

Annex

Document 1

From: [REDACTED]sinnfein.ie

Sent: 21 June 2022 16:11

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Re: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: Invitation from Michelle O'Neill MLA

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email in relation to the Freedom of Information request.

We are content for the correspondence to be released in line with legislative requirements.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

Head of Office

Office of Sinn Féin vice-president Michelle O'Neill MLA

On Tue, 21 Jun 2022 at 14:41, <[REDACTED]@gov.scot > wrote:

Good Afternoon,

I just wanted to let you know that this letter will be published alongside briefing for the FM on the 20th May as part of an FOI request on all correspondence in relation to the meeting itself. We will of course redact email addresses.

I do hope this doesn't cause any issues.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]sinnfein.ie

Sent: 18 May 2022 14:07

To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Nicola Sturgeon MSP

18 May 2022

Nicola Sturgeon MSP

First Minister

Scottish Government

St Andrew's House

Regent Road

Edinburgh

EH1 3DG

FirstMinister@gov.scot

Dear First Minister,

I thought it best to write to you personally following our recent Assembly elections earlier this month, and to set out my commitment to advancing the already strong relationship that we both enjoy, and how we may develop our intergovernmental relations in the time ahead.

I know that we both share a commitment to helping workers and families through our leadership and action in order to help lift the burden of those struggling during this difficult cost of living crisis, and to ensure that where local Ministers do not have the powers to act that we make sure the Conservative Government in London do so for the many thousands who depend on our support.

Regrettably at this time our Assembly, Executive and other political institutions are not yet functioning due to the DUP boycott, despite the electorate having spoken very clearly and who demand that the parties form a Government to get down to business without delay.

However, those of us who are committed to the values of genuine power-sharing and equality are determined that democracy will not be delayed for much longer, and I very much look forward to strengthening the close bonds of friendship that those of us on this island share with the people of Scotland, and that our administrations can work together in our shared interests.

I would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you in person at a time of mutual convenience to discuss this common agenda for change.

Best wishes,

Michelle O'Neill
First Minister (Designate)

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Oifig Leas-Uachtarán Shinn Féin | Michelle O'Neill CTR | 53-55 Bóthar na bhFál, Béal Feirste
BT12 4PD | [REDACTED]

Office of Sinn Féin Vice-President | Michelle O'Neill MLA | 53-55 Falls Road, Belfast BT12 4PD |
[REDACTED]

Document 2

From: [REDACTED]@sinnfein.ie

Sent: 19 March 2022 08:29

Subject: Failure by this British government to deliver Acht Gaeilge will be a new act of deceit – [REDACTED]

Dear friend, here is the link to **my latest blog** <https://www.anphoblacht.com/contents/28292#.YjWRaGfaMug.gmail> which was published yesterday by the online edition of **An Phoblacht**.

This article discusses the duplicity and deceit on the part of the British government over its failure to deliver implementation of Acht Gaeilge (Irish language act) in the north of Ireland during the last nine months.

A **press statement** issued in association with this blog can be accessed at sinnfein.ie/contents/63317

I have attached a word version of this same piece for your information.

Please share this material with your colleagues and friends.

Stay safe. With regards. [REDACTED]



Virus-free. www.avg.com

Document 3

From: [REDACTED] sinnfein.ie

Sent: 02 March 2022 08:05

Subject: Civility and political differences should not be mutually exclusive - Reflecting on our politics & [REDACTED]

Dear friend, here is the link to **my most recent blog** <https://www.anphoblacht.com/contents/28266#.Yh8in2SiYE4.gmail> which was published by the online edition of **An Phoblacht** last night.

This article offers some reflections on the importance of courtesy, civility and respect in politics notwithstanding political differences, especially in the north of Ireland; and with reference to the sudden death of a young unionist politician just over a week ago.

I have attached a word version of this same piece for your information.

Please feel free to share this material with your colleagues and friends.

Stay safe. With regards, [REDACTED]



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Document 4

From: Office of the Sinn Féin Vice President [REDACTED]sinnfein.ie

Sent: 18 May 2022 14:07

To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: Nicola Sturgeon MSP

18 May 2022

Nicola Sturgeon MSP
First Minister
Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG
FirstMinister@gov.scot

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Best wishes,

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First Minister (Designate)

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Oifig Leas-Uachtarán Shinn Féin | Michelle O'Neill CTR | 53-55 Bóthar na bhFál, Béal Feirste BT12 4PD | [REDACTED]

Office of Sinn Féin Vice-President | Michelle O'Neill MLA | 53-55 Falls Road, Belfast BT12 4PD | [REDACTED]

Document 5

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Sent: 21 June 2022 14:42

To: [REDACTED] sinnfein.ie

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: Invitation from Michelle O'Neill MLA

Importance: High

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Office of Sinn Féin Vice-President | Michelle O'Neill MLA | 53-55 Falls Road, Belfast BT12 4PD |
[REDACTED]

Document 6

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 June 2022 16:13

To: Office of the Sinn Féin Vice President [REDACTED]sinnfein.ie

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: Invitation from Michelle O'Neill MLA

Thank you [REDACTED]

Appreciate the quick response.

[REDACTED]

📧: [REDACTED]

From: Office of the Sinn Féin Vice President [REDACTED]sinnfein.ie

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To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

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BT12 4PD | [REDACTED]

Office of Sinn Féin Vice-President | Michelle O'Neill MLA | 53-55 Falls Road, Belfast BT12 4PD |
[REDACTED]

Document 7

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: 19 May 2022 20:10

To: [REDACTED] sinnfein.ie

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Subject: Plan for Friday

Importance: High

[REDACTED]

Obviously these times are fluid and can be changed as and when needed but the plan – as I believe it to be – for tomorrow is;

1300 arrival – The First Minister will meet and greet Ms O'Neill on the steps of Bute House. Is Stephen the best person to liaise with on arrival times? (he can text me when he is close) And do you have an indication on how you will be arriving? (Private hire car or Taxi?)

1310 – meeting with First Minister, Michelle O’Neill in drawing room of Bute House – establishment shots to be taken of meeting about to commence – we will then invite the media to leave to allow the meeting to continue.

1400 – meeting concludes (although this is not a hard deadline – it can be before or later)

1405 – Maybe media interviews with outlets to be confirmed - likely BBC, STV, Channel 4. We will split them into two rooms to allow interviews to take place simultaneously.

1445 – wash up meeting with FM and Ms O’Neill

1500 – Free to depart.

Happy to discuss if there is any issues with anything and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist with anything.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Senior Private Secretary to the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrew’s House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]



Office of the First Minister of Scotland

FirstMinister.gov.scot

Prìomh Mhinistear na h-Alba

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

Document 8

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: 19 May 2022 13:12

To: Office of the Sinn Féin Vice President <[REDACTED]@sinnfein.ie >; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Nicola Sturgeon MSP

FAO of [REDACTED],

Thank you for the letter below. As you would no doubt expect, we have sought formal advice on the meeting and will respond substantively as soon as possible.

On a potential agenda, I expect the First Minister would find it useful to hear from Ms O’Neill how progress can be made in the formation of the new Northern Ireland Executive. I also expect the First

Minister would find it helpful to hear Ms O'Neill's views on the operation of the Northern Ireland Protocol and, particularly, on the impact of any action by the UK Government in relation to Article 16 or their mooted legislation. As the letter from Ms O'Neill highlights, the cost of living crisis is impacting people across these islands and a joint discussion of how intergovernmental relations can be deployed to best effect in pursuit of appropriate UK Government action would be valuable.

This gives a potential agenda of;

- Formation of as new Northern Ireland Executive
- Operation of the Northern Ireland Protocol
- Intergovernmental Relations

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any queries.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

First Minister Private Office | [REDACTED]

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