

FOI request: 202300367955

FOI request 21 July 2023:

At FMQs on 22nd June 2023, the First Minister made a false statement about Scotland's share of the UK's renewables.

Please provide all correspondence sent by the First Minister to the Presiding Officer and other MSPs notifying them of his false statement and proposed correction to the Official Report.

Please also provide all internal Scottish Government (including Civil Servants, Special Advisers, and Press Officers) discussion of the false statement and how it should be corrected.

Correction request:

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot <[Redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of**
[Redacted]@gov.scot

Sent: 21 July 2023 13:07

To: OfficialReport <Official.Report@parliament.scot>

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Subject: FM request for a corrections to be added to the Official Report 22/06/2023

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Good afternoon,

During First Ministers Questions on the 22 June the First Minister responded to a question from Mr Anas Sarwar MSP around proposals for the energy transition.

In response to Mr Sarwar's question FM stated '*Of course a GB energy company would be based in Scotland, because we have the majority of the renewables and natural resources here*'.

FM would like to request that the official record is amended to state

'Of course a GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables per capita and the natural resources here in Scotland'.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Office of the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

M: [Redacted]



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FirstMinister.gov.scot
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Email chain 1:

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 1:16 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record URGENT

Hi [Redacted],

Fantastic! In that case I can issue the FOI as the FOI says that we've requested to change our the record not that the change has been approved if that makes sense

Thanks so much for your help with this.

Best,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 1:08 PM
To: [Redacted]@gov.scot; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record URGENT

Hi [Redacted],

I have sent the request asking that the official record be amended to the relevant team, I will revert back to you when I have a response.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Office of the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

[Redacted]



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FirstMinister.gov.scot

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From: [Redacted]@gov.scot

Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 12:33 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy

<CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment

<MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero

<DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Frances Pacitti

<Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot;

[Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot;

[Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Callum McCaig

<Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record URGENT

Importance: High

Callum – FOI for your urgent clearance attached

Hi [Redacted],

I have confirmed with OCEA colleagues that they are happy from a statistics perspective for the text to be:

Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables per capita and the natural resources here in Scotland

I have attached a draft correction letter that will need to be sent from FMPO to the following:

Presiding officers

Business managers

Minister for Parliamentary Business

Alex Cole Hamilton

SPICe

Liam Kerr
Anas Sarwar

Will this be able to be send ASAP today so that I can get the FOI out?

Callum: are you content with the proposed FOI response please?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

Attached document

Rt Hon Humza Yousaf MSP
First Minister of Scotland



St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh
EH1 3DG
T: 0300 244 4000

Alison Johnstone MSP
The Presiding Officer
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

By email:
presidingofficers@parliament.scot

Our ref: «Ourref»
«Date»

Dear Presiding Officer

At First Ministers Questions on the 22 June I responded to a question from Mr Anas Sarwar MSP around proposals for the energy transition.

In response to Mr Sarwar's question I stated 'Of course a GB energy company would be based in Scotland, because we have the majority of the renewables and natural resources here'.

I have now realised this is incorrect. I had intended to say '*Ofcourse a GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables per captia and the natural resources here in Scotland*'.

I would like to apologise for this error. I have copied this letter to Mr Sarwar and Mr Liam Kerr MSP. I am also sending a copy of this letter to the Minister for Parliamentary Business, Business Managers along with Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP.

I am also placing a copy of this letter in SPICe

«Signature»

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 9:42 AM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks for this. I'm currently checking with the OCEA team as to whether we need to provide any further advice on the proposed line.

In regards to the correction letter my understanding following discussion with colleagues in PO for minister for parliamentary business is that the letter requesting the correction needs to come from yourselves but I'll send as draft for you once I've got confirmation from OCEA.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot on behalf of First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 8:23:00 AM
To: [Redacted]@gov.scot; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy

<CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment
<MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero
<DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>;
[Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Frances Pacitti
<Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Ragne Low
<Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot;
[Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot;
[Redacted]@gov.scot; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Callum McCaig
<Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Good morning [Redacted],

Following our discussion yesterday I have had a further discussion with FM. Can I ask that you make a request for a correction to the record as follows:

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables per capita and the natural resources here in Scotland.”

Many thanks,
[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Office of the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

[Redacted]



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From: [Redacted]@gov.scot

Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2023 4:30 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi [Redacted],

I hope you are well.

Please find below a new line for the urgent consideration of the first minister.

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because, per capita, we have the majority of the renewable capacity in Scotland.”

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 11:58 AM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEEconomy@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi [Redacted]

Is there any news yet on this?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)> **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 2:42 PM
To: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEEconomy@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>;
<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Callum McCaig <[Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](#)>; Kersti Berge
<[Kersti.Berge@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Afternoon [Redacted],

This is still with FM at the moment but I have chased for clearance so will come back to you asap.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Office of the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [Redacted] | [Redacted]



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From: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Sent: 06 July 2023 14:00

To: First Minister <[FirstMinister@gov.scot](#)>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <[CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot](#)>;

Minister for Energy and the Environment <[MinisterEE@gov.scot](#)>; Ragne Low

<[Ragne.Low@gov.scot](#)>; DG Net Zero <[DGNetZero@gov.scot](#)>; DG Economy

<[DGEconomy@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Frances Pacitti

<[Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Ragne Low <[Ragne.Low@gov.scot](#)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Callum McCaig <[Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](#)>; Kersti Berge

<[Kersti.Berge@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi [Redacted]

With apologies for chasing do we have an update from FM on this? There is an outstanding FOI on this and should FM agree with the proposed recommendation I'll need to go through the correcting the record process before I can respond to the FOI.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 1:42 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi [Redacted],

With thanks to OCEA colleagues please find below a new line for consideration by FM (to note this has been cleared by SpAds):

In 2022, Scotland had by far the highest volume of installed renewables capacity per capita of any part of the UK - more than double that of Wales, and more than four times that of England.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 7:54 AM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti

<Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>;
<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>;
<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>;
<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge
<Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi [Redacted],

Just to confirm receipt – we're just getting stats clearance of some new phrasing – we'll look to get that to you as soon as we can,

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Email Chain 2:

From: Ragne Low
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 6:55 PM
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Yes, FM asked about per capita. See their email below that says:

Evening [Redacted],

The First Minister has asked, is it right that we have the most renewable capacity per head, compared to elsewhere in the UK?

Grateful if you could confirm.

My interp of that was we need to give him a cleared line

From: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi Ragne,

I emailed FM on Friday with the line agreed with [Redacted] and Callum – do we need to change that?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [REDACTED] <Redacted@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 10:02 AM
To: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <Redacted@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <Redacted@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <Redacted@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <Redacted@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <Redacted@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Morning all,

One amendment from me, based on a quick exchange with [REDACTED] and some rounding clarifications. It turns out Scotland is actually 4 times that of England. Otherwise looks good, happy for it to go.

In 2022, Scotland had by far the highest volume of installed renewables capacity per capita of any part of the UK - more than double that of Wales, and more than four times that of England.

The only angle of challenge I can think of on this is the point raised a few times previously: that renewables sited in Scotland are therefore heavily subsidised by consumers across the rest of GB (because the subsidies for renewables are recovered from consumer bills at the GB level) – in case you want to prep for follow-up questions.

[REDACTED]

From: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 2:27 PM
To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Cc: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Happy to wait until tomorrow. [Redacted] – can you just drop FMPO a line to let them know we will have stat.s clearance of the right phrasing tomorrow.

And can we add in after ‘more than double that of Wales’ the following: “and more than three times that of England” ?

Ragne

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 2:21 PM
To: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Cc: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi Ragne,

Just adding [Redacted] as [Redacted] has now moved on.

It’s not a UK average, it’s the UK total. So I’d remove the last part of that sentence and also qualify that this was in 2022:

In 2022, Scotland had by far the highest volume of installed renewables capacity per capita of any part of the UK - more than double that of Wales.

Does this need to go out today? I would be more comfortable if we could wait until [Redacted] comes back in tomorrow for his thoughts and sign off.

Thanks,

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Energy Statistics
Office of the Chief Economic Adviser – OCEA | Scottish Government

From: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>
Sent: 03 July 2023 08:44
To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Cc: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Thanks, [Redacted]

So can the FM say “Scotland has by far the highest volume of installed renewables capacity per capita of any part of the UK - more than double that of Wales and more than 3 times the UK average.”

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:38 AM
To: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Cc: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Hi Ragne,

I've made a table with per capita and per 100,000 figures below:

	Population mid-2021	installed capacity 2022 (MW)	MW per capita	MW per 100,000	renewable generation 2022 (GWh)	GWh per capita	GWh per 100,000
UK	67,026,000	53498.3	0.001	79.8	134864.5	0.002	201.2
England	56,536,000	33920.0	0.001	60.0	86621.9	0.002	153.2
Wales	3,105,000	3741.6	0.001	120.5	7973.5	0.003	256.8

Northern Ireland	1,905,000	1958.5	0.001	102.8	4566.6	0.002	239.7
Scotland	5,480,000	13878.2	0.003	253.3	35702.4	0.007	651.5

Source: [Population estimates for the UK, England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)
[Energy Trends: UK renewables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Energy Statistics

Office of the Chief Economic Adviser – OCEA | Scottish Government

From: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 June 2023 19:23

To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Cc: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Subject: FW: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Can OCEA colleagues answer this? The answer is yes but we would need an accurate way of expressing it.

Ragne

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)> **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 7:20 PM

To: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>;

Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low

<Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy

<DG_Economy@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti

<Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Callum Mccaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge

<Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Evening [Redacted],

The First Minister has asked, is it right that we have the most renewable capacity per head, compared to elsewhere in the UK?

Grateful if you could confirm.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Office of the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [Redacted] | [Redacted]



Office of the First Minister of Scotland

FirstMinister.gov.scot

Prìomh Mhinistear na h-Alba

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From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 June 2023 15:28

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>;

Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Ragne Low

<Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; DG Economy

<DGEconomy@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti

<Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>;

<[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>;

<[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>;

<[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge

<Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>

Subject: Renewable Statistics - recommendation to correct record

Importance: High

Dear FMPO/FM,-

On Thursday 22 June at FMQs and in response to Labours proposals to headquarter a public energy company in Scotland the First Minister said the following:

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables and the natural resources here in Scotland.”

Liam Kerr MSP raised a point of order asking:

“[FM] said ‘we [Scotland] have the majority of renewables here in Scotland.’ But in the year-end 2022, Scotland had 21% of total UK renewables installed capacity, and 26% of renewable electricity generated [so will he correct the record].”

Officials have also received an FOI asking: please provide any information held by the Scottish Government which substantiates the above statement.

We do not hold such information. Scotland (as of mid-2021) has around a quarter of the UK's renewable electricity capacity and generates a quarter of the UK's renewable electricity.

Following discussion with SpAds we recommend that the record is corrected to the following:

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland, Scotland has a majority of UK onshore wind generation and a quarter of the UK's renewable electricity capacity and generates a quarter of the UK's renewable electricity despite having less than a tenth of the UK population’ (2021 mid-year estimates indicate that 8% of the UK population was in Scotland).

If you are content with this approach we will take the appropriate steps to correct the record and respond to the FOI request that we have corrected the record for this statement.

We would be grateful for a swift response in order to action the FOI reply in good time.

Happy to discuss,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] , [Redacted], Onshore Electricity, Strategy and Consents
Directorate for Energy and Climate Change | Scottish Government | 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw,
Glasgow G2 8LU
E: [\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot) m: [Redacted]



Email chain 3:

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 1:05 PM

To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks – as long as I know that the renewables bit is ok I think we're fine as per the PO steer that we got about the natural resources point.

Thank you and apologies for the urgent queries,

Best

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 1:01 PM

To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Yes, the data in that file supports the line on renewables per capita. As per [Redacted] previous comment though, it doesn't say anything about natural resources, which isn't really an analytical/quantifiable point.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 12:34 PM

To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Thanks [Redacted],

Sorry one more urgent confirmation – does the information in the attached support the new line?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 12:01 PM
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted] – yes.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Office of the Chief Economic Adviser - Scottish Government



From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 11:36 AM
To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Thanks [Redacted],

No worries on the delay, as you can see I'm getting a bit of grief re the FOI....

So can I just be absolutely clear. From an OCEA perspective you are content with this:

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables per capita and the natural resources here in Scotland

Thanks,

[Redacted]


[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 11:20 AM
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

[Redacted] – Sorry for the delay. I’ve had a useful chat with [Redacted] [Redacted] is not working today).

No I don’t think that it is a “must-have” since the statement applied for *both* renewables generation per capita and capacity per capita, so the non-specific statement is defensible if challenged.

I didn’t comment on the natural resources point since I’m not sure it’s an analytical/stats point. If FM wants to keep the structure in 1. And 2. below the it might make more sense to say something like ‘and the abundant supporting natural resources’?

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
Office of the Chief Economic Adviser - Scottish Government
 @ScotGovOCEA

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 9:03 PM
To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Thanks [Redacted],

Are you happy with the reading of the natural resources point too?

Also if we had to go without the word ‘capacity’ would that work or is it a ‘must have’?

Best,

[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 6:05:46 PM
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; [\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted] – On the statistic, I think would still be value in including “capacity” in the first part just to be clear what FM is referring to.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Office of the Chief Economic Adviser - Scottish Government



From: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 5:29 PM

To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Ragne Low <[Ragne.Low@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; [\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted]/ [Redacted],

FM has come back to us and I'd appreciate a steer from you.

He has asked if we could go with:

" Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables per capita and the natural resources"

With the point being they are two separate points:

1. We have the majority of renewables per capita
2. Scotland has the natural resources needed for this.

Can you let me know if that is ok?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 7:28 AM

To: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Ragne Low <[Ragne.Low@gov.scot](#)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>;

<[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; [\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Apologies, I'd managed to save the wrong spreadsheet from my OneDrive into objective. The correct one is now there. It is the same link.

[Redacted]

From:

Sent: 17 July 2023 09:00

To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Calculations are in the attached.

Let me know if you need anything else,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 14 July 2023 12:52

To: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi Folks,

With apologies if it has been said somewhere else and I can't find it in the email chain.

Can I have the info that substantiates this please? I'd like to include it in the FOI response if I can,

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because, per capita, we have the majority of the renewable capacity in Scotland.”

Grateful if I can have it first thing next week if possible,

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 2:04 PM

To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

In the time available do we not just need to go with “Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because, per capita, we have the majority of the renewable capacity in Scotland.”

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 1:10 PM

To: [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

I've discussed options with [Redacted] around natural resources and we came to the below conclusions:

My initial idea is a no goer. The more we looked at it, the more concerned we were that it could end up causing more problems down the line (in a similar manner to the offshore wind potential figure).

We can talk to the Natural Capital Accounts team in RESAS and see if they can get something together that could be used. This will include oil resources and I'm not sure if you want to include this. I don't know how quickly they could turn it around either.

If you want to focus on renewables alone, then that is trickier and I'm not sure it is even possible. Again, we can have a conversation with colleagues in RESAS to see whether anything can be done, but this is likely to be more work and so I anticipate that it will take longer.

Let me know if you want me to pursue either of the above Natural Capital Accounts options and what your views are on the inclusion of oil as a natural resource.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 10 July 2023 17:50

To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Thanks [Redacted],

What you suggest works for now (although if we can get the natural resources point that would be helpful)

Thank you again.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 3:50 PM

To: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi Ragne,

Being able to work out the amounts of natural resources will be very tricky, but I am looking at what we can do on this. I have an idea for a proxy solution, but I'd like to run it by [Redacted] when he is back in tomorrow.

If it can't wait, then my advice would be to remove the reference to having the majority of natural resources in Scotland and using the below line.

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because, per capita, we have the majority of the renewable capacity in Scotland.”

[Redacted]

From: Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>

Sent: 10 July 2023 14:29

To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Importance: High

Do we have “the majority of the natural resources” ? Or should we again put ‘per capita’ in:

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because, **per capita**, we have the majority of the renewables **per capita** and the natural resources here in Scotland.”

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 2:23 PM

To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti

<Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>;

<[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>;

<[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>;

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Just caught up with [Redacted] and that would be correct.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Energy Statistics

Office of the Chief Economic Adviser – OCEA | Scottish Government

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 10 July 2023 12:59

To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>;

<[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>;

<[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>;

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Sorry to get back in touch with you about this again but would it be correct for us to say:

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables **per capita** and the natural resources here in Scotland.”

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 1:26 PM

To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>;

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

That amendment looks fine to me.

Thanks,

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Energy Statistics

Office of the Chief Economic Adviser – OCEA | Scottish Government

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 June 2023 13:18

To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot>;

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

In [Redacted] absence would you be able to tell me if this is ok:

Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland, Scotland has a **majority of UK onshore wind generation and** quarter of the UK's total renewable electricity capacity and generates a quarter of the UKs renewable electricity despite having less than a tenth of the UK population' (2021 mid-year estimates indicate that 8% of the UK population was in Scotland).

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 12:56 PM
To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Pacitti F (Frances) <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Low R (Ragne) <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>;
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks for getting back to me on this. I've drafted some lines as requested below. Calculations and sources are in the attached for information. Please let me know if you need anything further.

I know this is for FMQs tomorrow, but can you also advise on the FoI from [Redacted]. I'm on leave from midday tomorrow, so ideally I'd like to get a plan together on how to respond to this and who is going to respond to it before I go.

Happy to discuss if easier,

[Redacted]

'Scotland has a quarter of the UKs renewable electricity capacity and generates a quarter of the UKs renewable electricity despite having less than a tenth of the UK population' (2021 mid-year estimates indicate that 8% of the UK population was in Scotland).

'As of the end of 2022, Scotland has 8.9 GW of onshore wind capacity which is more than the rest of the UK combined (5.8 GW for the rest of UK). In other words Scotland has 61% of the total onshore wind capacity'

'As of the end of 2022, 100% of the UKs floating offshore wind capacity, 98% of the UKs shoreline wave and tidal capacity and 88% of the UKs hydro capacity is located in Scotland'

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 27 June 2023 11:03
To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

So we've had a conversation with SpAds about this. Key thing we need to do first is ensure that we have some cover in FMQs where this will likely come up.

Can you/OCEA colleagues look to get me a couple of lines (this morning/early afternoon please) that says something like:

'Scotland has a quarter of all renewables capacity in the UK despite only having a tenth of the population' – those numbers won't be right but you get the idea.

Then can we have something that says:

'we've got 8.9 GW of onshore which is more than the rest of the UK combined (at whatever GW rest of UK has) and on tidal we have more than anyone else in UK/Europe/the world'

Hopefully that makes sense,

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:27 AM

To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Pacitti F (Frances) <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Low R (Ragne) <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Just to say that we've clocked this and we're chatting about it now – we'll get back to you

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Sent: 26 June 2023 08:18

To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Pacitti F (Frances) <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Low R (Ragne) <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Morning all,

Removing comms colleagues for this.

An FoI came in on Friday from [Redacted] around the below (see attached). The question is as follows:

FOI request:

At FMQs on 22nd June 2023, the First Minister made this statement:

“Of course the GB energy company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables and the natural resources here in Scotland.”

Please provide any information held by the Scottish Government which substantiates the above statement.

I think there are a couple of things in play on this: firstly whether the official record is going to be corrected and secondly whether we need to get sign off from FM on the response (it has been marked as routine, but [Redacted] [EIR Reg 11(2) Personal Data] [Redacted] [EIR Reg 10(4)(e)]. I’m also not sure that OCEA is best placed to hold the pen on this one – the statement is inaccurate, so there is no information to provide and I’m not sure what we can or should provide in this situation. Can someone advise please.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 23 June 2023 10:22

To: Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

I’m back in from sick leave today and I’ve calculated the UK pipeline figures using the same assumptions as what we have for our published Scotland figures.

Based on REPD data up to 2022 Q4 (what was in the last quarterly publication in March) here are the Scotland and UK pipeline figures and appropriate percentages:

	In Planning	Awaiting Construction	Under Construction	Total
--	-------------	-----------------------	--------------------	-------

Scotland Total	11284.69	6091.014	4323.918	21699.63
UK Total	24492.44	24185.59	12424.8	61102.84
Percentages	46%	25%	35%	36%

Thanks,
 [Redacted]
 [Redacted]
 Energy Statistics
 Office of the Chief Economic Adviser – OCEA | Scottish Government

From: Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 June 2023 16:21
To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Adding [Redacted] for awareness.

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Sent: 22 June 2023 15:05
To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

Doing a quick and dirty analysis of uncleaned data, I get a figure just shy of 35%. However, there is a considerable difference in the Scottish pipeline figure used in this calculation and our official pipeline figure, so it could be closer to 50%. On the flip side it could also be further away.

I'll discuss with my colleague when they are back in and see what we can do. This may come up again, so it would good to know how feasible it is to work out an equivalent UK figure.

[Redacted]

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Sent: 22 June 2023 14:45
To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted]@gov.scot)>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Greatly appreciated, thanks [Redacted].

This didn't actually come up at the media briefing after FMQs, though I suspect, whether it's today or in the coming days, we will get questions from media on this.

I'm mindful of taking up too much (any) of your time on pipeline figures. Is there a quick/unofficial way (or can anyone take an educated punt) on whether we have more than 50% of total UK Pipeline? [UK offshore wind pipeline reaches nearly 100 gigawatts - while global pipeline hits over 1,100GW - RenewableUK](#)

Because if not – or if we don't think it's going to be close – then suggest we wouldn't need to pursue gathering official BEIS-based stats for it.

[Redacted]

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>


Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:33 PM

To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Ragne Low <[Ragne.Low@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Frances Pacitti <[Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Hi [Redacted],

I've worked out Scotland's share of UK renewable capacity (26%) and generation (also 26%) in 2022. The data source and workings giving figures going back to 2015 are here for information  [Percentage of renewable electricity \(capacity and generation\).xlsx](#)

I'm still working on the pipeline figures you've requested. It might take a while as the person that normally does them is off sick. So, I'm trying to reverse engineer the Scotland figures on the hub so that I know what is and isn't counted. Then hopefully it should just be the case of applying the same filters to get the rUK figures, although I am aware that there are quite a few duplicate records in the Renewable Energy Planning Database that will need to be removed.

Can I check when you need these by?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Sent: 22 June 2023 13:44

To: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Cc: <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Ragne Low <[Ragne.Low@gov.scot](#)>; [Redacted] <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>; Frances Pacitti <[Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot](#)>; <[\[Redacted\]@gov.scot](#)>

Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Thanks, [Redacted].

And sorry all – would it also be possible to get Scotland Vs rUK comparison for what's in the pipeline ie. planning under construction etc. etc. and not just operational.

[Redacted]

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 1:15 PM
To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Ragne Low <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Frances Pacitti <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK

Also copying in [Redacted] in [Redacted] team

From: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 June 2023 13:14
To: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Low R (Ragne) <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>; Pacitti F (Frances) <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: Line To Take - Renewables Statistics Vs rUK
Importance: High

Hi Gents

At FMQs this afternoon, FM responded to questions from Anas Sarwar around proposals for energy transition. On Labour's proposals to headquarter a Public Energy in Scotland, FM said:

“Of course a GB Renewables Company would be based in Scotland because we have the majority of the renewables and the natural resources here in Scotland.”

Liam Kerr asked a Point of Order at the end:

“[FM] said ‘we [Scotland] have the majority of renewables here in Scotland.’ But in the year-end 2022, Scotland had 21% of total UK renewables installed capacity, and 26% of renewable electricity generated [so will he correct the record].”

Sorry, I'd do myself but we've a variety of issues we need to deal with this afternoon. Can I possibly ask you to dig out the relevant Scottish and wider UK figures mentioned above, please?

We can then consider a line if required – post-FMQ briefing is about to take place and suspect there will be a variety of requests for clarification and comment.

Thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Scottish Government, St Andrew's House

e: [redacted][@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot)

m: [Redacted]