

## Email Correspondence 20 December 2021

**From:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 20 December 2021 18:45  
**To:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: In Confidence: Jubilee Book Proposed Content

[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

The main thing is, we really need proper time to consider the full text itself when you have it which we understand will be week beginning 21 Feb? You'll appreciate [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)] and I are hardly experts in Scottish history and nuances of constitutional concerns, and we must have time to circulate properly. You will also have picked up the interest from ministers and spads on our side. The risk of not doing that is that issues get picked up by press or politicians after publication and nobody wants that, especially around children and the Jubilee. Please can you make sure we get at least a fortnight to consider the full draft, and opportunity to see further drafts if there are substantive changes? Happy to discuss this, depending on the actual timetable, but I wanted to make clear that we need more time than we've had this time.

Also, I would be grateful for further details of how you are making sure there's a balanced portrayal of events, within the UK and within the wider Commonwealth, particularly around constitutional matters and around the tone and presentation of issues relating to minority groups. I note you have previously said you intend to involve a history teacher, [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)], in the QA work. I would imagine the Palace would have both an interest and all the right experience to help us all avoid potential missteps in this, although I wouldn't know myself where to find the right person to talk to (!). Are you in contact with people with Royal and constitutional expertise? I note the Royal Collection Trust are Board members. What is the QA process going to look like?

In terms of specific feedback on the outline itself:

- The draft content refers to Queen Elizabeth II. In Scotland, Her Majesty is referred to as 'Her Majesty, The Queen' (She is not the second Queen Elizabeth here). It would be appropriate to note the differences of stylings in some way in the text.
- Chapter 4 intends to include an information box on Brexit and the UK leaving the European Union. Given the highly divisive nature of this, in Scotland and Northern Ireland in particular, we suggest removing this.

Thanks

[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
Curriculum, Qualifications and Gaelic Division  
Scottish Government  
[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

## Email Correspondence 10 January 2022

**From:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 10 January 2022 18:18

**To:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: In Confidence: Queen's Jubilee Book second draft manuscript/batch one spreads

Hi [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

Thanks for sight of these. Please see attached some speedy comments from colleagues attached, including notes on style from my colleagues in protocol. I have shared your material with Ministers and Spads given their interest, but not had direct responses as yet. The attached and below reflect initial comments from officials and I will share comments from Ministers when I have them.

As I mentioned when we discussed briefly, our chief concern with this is the tone. While we do appreciate the desire to take a positive tone, it can't be so positive it comes across as wilfully euphemistic.

As examples, it feels odd to reference the abolition of slavery in the UK without in any way recognising that British people had been major owners of enslaved people and major beneficiaries of enslavement. Similarly, the reference to the UK having been 'developed' in 1922 glosses over a complex and contested history – as drafted, it sounds like the UK appeared fully formed at that date; it needs further nuance.

While we acknowledge this is aimed at primary school children and that limits the complexity and the thoroughness, the text has to leave the reader with the overall understanding that while there is much to be proud of in British history ancient and modern. It isn't all positive and there are difficult and contested areas too which very much still matter today – not to do so will result in negative reception. The children reading will be highly diverse, from many different backgrounds including Commonwealth and other heritages, and they deserve to see some of their complexity reflected here too.

We were struck on reading that 'progress' is articulated mainly through technological change and popular events, and that there is little on the social changes over the last 70 years. There is a really positive story to tell about equality (in a very functional way, the sex discrimination act, equalities act, equal marriage) and inclusion (could this be an opportunity to link to commonwealth immigration and windrush...?), and things like advances in health care and life expectancy too. (I note the inclusion of the Succession to the Crown Act, but this does not affect every day citizens.) In terms of maintaining the length of the text, we feel that this would be a better use of space than the London tour bit, which is particularly (south eastern) anglo centric.

Another thing that seems a bit lacking is bringing it up to date – the book cannot omit the pandemic which is such a huge part of children's lived reality at present, and it feels odd not to mention the climate emergency as well. Climate change is a particular concern for Prince Charles, so it seems a natural inclusion.

We remain concerned about the Brexit reference although I appreciate you have sought to make sure it is as factual and minimal as possible. It is not integrated into the narrative at present. We still feel it should be removed, and if that is not possible it must be better contextualised.

Overall, we are concerned about the QA process for this book. I know DK are engaging a history teacher, but just one person making decisions about what events to include and not include and how to nuance the text is not adequate to ensure the text is likely to be adequately balanced and hence be well received. The windows timetabled for comment are so short that it has so far been impossible to engage with experts with regard to the detail. The comments here and in the attached are from civil servants, not experts in history teaching. We will identify suitable individuals to contribute and will share subsequent drafts with them.

Thanks

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Curriculum, Qualifications and Gaelic Division

Scottish Government

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## Email Correspondence 21 January 2022

**From:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 21 January 2022 11:26

**To:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: Jubilee book manuscript - for feedback by 2pm, 21 January

Hi [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)],

Please see attached SG feedback on the latest manuscript draft.

Many thanks,

[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Email Correspondence 1 February 2022**

**From:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 01 February 2022 18:02  
**To:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: Jubilee Book Manuscript - Draft 4

[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

Thanks for this. Appreciate where feedback has been taken on board.

We have no further feedback to provide on this latest draft.

Many thanks,

[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

## Email Correspondence 9 February 2022

**From:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** 09 February 2022 17:15  
**To:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Cc:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]  
**Subject:** RE: Jubilee book - acknowledgements page

Hi [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

Thanks for checking in and I understand why you'd have started with that suggestion – but the Scottish Government is not content to be acknowledged at all in the development or production of this book. Please can you remove the reference?

Thanks

[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

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Curriculum and Qualifications Division  
Scottish Government  
[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Email Correspondence 10 February 2022**

**From:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 10 February 2022 17:58

**To:** [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: Jubilee book - Change to historic timeline

Hi [Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)],

Suggestion is to include the opening of the Forth Railway Bridge in 1890.

Many thanks,

[Redacted: Section 38(1)(b)]

## Feedback Provided As Attachments to Emails

<u>Email Date Sent</u>	<u>Original Text</u>	<u>Feedback provided</u>
10 January 2022	“It was developed in 1922 as one united country made up of four smaller”	The word ‘developed’ is problematic, and the whole sentence glosses over drawn out, violent and contested events. Suggest instead language that makes clear the formation of the UK was a complex process, but that the UK looks as we know it now since 1922 when the republic of Ireland separated from the rest of the UK. (Wikipedia informs me it was not named the ‘UK of GB and NI’ until 1927!)
10 January 2022	“The Coronation was the ceremony to honour Princess Elizabeth becoming Queen Elizabeth II.”	Suggest that at this stage it’s just ‘becoming Queen’, to avoid the question of titles until it is explained
10 January 2022	“• 1649: People see that a King cannot rule without Parliament, as Charles I is executed”	This reads oddly – ‘see’?
10 January 2022	“• 1884: Third Reform Act means that nearly two-thirds of all men can vote”	This is not just in England. And there is no ref to women’s suffrage in the timeline?
10 January 2022	“• 1917: House of Windsor begins – and continues to this day with Queen Elizabeth II’s”	This isn’t just English and seems odd to pick out
10 January 2022	<p>“Scotland timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 685 CE: The Picts win the Battle of Dun Nechtain, keeping the Saxons and Angles out of Scotland</li> <li>• 802 CE: the Vikings burn the monastery at Iona</li> <li>• 1297: William Wallace leads the Scots to victory over the English</li> <li>• 1328: England sees Scotland as an independent country in the Treaty of Northampton”</li> </ul>	<p>Not always clear what is driving the choices of events here – would like to discuss. In particular, seems odd to omit the Scottish enlightenment and the Jacobite rebellions?</p> <p>Scotland was not one country at this point, and actually there were Anglian Kingdoms in SE Scotland. Remove reference?</p> <p>Not sure what this is supposed to convey? ‘England sees’ is vague and Anglo centric</p>
10 January 2022	“So our Queen is in charge of the UK today . But now I’m	The Queen is not ‘in charge’ in our constitutional system – appreciate that is

	wondering... who ruled these four nations in the past?"	explained elsewhere but this reference could be misleading.
10 January 2022	"The great thing about having lots of different monarchs and separate histories of the UK countries is that they all come together in a huge melting pot of wonderfully different cultures."	True, could continue this theme later with reference to later waves of immigration and discussion of the Commonwealth
10 January 2022	"Lochs in Scotland"	Given the others are specific, can we reference Loch Ness maybe? Or another Loch which a more Royal connection?
10 January 2022	"or through its wide range of protected World Heritage sites, like Hadrian's Wall, Stonehenge, and Kew Gardens."	These are all in England
10 January 2022	"Edinburgh Castle/ Holyroodhouse/ Canongate Kirk/ kilts (Scotland)"	All in Edinburgh – Loch Ness or Loch Lomond would have a similar level of reach I would think?
10 January 2022	"Pakistani politician Benazir Bhutto (1953–2007) was her country's first female Prime Minister when she took charge in 1988, as well as the first ever female Muslim head of government. She served as Prime Minister twice for a total period of five years."	She was also assassinated, which should surely be mentioned
10 January 2022	"Royal rulers"	Maybe a Scottish one to add balance? David? Robert 1?
10 January 2022	Victoria (years as Queen 1837–1901)	Not sure what to title her, but should note she ruled over more of what is now the UK than those previously mentioned
10 January 2022	"The first monarch of the entire UK was much more recent – King George V in 1922."	This is misleading. George iii was the first monarch to rule over what is now the entire UK – and the rest of Ireland too.
10 January 2022	"When a ruler died, the power automatically passed on to their eldest child. Some countries, such as England, still have a monarchy, but today it is slightly different."	This is not true. It has only been the law in the UK since 2013, as made clear later on.
10 January 2022	"Parliamentary duties"	This gives the impression that there is only one parliament.

10 January 2022	“When a general election has been won by a political party , The Queen asks the leader of the party to become Prime Minister and to create a new government.”	Coalitions?
10 January 2022	Oh no! Isabella was supposed to meet them today, but had lost track of time. Rhys had travelled all the way from Wales to visit her for half term! Great Granny Isla answered the door and Isabella gave her friends and her cousin a quick hug. “I’m so sorry, I slept over here last night!” “No problem Issy, your Mum knew where you were so she dropped us off here,” said Rhys, encouragingly.”	This is a weird segue and makes Isabella suddenly seem a lot older...? Can they just all arrange to come round and meet Great Granny?
10 January 2022	The family do a sightseeing bus tour of London, visiting places related to The Queen, including a mini, simplified map of London showing the locations of Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, London Eye.	This is very anglo, not to say London, centric – could it be replaced with something about social change through the Queen’s reign? Inclusion, equalities. Could also use space for reflecting on current events affecting the UK and hence the monarchy – e.g. the pandemic and climate change, and potentially Brexit (although we would still prefer this removed)
10 January 2022	“I worked in in a hospital after World War II. I was very young, but there was a shortage of nurses. We all had to step up and do our part.”	Not quite sure what’s intended here – is great granny supposed to be a volunteer or is she working in the hospital? If the latter, ‘worked in’ is much more empowered, both as a woman and a person of colour for the time Could reference the beginning of the NHS here – its foundation predates the Queen’s reign but not her lifetime
10 January 2022	“Isabella popped a tamarind ball into her mouth, “This is delicious. Where did you learn to cook like this?”	This is the first indication in the text that the characters are non-white, although clearly it’s obvious in the artwork. While this is welcome, it is strange not to have any discussion on this e.g. around the family tree element which could be an opportunity to discuss inwards immigration and the richness of british culture as a result

10 January 2022	<p>“I agree, Isabella. That’s why when a group of women called the Suffragettes started fighting for equality, people were so excited.”</p> <p>Isabella stopped eating for a second. This was another new word.</p> <p>“The Suffragettes were a group of brave women who fought for women to have the right to vote. They chained themselves to railings and interrupted events to get people’s attention, and it worked! Now, when you turn 18, you can vote too – and you’ve got the suffragette sisterhood to thank.”</p>	<p>Good to have this referenced but it’s all predating the queen’s reign – what about the sex discrimination act instead? Equalities act, equal marriage...</p> <p>Actually 16 for Scottish Parliament and local elections</p>
10 January 2022	<p>“So much has happened over these last couple of years!”</p>	<p>Reads weirdly, especially given the pandemic. ‘since the millennium’? ‘in my lifetime’?</p>
10 January 2022	<p>“• 1931 Commonwealth of Nations Parliament introduces a law recognising the British Empire’s overseas territories as equal with Britain, known as the Commonwealth of Nations.”</p>	<p>This is a specific term and applies to a subset of those who are members of the commonwealth – suggest seeking expert advice on this</p>
10 January 2022	<p>“Europe (VE) Day.”</p>	<p>Ref VJ as well?</p>
10 January 2022	<p>“• 2002 Royal tragedy The Queen’s Mother dies aged 101.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While it was a sad event, ‘tragedy’ reads as a little tabloid when describing the death of very old lady</li> </ul>
10 January 2022	<p>“• 2012 London Olympics”</p>	<p>Include Glasgow Commonwealth games?</p>
10 January 2022	<p>“Great Granny introduces the main British charities supported by the Royal Family, including BookTrust, Barnados, Friends of the Elderly, and Save the Children, with supporting information about them.”</p>	<p>I believe all of these have done particular work during the pandemic – could reference here</p>
10 January 2022	<p>“Britain joined in 1973 and 20 years later the EEC merged into the European Union (EU).”</p>	<p>merge’ is misleading – my drafting attempting to be clearer, there are likely better formations:</p>

		Britain joined the EEC in 1973 and when the EEC became part of the new European Union (EU) in 1993, Britain became part of the EU too.
10 January 2022	“• 1929 Air conditioning Offices and houses could keep cool in the sizzling summer heat with the arrival of small air conditioning units by American company Frigidaire.”	Doesn't seem relevant in the UK?
10 January 2022	“• 2007 Smart thermostat heating The heating can now be turned on at home without anyone being there via a smartphone.”	Unnecessary, and maybe triggering for anyone experiencing poverty
10 January 2022	“Ruth Bader Ginsburg becoming the second female Supreme Court Justice”	This is a strange lurch into American history – better demonstrations of advances in equality in the UK
10 January 2022	“Ooooh look at the England football team there at Wembley in 1966.”	This is another mention of an event that doesn't seem to merit this level of exposure – and it's not that relevant in the non-England parts of the UK
10 January 2022	“I even came across an article about The Queen being awarded the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Women of Leadership Award for everything she has done for the people of the Commonwealth.”	Is this why the RBG ref? It seems a bit shoehorned
10 January 2022	This means that the UK government has some authority across all of the nations, but their separate governments have many powers over their own countries, such as running the NHS or choosing designing the school curriculum.	Actually, we devolve the curriculum to schools – but we do design the framework at SG level, so happier with this which hopefully still works for others
10 January 2022	“A Knighthood or Damehood is the greatest title that The Queen can give anyone .	Not true? Peerages?
10 January 2022	“It's not just Knighthoods and Damehoods that are awarded to remarkable people. Special honours such as OBE, MBE, and CBE are also given to recognise people's achievements. For example”	Are those listed below representative across the UK?

21 January 2022	N/A	Reference spread of royal places to visit - Scotland - should include the Palace of Hollyroodhouse
21 January 2022	N/A	As part of the mention of St Edwards Chair we may wish to include the Stone of Scone/Stone of Destiny, traditionally used to crown Scottish kings, taken by Edward I (Hammer of the Scots) and incorporated into the chair, returned to Scotland in 1996.
21 January 2022	N/A	Refers to Scottish Highlands - could we refer to Scottish Highlands and Islands?
21 January 2022	N/A	"Romans build Hadrians Wall to keep the tribes in the northern part of GB out of Empire" - historically this is a contested statement. There are other theories as to why it was built e.g to define the limits of the Empire; as a trading frontier.
21 January 2022	N/A	397 AD - Scotlands first Christian Church set up - flexibility around this date - placed around 394 AD by Keay, J and J (editors). Collins Encyclopaedia of Scotland. HarperCollins. 1994.
21 January 2022	N/A	802 AD - First raid considered to be in 795 AD
21 January 2022	N/A	1696: Act of Scottish Parliament sets up a school in every parish in Scotland - can we change this to 'legislates for a school in every parish'
21 January 2022	N/A	Mary Queen of Scots - suggest changing "proved unpopular" to "proved difficult"
21 January 2022	N/A	"Macbeth seized the throne..." Suggest changing "fair ruler" to "competent ruler". Suggested based on Harvie, C. Scotland, A Short History. OUP. 2002.
21 January 2022	N/A	Within history and culture all the Scottish references relate to Edinburgh. Could include Loch Ness here.
21 January 2022	N/A	There were kings and queens in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, too. Her Majesty is also descended from Kenneth MacAlpin, whose reign saw the beginnings of a united Scotland. Suggested word change based on MacInnes, A I. A History of Scotland. MacMillan. 2019.

21 January 2022	N/A	Parliamentary Duties - we previously highlighted that the way this is worded presents 'Parliament' as there only being one Parliament. Devolution is referenced before this but not until page 42. Could we include the following line before the bullets: In addition to playing a specific role in the UK Parliament based in London, The Queen has formal roles with relation to the legislatures of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
21 January 2022	N/A	Include 2014 - Commonwealth Games - Glasgow hosted the 20th Commonwealth Games
21 January 2022	N/A	Queens quote - "I hope people will think very carefully about the future". This quote was widely seen as the Queen making comment on the referendum and we recommend removing to avoid further controversy. Without any context it can be presented as a general quote on the future but for those aware or for those who research it, it is likely to stoke controversy. In addition, these words attributed to the Queen have never been confirmed or acknowledged. Though widely reported at the time and since, the inclusion would infer some sort of official confirmation that the words were used by the Queen, which risks contradicting the Palace's official position

<b>Dates of Informal Information Sharing Meetings with Department for Education</b>
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17 September 2021
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8 December 2021
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8 February 2022
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7 March 2022
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