter.

If this is agreeable, I can transfer this case to the appropriate person in your team and forward a contribution once formulated.

Thanks

[redacted] | Police Powers and Workforce Unit | Police Division
Scottish Government | 1R | St Andrew's House | Edinburgh EH1 3DG | UK |
[redacted] [redacted]

Currently WFH



From: [redacted]>
Sent: 27 May 2021 09:38
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [redacted] Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted]
Subject: FW: For issue - Letter Mr Robertson to Priti Patel

Hi [redacted],

Please see the attached letter in relation to the Kenmure St protests. It's signed and ready to issue. I just wanted to confirm whether you are content for us to it publish and do some comms around it?

Best,

[redacted])

Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government

[redacted]**From:** [redacted]>

Sent: 27 May 2021 08:38

To: Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>;

Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development <MinisterCEID@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CabSecSJHLG@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; PAM : Migration Strategy Team <DLCEABPAMMST@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [redacted] Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted]; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot> [redacted] Malhotra M (Madhu) <Madhu.Malhotra@gov.scot>; Laing SG (Shirley) <Shirley.Laing@gov.scot>; [redacted]; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Director for Housing and Social Justice <DirectorHSJ@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>

Subject: For issue - Letter Mr Robertson to Priti Patel

PS Cab Sec CEAC

Please find attached a draft letter to the Home Secretary for the Cabinet Secretary's consideration. This relates to events at Kenmure Street.

PS Min CEID

For info.

Thanks

[redacted][redacted]

Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs
and Culture
Angus Robertson MSP



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4D

POCorrespondence@homeoffice.gov.uk

26 May 2021

Dear

There has been significant public interest and comment following the immigration enforcement action in Glasgow on 13 May. That enforcement action has raised a number of important issues.

The Scottish Government welcomes people who come to Scotland to make a positive contribution to our communities, our public services and our economy. It is important that we treat people who want to make Scotland their home with dignity, fairness and respect.

I accept that migration needs to be controlled to deter and prevent abuse, fraud and criminal activity. Indeed the need to control migration was one of the seven draft principles set out by the Scottish Government in our January 2020 paper *Migration: Helping Scotland Prosper*. However, any enforcement procedures in Scotland must be carried out with due regard to the safety of our communities and be aligned to our values of dignity, fairness and respect.

The immigration raid in Pollokshields, in the heart of a community celebrating Eid, a day after the First Minister warned of an upsurge of COVID-19 cases in the South Side of Glasgow failed that test. It created an unnecessary situation requiring a significant Police presence to ensure public safety.

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I know that you have highlighted the importance of public opinion and consent in relation to immigration enforcement activity. I am clear that we need democratic accountability and oversight of immigration including immigration enforcement. The events of 13 May were a clear articulation of the views of the community. I don't consider inflammatory and divisive rhetoric suggesting that those taking action are protecting murderers, rapists and high profile offenders is helpful.

We both know that it is inaccurate to suggest that all those subject to immigration enforcement have been linked to criminality. Clearly there will be some cases where swift action needs to be taken to remove individuals who present a risk but as the events at Kenmure Street showed, individuals facing deportation are often valued members of communities they have been part of for many years. Many of those subject to immigration enforcement have committed no crime and are no threat to the public, having simply exhausted their appeal rights.

A more humane approach to immigration enforcement is required, one which reflects the views and values of Scottish communities and does not involve the heavy-handed approach of raids which are disruptive to our communities, are inherently divisive, risk public health and take up valuable Police resources.

I would welcome an urgent meeting to discuss how to ensure there is no repetition of the events at Kenmure Street in the future..



Angus Robertson

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LEADER



From: [redacted]
Sent: 17 May 2021 17:13
To: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]>
Subject: FW: FMQ Brief Request - Immigration - deadline 10am Tuesday 18th

Hi Rachel,

In relation to the FMQ request and Holyrood briefing – [redacted] has pulled together the attached. Could you clear the content and confirm you are happy for it to be a 'joint' fmq as I have also put Clare Hicks and [redacted] as key contacts in the footer. If so I will send to Clare and [redacted] for input before [redacted] sends it up to the FMQ team.

Click on the link to open 'FMQ - Kenmure Street Protests - 17 05 2021' - [redacted]

Best,
[redacted])
Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: [redacted])
Sent: 17 May 2021 13:39
To: [redacted]; [redacted]>; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted] **Cc:** [redacted]>; [redacted]>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: FMQ Brief Request - Immigration - deadline 10am Tuesday 18th

Hi [redacted],

My team will pick up and coordinate with relevant policy areas. Lucy is working on a draft just now.

Thanks,
[redacted])
Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: [redacted] > **On Behalf Of** ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox
Sent: 17 May 2021 12:45
To: [redacted]>; [redacted]>; [redacted]>; [redacted]>; [redacted] **Cc:** ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMPQ@gov.scot>
Subject: FMQ Brief Request - Immigration - deadline 10am Tuesday 18th

Hi there

As part of our dry run processes ahead of the return of FMQs, we have an FMQ brief request that I think will sit with your area.

The FMQ team consider that your policy area may feature in FMQs in future weeks when FMQs restart and have asked that you prepare a brief for the First Minister on:

Immigration

The Guardian 22 **'A special day' How Glaswegians rose up against pair's detention - and won** It was just after 9am on Thursday when the call-out came. Kenmure Street's "Van Man" - who went on to spend nearly eight hours under an immigration enforcement van to prevent the detention of two men on Glasgow's Southside - was on his bike in minutes. "It's not often you can catch raids in the act like this, but Southside has a lot of folks pulling together," he explained

The Scotsman 12 **Justice Secretary Yousaf demands the devolution of asylum powers** Humza Yousaf has reached out to Scottish Labour to ask them to back the devolution of immigration and asylum powers to the Scottish Parliament. In an open letter posted on social media the Cabinet Secretary for Justice made the request after Thursday's Kenmure Street protest, which saw hundreds of people gather on a Glasgow street to stop an immigration van take away one of their neighbours for deportation

Daily Mail (Scotland) 10 **Crowd MSPs 'reckless'** LEFT-WING politicians who encouraged a crowd that blocked immigration officials have been accused of disrespecting the rule of law and ignoring Covid breaches. Two men detained by Home Office officers were released on Thursday after hundreds of protesters descended on a Glasgow street to stop them leaving. Nicola Sturgeon and her Justice Secretary Humza Yousaf were among those who condemned the Home Office, and Labour MSP Paul Sweeney appeared to

The Scotsman 18 **Immigration system is 'barbaric' says lawyer after Glasgow raid** Campaigning lawyer Aamer Anwar has labelled the Home Office's approach to immigration as "barbarism" as he calls on the UK government to devolve immigration policy to Scotland. Mr Anwar, who was speaking on the BBC's Sunday Show, criticised the immigration raid in Pollokshields, Glasgow, on Thursday as "deeply cynical" and "provocative". His comments come after justice secretary Humza Yousaf called on Labour MSPs in Glasgow to back the Scottish Government's **(also in The Times (Scotland) Glasgow raid on asylum seekers 'incited carnage')**

The Scotsman 22 **Sturgeon and Yousaf choose mob rule above the law** Last Thursday Scotland was made a fool of by none other than its own First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, and her Justice Secretary, Humza Yousaf. How so? By the hugely troubling instance of these lawmakers telling people it's OK to break the law. Their comments last week have the potential to not only destabilise the peace and safety on our streets we should expect to enjoy, they also, ironically, make

Could you please confirm this has been picked up?

The deadline is

If you do not have a previous FMQ a blank template is attached for reference. We have also attached some helpful guidance on formatting your FMQ brief together with a handy checklist to use before you return your brief. Please use the checklist when updating your FMQ brief to ensure that it follows FMQ guidelines

You can also find further guidance at the following link -<http://saltire/my-workplace/ministerial-preferences-and-support/best-practice/Pages/Preparing-FMQs.aspx>

Thank you in advance for your contribution and if you have any questions please get in touch with either [redacted]), [redacted]), [redacted]) or [redacted]).

[redacted]First Minister Questions & Parliamentary Questions Support Team
Manager,
Room 1N.04, St Andrews House, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

[redacted]  gov.scot

You can find more detailed information on answering PQs here [Answering Parliamentary Questions \(PQs\)](#)

You can also download the PQs desk aid to print out and keep. It summarises the process and important timings to remember for delivering PQs each week.

If you or anyone in your team require any training/awareness in PQs please get in touch

URGENT PQ – 13 MAY – KENMURE ST PROTESTS

Patrick Harvie – To ask the Scottish Government what engagement it has had with the UK Government, and with Police Scotland, regarding the community response to attempted immigration enforcement action in Kenmure Street in Glasgow on 13 May.

Humza Yousaf: Cabinet Secretary for Justice:

Can I thank Patrick Harvie for this important question. The First Minister and I spent a significant amount of time yesterday engaging with both the Home Office and Police Scotland to seek a safe resolution to the scenes we saw on Kenmure Street.

Throughout the day I was in regular discussion with Police Scotland allowing them to update me on their operational approach to Home Office action which in my view placed them in an invidious position. I was pleased to see the statement from Police Scotland yesterday evening which noted those detained had been released back into their community and subsequently that those protesting dispersed peacefully.

I also shared my concerns with the Director of Immigration Enforcement for Scotland and Northern Ireland and urged him to abandon the forced removal. Unfortunately no Home Office Ministers deemed the issue serious enough to meet with me at that time.

I later participated in a video call with the First Minister and the junior Minister for Future Borders and Immigration, Kevin Foster MP where the First Minister made crystal clear to the Home Office that their actions at Kenmure st were utterly unacceptable.

She expressed the Scottish Government's deep concern and anger about this operation, especially in the heart of a community celebrating Eid. To take this action in Pollokshields, a day after the First Minister warned of an upsurge of Covid cases in the South Side of Glasgow is completely reckless.

Assurances were sought from the UK government that they will never again create, through their actions, such a dangerous situation. They did not provide those assurances and the First Minister is meeting with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster today (14 May) to discuss matters further but it is increasingly clear that the UK Government is incapable of delivering policies that reflect Scotland's values, circumstances or interests.

POTENTIAL SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

UK Government Ministers have stated that UKG that the First Minister walked out of the meeting with Kevin Foster on the Kenmure Street protests. Did the first Minister walk out as she seemed, according to Kevin Foster MP, “content not to want the law enforced”.

This is categorically untrue. The meeting – conducted as a video call – concluded in the normal manner. No one walked out.

On the call the First Minister made clear to the Home Office that their actions today were utterly unacceptable however UK Government Ministers provided no assurance that they will prevent further dangerous situations arising from their thoughtless actions.

URGENT PQ – 13 MAY – KENMURE ST PROTESTS

Will the Cabinet Secretary join me in calling on the Home Office to stop all ‘dawn raids’ in Glasgow? [Patrick Harvie interviewed in the Daily Record 28 April 2021 calling for more powers for the Scottish Parliament to stop ‘dawn raids’]

People who seek to come to Scotland to make a positive contribution to our communities deserve to be treated with compassion and dignity. It is right that there are controls in place to manage migration into Scotland but the Home Office’s hostile environment has no place in Scotland. Scottish Ministers, accountable to the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish people, need to have the powers to deliver migration policies tailored to Scotland’s needs and values.

MIGRATION TOP LINES

- We welcome people from all over the world, not only for their contribution to our economy and society, but for the diversity they bring to our communities. Scotland is stronger for our multiculturalism and non-UK citizens are an important part of our country’s future.
- To take this action in Pollokshields, a day after the First Minister warned of an upsurge of Covid cases in the South Side of Glasgow in completely reckless.
- However, under the current constitutional arrangements in the United Kingdom, immigration is fully reserved to the UK Government. The Scottish Government therefore has no control over the operation of the immigration system, which is dealt with by the Home Office.
- Whilst migration should be managed to deter and prevent abuse, fraud and criminal activity, including terrorism, human trafficking and other serious offences the Scottish Government is clear that people should be treated with kindness, dignity, compassion and respect.
- It is right that the UK Government abandoned their operation and Scottish Government Ministers have sought assurances from the UK Government that they will never again create, through their actions, such a dangerous situation.
- We have repeatedly called on the Home Office to deliver more humane and flexible asylum and immigration policies. It is increasingly clear that the UK Government is incapable of delivering policies that reflect Scotland’s values, circumstances or interests.

ASYLUM TOP LINES

- People who have come to Scotland because they need a place of safety must be supported, particularly at this time of crisis.
- They should be accommodated within our communities with the support they need to recover from the trauma they have suffered and to rebuild their lives.
- Asylum and immigration are wholly reserved to the UK Government, including operation of the asylum system, accommodation and financial support for people seeking asylum, and application of No Recourse to Public Funds policy.

URGENT PQ – 13 MAY – KENMURE ST PROTESTS

BACKGROUND

The Home Office Deputy Director for Immigration Enforcement for Scotland and Northern Ireland said it was a routine visit pre-planned and risk assessed prior to 13 May.

- There were three immigration enforcement officers involved who gained access to the building on Kenmure street, which is a private residence, identified the individuals they were looking for and accompanied them out of the building into the van.
- Police Scotland were asked to support at 09.55. Protest grew over the course of the day, 2 Gold Command meetings were held at 2pm and 4pm, following the 4pm meeting Police Scotland took the decision to release the men in order to protect public safety, public health and order.
- The individuals are two Sikh Indian males, believed to be failed asylum seekers. There was no suggestion that they have been involved in criminal activity and it is likely that they have just exhausted all options within the asylum process.
- The Home Office highlighted their awareness of a number of protest groups in Glasgow monitoring immigration enforcement operations – these groups arrived shortly after they had put the two individuals in the van. The protestors surrounded the van with one individual lying underneath it to prevent it from moving.

MEETINGS

- CSJ met [redacted] and [redacted] in advance of 2pm Gold command meeting and raised his concerns, Police Scotland noted their role in protecting public safety and that they do not facilitate removal of asylum seekers. PS noted that the policing of the protest and operational decisions were for them to take assessing all relevant risks.
- CSJ met [redacted] separately in advance of the 2pm meeting and raised his concerns, in particular the risk to public health given the new variant in Glasgow, noting that even if the individuals were Sikh the location of the action between 3 mosques made this particularly problematic and sensitive. He questioned the risk assessment etc. This was a courteous discussion and HO official noted the issues raised by CSJ.
- FM and CSJ met Kevin Foster, Minister for Future Borders and Immigration at 15.45. FM set out her specific public health concerns and asked for the action to be abandoned at this time to minimise the risk to all concerned. KF stated that the operation had been notified to Police Scotland and they had raised no concerns. Police Scotland dispute this reading of the process, in their view they are informed of activity and have no locus in the decision making. KF gave no indication that the concerns raised by the FM were material and the meeting concluded with clear disagreement. KF suggested that it was for Police Scotland to decide whether the action was unsafe to continue.

Following the 16.00 Police Scotland released a statement both to the crowd gathered on Kenmure St and to the media noting the individuals were to be released on public safety and health grounds.

- Significant media interest has been ongoing. UKG source briefing media that FM walked out of meeting and did not support law enforcement – both of these allegations are not true.
- [redacted] has noted that once this particular incident has passed it will be important for the operational partners involved to provide greater clarity and certainty of roles and responsibilities to avoid this in future, this would include Police Scotland, Glasgow City Council, UKIE etc

Police Scotland's role in HOEI activity

- In practical terms, Immigration Enforcement notify Police Scotland of every intended visit via an Operation Notification Form. Police Scotland check their systems to identify any risks associated with the intended visit and complete the form. Where particular risks such as violence are identified Police Scotland involvement may be requested by HOEI.

URGENT PQ – 13 MAY – KENMURE ST PROTESTS

ASYLUM: NEGATIVE CESSATIONS

- On 27 March 2020, UK Government suspended decisions to discontinue support and accommodation of people who have received a negative asylum decision. This was a temporary measure to prevent unnecessary movement of people during Covid-19 .
- Negative cessation decisions in England resumed in September 2020 but were paused again. Further resumption in April 2021 has again been paused.
- The Home Office has committed to not resume negative cessations in Scotland without prior discussion with Scottish Government.
- Negative cessations specifically relate to people in Home Office provided accommodation, which is operated by Mears in Glasgow, and is therefore distinct from Home Office Immigration Enforcement activity.
- We understand these individuals were not being accommodated by Mears and therefore this will not have been a resumption of negative cessation.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 14 May 2021 15:29

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CommunicationsSocialJusticeHousing&LocalGovt@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: MEDIA BID: Kenmure protest meeting - STV

Hi [redacted],

Cab Sec declined a GMS bid yesterday on the Kenmure St protests. The FM is due to speak to Michael Gove the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster so there may be something from that but I don't know what time that is taking place.

If there is nothing new to say in relation to the FM/CDL discussion then I would suggest we decline.

Also to note there is an Urgent PQ and several supps on this in the Scottish Parliament today.

Best,

[redacted] Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: [redacted]>

Sent: 14 May 2021 14:12

To: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; News Desk <Newsdesk@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications Social Justice, Housing & Local Government <CommunicationsSocialJusticeHousing&LocalGovt@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: MEDIA BID: Kenmure protest meeting - STV

Hello

We've had the bid below for Cab Sec for STV on yesterday's protests. The line they're trying to create is along the friction between the SG and UKG.

We obviously set out our stall quite clearly yesterday and would be grateful for any advice about whether this is something we would wish to pursue further into tonight's bulletins and in particular do we have any updates/next steps on our actions with the Home Office meetings etc, that we would wish to publicly highlight?

Thanks, [redacted]

STV BID

As discussed we are following up on Kenmure street story from yesterday. I was looking to find out what engagement the Scottish Government has had with the UK government and Police Scotland regarding the community response to the attempted action in Glasgow ?

Both the First minister and the Justice Secretary said yesterday their calls to UK Government had gone unanswered. Is that still the case and are any meetings with UK ministers planned ? We are working for this for our main news at 1.50pm and at 6pm.

Would the Justice Secretary be available for an interview on this story at some point today for use on our 6pm programme.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** zzzCabinet Secretary for Justice
Sent: 14 May 2021 14:44
To: Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; zzzCabinet Secretary for Justice <zzzCabSecJustice@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>; PAM : Migration Strategy Team <DLCEABPAMMST@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; C[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Urgent PQ - Patrick Harvie - Scottish Greens - Kenmure St Protests - 14 -05-2021

Thanks Clare, appreciate that.

Just been informed of another potential sup:

Audrey Nicoll: To ask the Scottish Government what provision will be put in place to reassure and engage with communities, regarding future arrangements for similar immigration enforcement operations

Again, grateful for this to be sent up as soon as possible.

Many thanks,

[redacted]Deputy Private Secretary – Humza Yousaf MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice – 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG - [redacted] CabSecJustice@gov.scot

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From: Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>
Sent: 14 May 2021 14:42
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [redacted]>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>; PAM : Migration Strategy Team <DLCEABPAMMST@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; C[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Urgent PQ - Patrick Harvie - Scottish Greens - Kenmure St Protests - 14 -05-2021

Rachel

Suggested answer below:

James Dornan Supp: First of all, I'd like to place on record my admiration for the community resilience on show in Pollokshields yesterday. Kenmure Street is not too far from my own constituency, and I know of some of my own constituents who joined in solidarity. The Home Office's deliberately provocative act further exemplifies how barbaric this Tory Government really is. Can I ask the Cabinet Secretary/Minister to ensure that Police Scotland are unequivocal in their stance to play no role in the disgraceful removal of asylum seekers, and to outline what steps the police will be taking to maintain, and indeed strengthen, relations with immigrant communities in Glasgow?

Police Scotland were unequivocal in the public statements they made yesterday: they do not assist in the removal of asylum seekers. Officers were at the scene to police the protest and to ensure public safety. From the regular dialogue I have with the Chief Constable and his senior team I know that they are strongly committed to strengthening the relationships with all communities including our valued immigrant communities in Glasgow. They will do this working in partnership with other public bodies such as Glasgow City Council strengthening community cohesion for all of our citizens.

Clare Hicks
Deputy Director,
**Police Division, Safer Communities
Scottish Government**

I am currently working from home and you can contact me on: 07816451910

From: [redacted] > **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Justice

Sent: 14 May 2021 14:27

To: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; [redacted]; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>; [redacted]; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; C[redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Urgent PQ - Patrick Harvie - Scottish Greens - Kenmure St Protests - 14 -05-2021

Thanks Rachel.

We have been provided the below sup:

James Dornan Supp: First of all, I'd like to place on record my admiration for the community resilience on show in Pollokshields yesterday. Kenmure Street is not too far from my own constituency, and I know of some of my own constituents who joined in solidarity. The Home Office's deliberately provocative act further exemplifies how barbaric this Tory Government really is. Can I ask the Cabinet Secretary/Minister to ensure that Police Scotland are unequivocal in their stance to play no role in the disgraceful removal of asylum seekers, and to outline what steps the police will be taking to maintain, and indeed strengthen, relations with immigrant communities in Glasgow?

Grateful for a draft answer as soon as possible please.

Many thanks,

[redacted] Deputy Private Secretary – Humza Yousaf MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice – 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG - [redacted] CabSecJustice@gov.scot

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From: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>

Sent: 14 May 2021 14:12

To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; [redacted]>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>; PAM : Migration Strategy Team <DLCEABPAMMST@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; C[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Urgent PQ - Patrick Harvie - Scottish Greens - Kenmure St Protests - 14 -05-2021

Rachel

The changes look fine from a policy perspective and I have accepted all of the changes.

I am mindful that the answer may need to be updated depending on the outcome of any FM/CDL meeting especially if that meeting is postponed/rearranged. I would be grateful for an update from FMPO in due course

Thanks

Rachel

Rachel Sunderland

Head of Population and Migration Division | Directorate for External Affairs

Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot | [redacted] 📄 save paper - do you need to print this e-mail?

From: [redacted]> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Justice

Sent: 14 May 2021 14:04

To: [redacted]>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary

<PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; C[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Urgent PQ - Patrick Harvie - Scottish Greens - Kenmure St Protests - 14 -05-2021

[redacted]

Cab Sec has made some changes. Grateful if officials can look over as quickly as possible.

Many thanks,

[redacted] Deputy Private Secretary – Humza Yousaf MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice – 1W.11, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG - [redacted] CabSecJustice@gov.scot

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From: [redacted]>

Sent: 14 May 2021 13:11

To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Europe and International Development <MinisterEID@gov.scot>; [redacted]>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; C[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: Urgent PQ - Patrick Harvie - Scottish Greens - Kenmure St Protests - 14 -05-2021

PS First Minister

PS Cabinet Secretary for Justice

Please find attached an urgent PQ and background on yesterday's Kenmure St protests:

Patrick Harvie – To ask the Scottish Government what engagement it has had with the UK Government, and with Police Scotland, regarding the community response to attempted immigration enforcement action in Kenmure Street in Glasgow on 13 May.

Humza Yousaf: Cabinet Secretary for Justice:

Can I thank Patrick Harvie for this important question. The First Minister and I spent a significant amount of time yesterday engaging with both the Home Office and Police Scotland to seek a safe resolution to the scenes we saw on Kenmure Street.

Throughout the day I was in regular discussion with Police Scotland allowing them to update me on their operational approach to Home Office action which in my view

placed them in an invidious position. I was pleased to see the statement from Police Scotland yesterday evening which noted those detained had been released back into their community and subsequently that those protesting dispersed peacefully.

I also shared my concerns with the Director of Immigration Enforcement for Scotland and Northern Ireland and urged him to abandon the forced removal. Unfortunately no Home Office Ministers deemed the issue serious enough to meet with me at that time.

I later participated in a video call with the First Minister and the junior Minister for Future Borders and Immigration, Kevin Foster MP where the First Minister made crystal clear to the Home Office that their actions at Kenmure st were utterly unacceptable.

She expressed the Scottish Government's deep concern and anger about this operation, especially in the heart of a community celebrating Eid. To take this action in Pollokshields, a day after the First Minister warned of an upsurge of Covid cases in the South Side of Glasgow is completely reckless.

Assurances were sought from the UK government that they will never again create, through their actions, such a dangerous situation. They did not provide those assurances and the First Minister is meeting with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster today (14 May) to discuss matters further but it is increasingly clear that the UK Government is incapable of delivering policies that reflect Scotland's values, circumstances or interests.

Kinds Regards,

[redacted])

Migration Strategy Team Leader | Population and Migration Division | Scottish Government

[redacted]