

## ANNEX A

### INFORMATION FOR RELEASE FOR FOI 202200325019

*The below are in-scope extracts of two discussion notes that relate to the request, with redactions where exemptions under FOISA apply. Where material has been excluded as irrelevant to the request, this is indicated by “[redacted – out of scope]”.*

#### EXTRACT A

Note - meeting between Martin Johnson, EU Directorate and [REDACTED - section 30(b), free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views; section 32(1)(a), substantial prejudice to international relations] 26.09.22

[REDACTED – out of scope]

Constitutional prospectus - I gave an update on the sequencing since June and plans for autumn and beyond - noting Ministers were still taking decisions on substance and choreography. I also updated on the process around the reference to the SC. I emphasised that any route - including Plan C around using the next GE as a ‘de facto’ referendum - would be legal and legitimate. There were no circumstances in which Scottish Ministers would depart from that. [REDACTED 30(b)(ii), substantial inhibition to free and frank exchange of views; section 29(1)(a), formulation or development of government policy; section 29(1)(a), formulation or development of government policy].

#### EXTRACT B

Note - meeting between Martin Johnson, EU Directorate and [REDACTED - section 30(b), free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views; section 32(1)(a), substantial prejudice to international relations] 07.02.2022

[REDACTED – out of scope]

#### **Constitutional Issues**

- I set out the PfG position on the constitution, and spoke candidly about Minister’s plans for the coming 18 months. I stressed Ministers’ clear view that: 1) any referendum would need to be legally and constitutionally sound, and internationally recognised; 2) on accession, our Ministers recognised that there was a process that any applicant would need to follow, though felt Scotland would be well placed to move through it relatively quickly. [REDACTED section 32(1)(a), substantial prejudice to international relations section 30(b)(ii) - substantial inhibition to free and frank exchange of views]
- [REDACTED, section 29(1)(a), formulation or development of government policy; section 30(b)(ii), substantial inhibition to free and frank exchange of views]