

Document 1

Kit Malthouse MP Introductory Letter response from Drug Policy Minister
Created 12 January 2021

Dear Kit Malthouse MP,

Thank you for your introductory letter dated 06 January 2021. In my new role as the Minister for Drug Policy in Scotland, working directly to the First Minister, I welcome the opportunity to meet with you and work on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and address the unacceptable number of related deaths.

Setting out your position on overdose prevention facilities is helpful. I am aware of the on-going discussions around the introduction of these facilities between our governments and of the strong international evidence-base which supports these facilities. Although they are not a panacea to the complex set of challenges we face, when integrated into the wider work that is being taken forward in Scotland I believe they can be a crucial part of the solution.

We are looking at ways in which these facilities can be established through a proper legal framework. For example, we have been made aware of pilot overdose prevention facilities that are expected to be established in England, with two likely to be operational later this year. Whilst we recognise that the legal framework in Scotland is different, we are keen to have discussions with those developing these pilots to explore this further.

I have asked my officials to look at this in more detail and to speak to relevant partners, including the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and Police Scotland, in order to assess the feasibility of this approach in Scotland. I would welcome further discussion on this work.

I welcome the positive progress on easing access to naloxone distribution by the Department of Health and Social Care and the work led by the National Crime Agency in developing strategies to counter illicit pill production across the UK. I look forward to more details and any suggestions on how we can work together to help progress these further.

As you are aware, the Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use in Scotland. This is in line with recommendations from the ACMD; the recommendations of two UK Parliamentary Committees, the Scottish Affairs Committee and the Health and Social Care Committee; as well as a significant number of experts and academics.

Since September 2019, under this public health approach, the Drug Deaths Taskforce are already progressing work that is well underway and will align with the Project ADDER diversion and recovery activity. We do not believe that combining this work under the banner of Project ADDER would provide added value. Doing so would require us to redirect our existing work and undermine the established evidence based approach. However, the involvement of the Drug Deaths Taskforce as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network will provide an opportunity for us all to share emerging developments and to learn from each other.

I welcome your commitment to working together to tackle drug-related harms and deaths and look forward to meeting with you to discuss what we can do collectively to respond to this public health emergency. I am also arranging an introductory meeting with Jo Churchill MP, the Minister for Public Health, and my Officials will contact her Private Office directly.

Yours sincerely,

Document 2

Briefing – Kit Malthouse MP 18 August 2021
Created 19 August 2021

MINISTER FOR DRUGS POLICY Meeting/Event Briefing

What	Meeting with Kit Malthouse MP
Who	Kit Malthouse Minister for Crime and Policing
When	Wednesday 18 th August - 11.45-12.30
Where	

Official support	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Content	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice] Annex A: Recent media coverage Annex B: Recent correspondence between Kit Malthouse and Minister for Drugs Policy - March – June 2021

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

- Kit Malthouse has also said that we should sign up to Project ADDER which takes a “tough approach” on drug couriers and dealers. (The DDTF are engaged with Project ADDERs learning and development group)

Document 3

Annex D A Person Centred Approach to Mental Health and Substance Use Debate
26 October
Created 13 October 2021

DRUG POLICY

ANNEX D

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Document 4

Ministerial – Drugs Briefing for Online Conference
Created 28 January 2021

Drugs Briefing for online Conference - Tackling Crime and Delivering Justice in
Scotland – Humza Yousaf

[OUT OF SCOPE]

The Drug Deaths Taskforce is already progressing work that is being proposed under Project ADDER diversion and recovery activity.

- The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.
- The Drug Deaths Taskforce will seek to participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which will help ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with the UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital issue of medically-supervised overdose prevention facilities.
- The Minister for Drugs Policy will meet with the UKG in February to discuss how both governments can work together to tackle drug deaths.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

Document 5

Debate – Legal Right to Recovery – 29 September 2021 – Briefing Pack
Created 29 September 2021

MINISTER FOR DRUGS POLICY

Debate – Legal Right to Recovery 29 September – Briefing

Event Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Debate – Legal Right to Recovery Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business: Health
Date/Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wednesday 29 September 4:00 – 5:00 – Minister to attend

Official support	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Comms support	n/a

Contents	[NOT IN SCOPE] Annex O: UK Government engagement [NOT IN SCOPE] Annex S: Lord Advocate Statement: Recorded Police Warnings [NOT IN SCOPE]
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UK GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.

- The Drug Deaths Taskforce will seek to participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which will help ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with the UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital issue of medically-supervised overdose prevention facilities.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[NOT IN SCOPE]

Lord Advocate Statement: Recorded Police Warnings

Annex S

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

The Drug Deaths Taskforce is already progressing work that is being proposed under Project ADDER diversion and recovery activity.

- The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.
- We welcome the focus under ADDER on diversion and recovery, areas Scotland already prioritise in our National Mission, having allocated £250 million to improving and saving lives over the course of this Parliament.
- The Drug Deaths Taskforce participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which helps ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital changes we have called for which will allow evidence based harm reduction approaches in Scotland, such as safer drug consumption facilities.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[NOT IN SCOPE]

Document 6

Ministerial Briefing – Health & Sport Committee – 4 March 2021 – COMPLETE
Created 8 March 2021

MINISTER FOR DRUGS POLICY Committee Briefing

Debate Title	Health & Sport Committee – evidence session
Date/Time	9 March, 10.00-11.00
Ministers	<i>Opening: Angela Constance</i>
Speaking Time	<i>Opening: 5 minutes</i>

Official support	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
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[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

Contents	[OUT OF SCOPE] <i>Annex K: UK Government engagement</i> [OUT OF SCOPE] <i>Annex N: Police Referral & Diversion</i> [OUT OF SCOPE] <i>Annex Y: Committee Information</i> [OUT OF SCOPE]
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[OUT OF SCOPE]

ANNEX K

UK GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.

- The Drug Deaths Taskforce will seek to participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which will help ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with the UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital issue of medically-supervised overdose prevention facilities.
- The Minister for Drugs Policy met with Mr Malthouse when she discussed a number of issues around our efforts to tackle drug deaths.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

POLICE REFERRAL AND DIVERSION FROM PROSECUTION

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Document 7

Debate – 17 June – Ministerial Briefing Pack
Created 14 June 2021

MINISTER FOR DRUGS POLICY Debate Briefing

Debate Title	Tackling Drug Related Deaths	
Date/Time	Thursday 17 June, 15.25-17.30	
Ministers	<i>Opening: Angela Constance</i>	<i>Closing: Angela Constance</i>
Speaking Time	<i>Opening: 13 minutes</i>	<i>Closing: 9 minutes</i>

Official support	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
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[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

Contents	[OUT OF SCOPE] <i>Annex K: UK Government engagement</i> [OUT OF SCOPE] <i>Annex N: Police Referral & Diversion</i> [OUT OF SCOPE]
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[OUT OF SCOPE]

ANNEX K

UK GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.

- The Drug Deaths Taskforce will seek to participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which will help ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with the UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital issue of medically-supervised overdose prevention facilities.
- The Minister for Drugs Policy met with Mr Malthouse when she discussed a number of issues around our efforts to tackle drug deaths.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

ANNEX N

POLICE REFERRAL AND DIVERSION FROM PROSECUTION

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Document 8

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Sent: 01 November 2021 17:03
To: Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>
Cc: Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Subject: RE: Drugs Policy Portfolio meeting - 2 Nov 2021 - Core brief updates

Please see attached [core brief update paper](#) for Portfolio tomorrow.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Attachment

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Project ADDER

- The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.
- The Drug Deaths Taskforce are active members of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, sharing learning with SG.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Document 9

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Sent: 28 September 2021 19:33
To: Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport <MinisterPHWHS@gov.scot>; DPH : Drugs Policy <DLHSCVDPHDP@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Subject: Project ADDER update

Minister

Please find attached the briefing you requested providing an update and further information on Project ADDER. I have also attached the initial briefing to the previous Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and Sport which advised on the decision not be involved in ADDER.

Thanks

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Attachment 1

UPDATE ON PROJECT ADDER

Purpose

1. To update on the progress of Project Adder and the planned expansion to new areas.

Priority

2. Routine.

Background

3. In January 2021, the UK Government launched Project ADDER (Addiction, Diversion, Disruption, Enforcement and Recovery). It was part of a £148 million package, with £40 million to tackle county lines and drug supply, £28 million to pilot ADDER and £80 million for drug treatment services right across England.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 29(1)a - Formulation/development of government policy]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
Minister for Drug Policy		X			
First Minister					X
Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans			X		
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care			X		
Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport			X		

DG Health and Social Care
DG Education and Justice
Director of Population Health
Director of Justice

Director for Safer Communities

Karen MacNee, Deputy Director for Health Improvement

Willie Cowan, Deputy Director for Criminal Justice

Wendy Wilkinson, Deputy Director for Safer Communities

Clare Hicks, Deputy Director for Police Division

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 28 - Substantial prejudice to UK relations]

Attachment 2

Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Cabinet Secretary for Justice

UPDATE ON PROJECT ADDER

Purpose

4. To update on developments from officials' meetings with the Home Office and to advise on Scottish Government's future involvement with Project Adder.

Priority

5. Routine – An announcement by the Home Office on Project Adder will be made in the new year with work in the pilot areas expected to start shortly after.

Background

6. You had previously met with Kit Malthouse MP to discuss Project Adder and information had been presented at the Ministerial meeting in September. The Home Office had proposed two pilot locations be considered in Scotland.

7. At that meeting you outlined to UK Ministers concerns about the enforcement focus, highlighting that this does not align with the Scottish health based approach. It was agreed that officials would discuss the detail of proposals.

Update

8. At a recent official level meeting, it was outlined that all of the £20m funding for Project Adder is attributed to the English pilots, with some funding for 'national outputs'. Where activity is undertaken in areas of devolved competence this should be managed within existing budgets. Therefore, there is no funding attributed to Scotland.

9. When questioned, it was suggested that where existing DDTF work aligned with Adder this could be redirected into the proposed Adder pilots.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

10. Officials have been provided with the delivery plans for the 4 English pilots and there is some work that would be of interest to the DDTF and SG. We would therefore propose that Scotland is represented by the DDTF at the learning network being established between pilot areas, to inform their future recommendations. Both the Chair and Vice-Chair of the DDTF are in agreement about this.

Recommendation

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 29(1)a - Formulation/development of government policy]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
Cabinet Secretary for Justice	X				
Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing and Sport	X				
Lord Advocate			X		
Cabinet Secretary for Health			X		
Minister for Mental Health			X		

DG Health and Social Care
 DG Education, Justice and Communities
 Director of Population Health
 Director of Justice
 Joe Griffin, Director for Safer Communities
 Karen MacNee, Deputy Director for Health Improvement
 Willie Cowan, Deputy Director for Criminal Justice
 Wendy Wilkinson, Deputy Director for Safer Communities
 Claire Hicks, Deputy Director for Police Division
 [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Document 10

Briefing – Bilateral between Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Minister for Drugs Policy – 13 January 2021

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING: HUMZA YOUSAF & ANGELA CONSTANCE

Engagement title	Introductory Ministerial bilateral meeting between Cabinet Secretary for Justice & Minister for Drugs Policy.
Engagement timing	09:00-10:00, Wednesday 13 January 2021.
Venue and full address	Via MS Teams (link in diary request & below)
Background/Purpose include invitation history	This is an introductory bilateral meeting between the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and the Minister for Drugs Policy. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss areas of mutual interest.
Attendees	Humza Yousaf MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice Angela Constance MSP, Minister for Drugs Policy [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Background Information	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

Annexes	POPULATION HEALTH DIRECTORATE [OUT OF SCOPE] Annex G – Project Adder [OUT OF SCOPE]
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[OUT OF SCOPE]

PROJECT ADDER

ANNEX G

Background: Information on Project Adder was presented at a Ministerial meeting in September. The project will pilot an intensive whole system approach to tackling drug misuse in select locations worst affected by drug misuse, alongside national activity to disrupt the middle market supply of drugs. The Home Office had proposed two pilot locations be considered in Scotland. However, we have concerns about the enforcement focus, highlighting that this does not align with the Scottish health based approach. A letter to the Drug Policy Minister from Kit Malthouse (6 Jan 2021) has asked for a for a meeting to discuss how Scottish Government involvement can be taken forward and the benefits it would bring.

- £20m funding for Project Adder is attributed to the English pilots. Where activity is undertaken in areas of devolved competence this should be managed within existing budgets. Therefore, there is no funding attributed to Scotland.
- We may not participate in Project Adder at this time due to the lack of funding and expectation that existing taskforce work would be rebranded under Project Adder
- Officials have been provided with the delivery plans for the 4 English pilots and there is work that would be of interest.
- We will propose that Scotland is represented by the taskforce at the learning network being established between pilot areas, to inform future recommendations.

The Scottish Drug Deaths Taskforce are very keen to be involved as a member of the Partnership Learning Network and we would be keen for joint Scottish Government and Taskforce representation in that Network.

- Our Serious Organised Crime Taskforce oversees work being carried out to reduce harm caused by serious organised crime in Scotland. The multi-agency group is chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for Justice.
- Police Scotland continue to work with agencies around the UK and internationally to take illegal substances off Scotland's streets and to dismantle the groups responsible and have had considerable success in tackling gangs supplying drugs.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Document 11

[Bilateral meeting Drugs and Justice - 13 January 2021 - readout shared with Ministers details - Objective ECM \(scotland.gov.uk\)](#)

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Sent: 03 February 2021 13:04
To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>; Minister for Mental Health <MinisterMH@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Bilat with MH / Justice / DP

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

I had prepared a read out following the meeting which I shared with officials but it had not gone to Ministers at that time.

Attached for ref if helpful to note. Apologies for not sharing sooner – I didn't receive any comments on it at the time.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Attachment

INTRODUCTORY MINISTERIAL BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN CABINET SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE & MINISTER FOR DRUGS POLICY

13 JANUARY 2021 (via Teams)

Mr Yousaf, Cabinet Secretary for Justice
Ms Constance, Minister for Drugs Policy
Joe Griffin, Director for Community Safety
Katherine Peskett, Director of Justice (job share)
[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Readout

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Ms Constance has a meeting later in January with Kit Malthouse MP, Home Office Minister leading on Drugs policy in E&W. The approach is more justice and enforcement orientated than in Scotland where the emphasis is on an public health approach. Mr Yousaf held discussions with Mr Malthouse and the previous Mr Fitzpatrick when Minister for Public Health and Sport around Project Adder. The role of police commissioners in England and Wales are quite different from Police Scotland, the Lord Advocate and COPFS in Scotland.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

January 2021

Document 12

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Sent: 07 December 2020 09:49

To: Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>;
Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Minister for
Mental Health <MinisterMH@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b -
Third party personal data] DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG
Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Director of Population
Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; Director of Justice
<DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party
personal data]

Subject: Submission on Project Adder

Minister and Cabinet Secretary

Please find attached a submission to update on Project Adder from recent discussions and advise on our future involvement with the initiative.

Many thanks

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Attachments

Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Cabinet Secretary for Justice

UPDATE ON PROJECT ADDER

Purpose

1. To update on developments from officials' meetings with the Home Office and to advise on Scottish Government's future involvement with Project Adder.

Priority

2. Routine – An announcement by the Home Office on Project Adder will be made in the new year with work in the pilot areas expected to start shortly after.

Background

3. You had previously met with Kit Malthouse MP to discuss Project Adder and information had been presented at the Ministerial meeting in September. The Home Office had proposed two pilot locations be considered in Scotland.

4. At that meeting you outlined to UK Ministers concerns about the enforcement focus, highlighting that this does not align with the Scottish health based approach. It was agreed that officials would discuss the detail of proposals.

Update

5. At a recent official level meeting, it was outlined that all of the £20m funding for Project Adder is attributed to the English pilots, with some funding for 'national outputs'. Where activity is undertaken in areas of devolved competence this should be managed within existing budgets. Therefore, there is no funding attributed to Scotland.

6. When questioned, it was suggested that where existing DDTF work aligned with Adder this could be redirected into the proposed Adder pilots.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

7. Officials have been provided with the delivery plans for the 4 English pilots and there is some work that would be of interest to the DDTF and SG. We would therefore propose that Scotland is represented by the DDTF at the learning network being established between pilot areas, to inform their future recommendations. Both the Chair and Vice-Chair of the DDTF are in agreement about this.

Recommendation

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 29(1)a - Formulation/development of government policy]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
Cabinet Secretary for Justice	X				
Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing and Sport	X				
Lord Advocate			X		
Cabinet Secretary for Health			X		
Minister for Mental Health			X		

DG Health and Social Care
 DG Education, Justice and Communities
 Director of Population Health
 Director of Justice
 Joe Griffin, Director for Safer Communities
 Karen MacNee, Deputy Director for Health Improvement
 Willie Cowan, Deputy Director for Criminal Justice
 Wendy Wilkinson, Deputy Director for Safer Communities
 Claire Hicks, Deputy Director for Police Division
 [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Document 13

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Justice
Sent: 15 December 2020 10:06
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; Crook M (Michael) <Michael.Crook@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Ministerial briefing - meeting with Kit Malthouse MP - 1 September 2020

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data],

To see attached letter from UKG.

Grateful if you could send up some advice for Mr Yousaf and Mr Fitzpatrick when practically possible.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
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 UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Justice
Sent: 15 September 2020 14:43
To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]; Cabinet Secretary for Justice ; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport ; Director of Population Health ;
Subject: RE: Ministerial briefing - meeting with Kit Malthouse MP - 1 September 2020

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data],

Mr Yousaf has noted and is content with the note for his interests.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

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 UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Sent: 14 September 2020 14:01
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>;
Subject: RE: Ministerial briefing - meeting with Kit Malthouse MP - 1 September 2020

Dear all,

Please see below for a brief write-up of this meeting (with thanks to [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] for taking the note).

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like more information about the points raised.

Thanks,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Sent: 31 August 2020 14:58
To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>
Subject: Ministerial briefing - meeting with Kit Malthouse MP - 1 September 2020

PS/Cabinet Secretary for Justice
PS/Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing

Ahead of the meeting on 1 September between the Cab Sec, Minister and UK Government Minister for Crime & Policing, Kit Malthouse MP, please find attached a briefing pack including contributions from Drugs Policy, Community Justice, Policing

and COPFS. Also attached is a copy of the slides on Project ADDER which Home Office colleagues shared with us in advance.

Officials supporting this meeting will be [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] (Drug Death and Harm Prevention).

Thanks,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Attachment

FAO Joe Fitzpatrick MSP & Humza Yousaf MSP,

Please find attached correspondence from Kit Malthouse MP, Minister for Crime and Policing for your consideration.

Many Thanks,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Correspondence

Kit Malthouse MP
Minister of State for Crime and Policing
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
www.gov.uk/home-office

Joe Fitzpatrick MSP
Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Joe.FitzPatrick.msp@parliament.scot
Humza Yousaf MSP,
Cabinet Secretary for Justice
CabSecJustice@gov.scot

By email only

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 28 - Substantial prejudice to UK relations]

Document 14

The Drug Deaths Taskforce is already progressing work that is being proposed under Project ADDER diversion and recovery activity.

- The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.
- We welcome the focus under ADDER on diversion and recovery, areas Scotland already prioritise in our National Mission, having allocated £250 million to improving and saving lives over the course of this Parliament.
- The Drug Deaths Taskforce participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which helps ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital changes we have called for which will allow evidence based harm reduction approaches in Scotland, such as safer drug consumption facilities.

[NOT IN SCOPE]

Document 15

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Core Brief/Weekly Update	
Team Name	Drug Deaths Taskforce Support Team
Team Leader	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Date	26/09/21

Core Brief
[OUT OF SCOPE]
<p><u>Project ADDER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.• The Drug Deaths Taskforce are active members of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, sharing learning with SG. <p>[OUT OF SCOPE]</p>

Document 16 (Attachment provided as part of Document 12)

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] **On Behalf Of** Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing

Sent: 14 December 2020 14:37

To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Minister for Mental Health <MinisterMH@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: RE: Submission on Project Adder

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data],

Apologies for the delay. Mr FitzPatrick is content to agree your recommendation.

Thanks

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Sent: 07 December 2020 09:49

To: Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing ; Cabinet Secretary for Justice

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport ; Minister for Mental Health ; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] DG Health & Social Care ; DG Education, Communities & Justice ; Director of Population Health ; Director of Justice ; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: Submission on Project Adder

Minister and Cabinet Secretary

Please find attached a submission to update on Project Adder from recent discussions and advise on our future involvement with the initiative.

Many thanks

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Document 17

Dear Kit Malthouse MP

Thank you for your letter on Project ADDER and your recent engagements with us on the topic of Scottish Government involvement in the project.

As you outlined in your letter, in the time since our meeting there have been productive discussions between Home Office and Scottish Government officials as well as with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Taskforce. These meetings have outlined the positive work proposed in the delivery plans, and we welcome the increased focus within these on the Diversion and Recovery elements of ADDER.

As we highlighted in our meeting, the Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use in Scotland. This is in line with recommendations from your own advisory body, the ACMD; the recommendations of two UK Parliamentary Committees, the Scottish Affairs Committee and the Health and Social Care Committee; as well as having the support of a significant number of experts and academics.

Since September 2019, under this public health approach, the Drug Deaths Taskforce has developed a number of tests of change that will align with the proposed Diversion and Recovery activity. This work preceded discussions on ADDER and we do not believe that combining this work into two pilot areas under the banner of Project ADDER will provide added value. The Taskforce continues to be evidence based in the work it supports and in the locations across Scotland where that work takes place.

Therefore, in the absence of additional funding as allocated to the English and Welsh pilots to develop new work, we do not believe we can support ADDER pilots in Scotland. Doing so would require the Scottish Government and the Taskforce to redirect existing work and undermine the established evidence based approach.

Our Serious Organised Crime Taskforce oversees work being carried out to reduce harm caused by serious organised crime in Scotland. The multi-agency group is chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for Justice.

Police Scotland work with agencies around the UK and internationally to take illegal substances off Scotland's streets and to dismantle the groups responsible and have had considerable success in tackling gangs supplying drugs. That includes through Operation Venetic, the most significant ever UK operation into serious and organised crime involving Police Scotland, the National Crime Agency (NCA) and police forces across the UK. By working in partnership, they have also been instrumental in seizing drugs elsewhere that were destined for Scotland's streets and arresting those involved. Police Scotland will continue to work collaboratively with agencies from around the UK in responding to the challenges of drug supply.

However, as you outlined, the Taskforce are very keen to be involved as a member of the Partnership Learning Network and we would be keen for joint Scottish Government and Taskforce representation in that Network.

We welcome your commitment to working together to tackle drug-related harms and deaths and look forward to working collaboratively to respond to this public health emergency.

Yours Sincerely

Document 18

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] **On Behalf Of** Minister for Drugs Policy

Sent: 01 October 2021 16:53

To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport <MinisterPHWHS@gov.scot>; DPH : Drugs Policy <DLHSCVDPHDP@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: RE: Project ADDER update

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Ms Constance noted your helpful email below.

Thanks,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

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 UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Sent: 30 September 2021 19:07

To: Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport <MinisterPHWHS@gov.scot>; DPH : Drugs Policy <DLHSCVDPHDP@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: RE: Project ADDER update

Hi [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)ii - Substantial inhibition to free and frank exchange of views]

Thanks

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]**On**

Behalf Of Minister for Drugs Policy

Sent: 30 September 2021 14:45

To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Cc: Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport <MinisterPHWHS@gov.scot>; DPH : Drugs Policy <DLHSCVDPHDP@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: RE: Project ADDER update

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data],

Ms Constance has noted your submission and content to approve the recommendations.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)ii - Substantial inhibition to free and frank exchange of views]

Grateful for your advice.

Thanks,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

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 UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]**Sent:** 28 September 2021 19:33

To: Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans <CabSecJV@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport <MinisterPHWHS@gov.scot>; DPH : Drugs Policy <DLHSCVDPHDP@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; Director of Safer Communities <DirectorofSaferCommunities@gov.scot>; [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: Project ADDER update

Minister

Please find attached the briefing you requested providing an update and further information on Project ADDER. I have also attached the initial briefing to the previous Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and Sport which advised on the decision not be involved in ADDER.

Thanks

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Document 19

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Sent: 28 September 2021 17:17

To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: Project ADDER update briefing

Hi Both

Please find attached a briefing on ADDER for the Minister, can you both cast an eye over.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data], [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)ii - Substantial inhibition to free and frank exchange of views]

Thanks

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Document 20

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Sent: 29 September 2021 13:21

To: Minister for Drugs Policy <MinisterDP@gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: RE: Briefing and Speeches for Tory Debate

Good afternoon [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data],

Please find attached an amended briefing pack for this afternoon's debate. I have also attached additional information on the classification of drugs.

Please see below for a link to a positive article on Naloxone, published today.

[TFN Magazine](#)

The Naloxone article contains the Minister's written piece.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

Thank you,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

[NOT IN SCOPE]

Attachment 1

MINISTER FOR DRUGS POLICY Debate – Legal Right to Recovery 29 September – Briefing

Event Title	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Debate – Legal Right to Recovery Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party Business: Health
Date/Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wednesday 29 September 4:00 – 5:00 – Minister to attend

Official support	[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Comms support	n/a

Contents	[OUT OF SCOPE] Annex C: Criminal Justice and the Law [OUT OF SCOPE]
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[OUT OF SCOPE]

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE LAW

ANNEX C

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

PROJECT ADDER

The Drug Deaths Taskforce is already progressing work that is being proposed under Project ADDER diversion and recovery activity.

- The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.
- We welcome the focus under ADDER on diversion and recovery, areas Scotland already prioritise in our National Mission, having allocated £250 million to improving and saving lives over the course of this Parliament.
- The Drug Deaths Taskforce participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which helps ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital changes we have called for which will allow evidence based harm reduction approaches in Scotland, such as safer drug consumption facilities.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Attachment 2

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Document 21

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Sent: 28 September 2021 14:18

To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Subject: RE: second chance plan/ project adder

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)ii - Substantial inhibition to free and frank exchange of views]

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]**Sent:** 28 September 2021 14:13

To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]**Subject:** second chance plan/ project adder

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 30(b)i - Substantial inhibition to free and frank provision of advice]

The Drug Deaths Taskforce is already progressing work that is being proposed under Project ADDER diversion and recovery activity.

ISSUE: The Daily Mail (20 Jan) reports that the 'SNP' has 'snubbed' the UK-wide Project ADDER (Addiction, Disruption, Enforcement and Recovery) which focuses on disrupting drug supply lines. The Daily Mail reports that Project ADDER is a 'whole system' response to reducing the spread and use of drugs.

- The Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use.
- The Drug Deaths Taskforce will seek to participate as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network, which will help ensure lessons can be shared across the 4 nations.
- We welcome the opportunity to work together with the UK Government on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and we encourage them to look again at the vital issue of medically-supervised overdose prevention facilities.
- The Minister for Drugs is due to meet with Mr Malthouse next week where she will wish to discuss a number of issues around our efforts to tackle drug deaths.

Document 22

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Sent: 17 December 2020 09:35
To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Subject: RE: project adder

Hi [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Please see below. Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

- Project ADDER is a UK Government initiative which will test an intensive whole-system approach to tackling substance use in locations with high levels of drug-related death.
- The programme will involve co-ordinated law enforcement activity, alongside expanded diversionary activity and treatment/recovery provision in the chosen project areas.
- ADDER will focus on a small number of geographies with the aim of reducing drug-related deaths, offending and prevalence, and build an evidence base of what works to roll the approach out further.
- The UK Government has identified £20 million to support Project ADDER but in official discussions it was outlined that all of this has been attributed to funding pilots in England. Where activity is undertaken in areas of devolved competence this should be managed within existing budgets. Therefore, there is no funding attributed to Scotland.
- Mr Yousaf and Mr FitzPatrick have both met with Kit Matlhouse MP, Minister for Policing in the Home Office, to discuss this project. Due to the lack of any additional funding coming to the Scottish Government to support any new work, Ministers have agreed not to participate in Project ADDER at this time (that has not been communicated to UK Government as yet)
- Information will be announced on Project ADDER by the UK Government in the new year (announcement expected in January)

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

From: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Sent: 17 December 2020 09:17
To: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Cc: [REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
Subject: project adder
Importance: High

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]
[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data] now wants to info on project adder for the FMQ brief – can you send that on to me asap please?

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 38(1)b - Third party personal data]

Document 23

[OUT OF SCOPE]

From: Public Enquiries (CD) <Public.Enquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 January 2021 11:32
To: Constance A (Angela), MSP <Angela.Constance.msp@parliament.scot>
Subject: Home Office Response

Good Morning,

Please find attached a letter from Kit Malthouse MP.

Kind regards,

Home Office Direct Communications Unit

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Attachment 1

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Attachment 2

Dear Kit Malthouse MP,

Thank you for your introductory letter dated 05 January 2021. In my new role as the Minister for Drug Policy in Scotland, working directly to the First Minister, I welcome the opportunity to meet with you and work on the areas where we are able to reduce the harms of drug use and address the unacceptable number of related deaths.

Setting out your position on overdose prevention facilities is helpful. I am aware of the on-going discussions around the introduction of these facilities between our governments. I am aware of the strong international evidence-base which supports these facilities. Although they are not a panacea to the complex set of challenges we face, when integrated into the wider work that is being taken forward in Scotland I believe they can be a crucial part of the solution.

We are looking at ways in which these facilities can be established through a proper legal framework. For example, we have been made aware of pilot overdose prevention facilities that are expected to be established in England, with two likely to be operational later this year. Whilst we recognise that the legal framework in Scotland is different, we are keen to have discussions with those developing these pilots to explore this further.

I have already asked my officials to look at this in more detail and to speak to relevant partners, including the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service and Police Scotland, in order to assess the feasibility of this approach in Scotland. I would welcome further discussion on this work.

I welcome the positive progress on easing access to naloxone distribution by the Department of Health and Social Care and the work led by the National Crime Agency in developing strategies to counter illicit pill production across the UK. I look forward to more details and any suggestions on how we can work together to help progress these further.

As you are aware, the Scottish Government has taken a different approach to the UK Government, implementing a public health approach to drug use in Scotland. This is in line with recommendations from the ACMD; the recommendations of two UK Parliamentary Committees, the Scottish Affairs Committee and the Health and Social Care Committee; as well as a significant number of experts and academics.

Since September 2019, under this public health approach, the Drug Deaths Taskforce are already progressing work that is well underway and will align with the Project ADDER diversion and recovery activity. We do not believe that combining this work under the banner of Project ADDER would provide added value. Doing so would require us to redirect our existing work and undermine the established evidence based approach. However, the involvement of the Drug Deaths Taskforce as a member of the Project ADDER Partnership Learning Network will provide an opportunity for us all to share emerging developments and to learn from each other.

I welcome your commitment to working together to tackle drug-related harms and deaths and look forward to meeting with you to discuss what we can do collectively to respond to this public health emergency. I am also arranging an introductory meeting with Jo Churchill MP, the Minister for Public Health, and my Officials will contact her Private Office directly.

Yours sincerely,

Attachment 3

Kit Malthouse MP
Minister of State for
Crime and Policing
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
[www.gov.uk/home-](http://www.gov.uk/home-office)
office

Angela Constance MSP
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 28 - Substantial prejudice to UK relations]