

**FOI 202300376659 – Documents for Release**

**DOCUMENT 1**

**From:** Christopher Mackie Christopher.Mackie@ gov.scot **On Behalf Of** First Minister

**Sent:** Friday, August 18, 2023 11:01 AM

**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; First Minister FirstMinister@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Ken Thomson Ken.Thomson@ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance DFMCSF@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care CabSecNRHSC@ gov.scot ; Permanent Secretary PermanentSecretary@ gov.scot ; DG Strategy and External Affairs DGSEA@ gov.scot ; John Nicholson John.Nicholson@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@ gov.scot ; Callum McCaig Callum.Mccaig@ gov.scot ; Leanne Dobson Leanne.Dobson@ gov.scot ; DG Health & Social Care DGHSC@ gov.scot ; Andrew Bruce Andrew.Bruce@ gov.scot ; David Hutchison David.Hutchison@ gov.scot ; Richard Foggo Richard.Foggo@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development MinisterforCEID@ gov.scot ; Hugh Gillies Hugh.Gillies@ transport.gov.scot ; DG Net Zero DGNetZero@ gov.scot ; Joe Griffin Joe.Griffin@ gov.scot ; DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox DGScottishExchequer@ gov.scot ; DG Corporate dgcorporate@ gov.scot ; Alison Cumming Alison.Cumming@ gov.scot ; Jackie Mcallister Jackie.Mcallister2@ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Rachael,

With thanks again, the First Minister has noted this advice. He has indicated that the light touch work set out in the advice should continue. Please also keep us updated on any progress in the coming months.

Best wishes,

Chris

**Chris Mackie**

Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

T: 0131 244 [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | M: 07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]



**From:** Rachael Mckechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 9:09 AM

**To:** First Minister [FirstMinister@ gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@ gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Ken Thomson Ken.Thomson@ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot)

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**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ; Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ; DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot) ; Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot) ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot) ; Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot) ; DG Net Zero [DGNetZero@gov.scot](mailto:DGNetZero@gov.scot) ; Joe Griffin [Joe.Griffin@gov.scot](mailto:Joe.Griffin@gov.scot) ; DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox [DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot](mailto:DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot) ; DG Corporate [dgcorporate@gov.scot](mailto:dgcorporate@gov.scot) ; Alison Cumming [Alison.Cumming@gov.scot](mailto:Alison.Cumming@gov.scot) ; Jackie Mcallister [Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot](mailto:Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot)

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hi Chris,

Huge apologies – I thought I'd sent this on to you Friday night but I've just found it had got caught up in a drafts folder, presumably because I dropped off wifi. I've just made a small number of tracked changes to this to bring it up to date. Now the cycling is complete we'll be able to engage with this a little bit more so any steer from the First Minister about his preferences here would be extremely welcome to guide that effort.

A

Many thanks  
Rachael

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**

Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

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**From:** Christopher Mackie [Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot](mailto:Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot) **On Behalf Of** First Minister

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 8:36 AM

**To:** Rachael McKechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot) ; Ken Thomson [Ken.Thomson@gov.scot](mailto:Ken.Thomson@gov.scot) ; Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ; Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ; DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot) ; Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot) ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot) ; Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot)

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**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Rachael – apologies if I have missed it but have you had an opportunity to update the below advice.

Chris

**Chris Mackie**

Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

T: 0131 244 [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | M: 07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]



**From:** Rachael Mckechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot)

**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2023 12:56 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot ; First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot) ; Ken Thomson [Ken.Thomson@gov.scot](mailto:Ken.Thomson@gov.scot) ; Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ; Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ; DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot) ; Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot) ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot) ; Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot) ; DG Net Zero [DGNetZero@gov.scot](mailto:DGNetZero@gov.scot) ; Joe Griffin [Joe.Griffin@gov.scot](mailto:Joe.Griffin@gov.scot) ; DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox [DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot](mailto:DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot) ; DG Corporate [dgcorporate@gov.scot](mailto:dgcorporate@gov.scot) ; Alison Cumming [Alison.Cumming@gov.scot](mailto:Alison.Cumming@gov.scot) ; Jackie Mcallister [Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot](mailto:Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot)

**Subject:** Re: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hi Chris, will come back to you later today with a couple of updates from an events perspective.

Best wishes

Rachael

Rachael McKechnie

Deputy Director, Cultural Futures and Major Events

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**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2023 12:37:20 PM

**To:** First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot) ; Rachael Mckechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot) ; Ken Thomson [Ken.Thomson@gov.scot](mailto:Ken.Thomson@gov.scot) ; Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ; Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ; DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot) ; Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot) ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot) ; Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot) ; DG Net Zero [DGNetZero@gov.scot](mailto:DGNetZero@gov.scot) ; Joe Griffin [Joe.Griffin@gov.scot](mailto:Joe.Griffin@gov.scot) ; DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox [DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot](mailto:DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot) ; DG Corporate [dgcorporate@gov.scot](mailto:dgcorporate@gov.scot) ; Alison Cumming [Alison.Cumming@gov.scot](mailto:Alison.Cumming@gov.scot) ; Jackie Mcallister [Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot](mailto:Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot)

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Thanks Chris – this accurately reflects the position from a sport perspective. I have tracked in an important additional line on the optics for the sport sector in general.

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Active Scotland | Scottish Government |

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**From:** Christopher Mackie [Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot](mailto:Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot) **On Behalf Of** First Minister

**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 4:28 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot) ; Ken Thomson [Ken.Thomson@gov.scot](mailto:Ken.Thomson@gov.scot) ; First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot) ; Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ; Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ; DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot) ; Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot) ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot) ; Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot)

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**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hello all,

Many thanks for all the various contributions to the advice to the FM and responses to my questions. I have drawn it all together in the attached single briefing to send to FM – can this be checked please to ensure it is accurate?

Thanks

Chris

**Chris Mackie**

Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

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**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 9:48 AM

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**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Morning all

Just to supplement the update from Rachael – this has much wider implications both for the future of the Commonwealth Games as a movement, but also directly on

organisations who we fund directly, like Commonwealth Games Scotland, the Commonwealth sports who do not feature in the Olympics (some of which Scotland specialise in) and also the athletes who are on a competition pathway.

Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii)

We will ensure that we work alongside Major Events colleagues to provide rounded advice covering all these implications.

Many thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Active Scotland | Scottish Government |

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**From:** Rachael Mckechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot)

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 7:52 AM

**To:** Ken Thomson [Ken.Thomson@gov.scot](mailto:Ken.Thomson@gov.scot); First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot); Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

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**Subject:** Re: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Morning Chris,

You will have seen the news this morning about Canada withdrawing from discussions around hosting the 2030 Commonwealth Games. This is a very quick email from me to say that we will work with partners to assess the implication of that and provide further advice. Being realistic however, my team and I are flat out on the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships so it would be extremely helpful if you could confirm you are happy for me to come back with an update once the Championships is completed?

You have seen from my previously email that there are significant financial implications here against the backdrop of extremely stretched budgets. On that basis, I would advise taking a very conservative line for any media enquiries. I will pick that up with Communications colleagues and expect they will come back with more on that over the course of the day.

Best wishes  
Rachael

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**From:** Rachael Mckechnie

**Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2023 8:41:26 AM

**To:** Ken Thomson [Ken.Thomson@gov.scot](mailto:Ken.Thomson@gov.scot); First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot); Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot); Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot); Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot); DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot); John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot); [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot); Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot); Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot); DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot); Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot); David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot); Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot); [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot); Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot); Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot); DG Net Zero [DGNetZero@gov.scot](mailto:DGNetZero@gov.scot); Joe Griffin [Joe.Griffin@gov.scot](mailto:Joe.Griffin@gov.scot); DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox [DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot](mailto:DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot); DG Corporate [dgcorporate@gov.scot](mailto:dgcorporate@gov.scot); Alison Cumming [Alison.Cumming@gov.scot](mailto:Alison.Cumming@gov.scot); Jackie Mcallister [Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot](mailto:Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot)

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hi Chris,

Apologies for the delay in responding to your additional questions: we've been flat out with the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships and I've needed to get some intelligence from various contacts to be able to give some rounded advice. I've set out a response to your questions below and a bit of a status update. Happy to discuss any of this further as helpful and will continue to provide updates over the coming weeks if things progress.

1. **You noted in our discussion that there are potential developments in relation to the Gold Coast stepping in to rescue the bid. I am going to include this link in the advice to FM – do you have any other insight beyond this?** [Gold Coast offers to host 2026 Commonwealth Games after Victoria withdrawal | Reuters](#)

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. The Queensland government has publicly said it is completely focused on the 2032 Olympics and has no interest in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)].

Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii)

2. **I have seen some reporting of the financial commitment expected to deliver the Victoria Games – do we have an official estimate of what those Games were expected to cost?**

In his announcement, the leader of the Australian state of Victoria, Daniel Andrews, said the cost of hosting had grown beyond his expectations: "what's

become clear is that the cost of hosting these Games in 2026 is not the \$2.6bn (£1.3bn) which was budgeted and allocated,” he said. “It is in fact at least \$6bn and could be as high as \$7bn.” The level of cost overrun is disputed by the Commonwealth Games Federation however, which also points to the fact that it was the decisions made by Victoria that were driving the high costs of the event. There was a lot of new infrastructure build in the project, despite there being purpose built facilities available elsewhere in the state. This was part of the policy basis for the investment – putting in sporting infrastructure to regional communities. In his announcement, Daniel Andrews seemed to indicate that this investment in sporting facilities would still continue, even with the decision not to host the Games.

#### Latest update

Some other things for you to be aware of are:

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

Best wishes

Rachael

#### **Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**

Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot)

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Ken Thomson [Ken.Thomson@gov.scot](mailto:Ken.Thomson@gov.scot)

**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2023 3:35 PM

**To:** Rachael McKechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot) ; First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot) ;

Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary

[PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John

Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [\[Redacted section 38\(1\)\(b\)\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section

38(1)(b)] [\[Redacted section 38\(1\)\(b\)\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [\[Redacted section 38\(1\)\(b\)\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot) ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ;

Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ;

DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David

Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot) ; Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section

38(1)(b)] [\[Redacted section 38\(1\)\(b\)\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [\[Redacted section 38\(1\)\(b\)\]@gov.scot](mailto:[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution,

External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot) ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International

Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot) ; Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot) ; DG Net

Zero [DGNetZero@gov.scot](mailto:DGNetZero@gov.scot) ; Joe Griffin [Joe.Griffin@gov.scot](mailto:Joe.Griffin@gov.scot) ; DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox

[DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot](mailto:DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot) ; DG Corporate [dgcorporate@gov.scot](mailto:dgcorporate@gov.scot) ; Alison Cumming

[Alison.Cumming@gov.scot](mailto:Alison.Cumming@gov.scot) ; Jackie McAllister [Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot](mailto:Jackie.Mcallister2@gov.scot)

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Adding Exchequer and Finance colleagues.

Rachael –



Thank you for your quick response to Chris's commission, which is as detailed as I think it could be at this stage.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

K

**Ken Thomson** | Director General, Strategy & External Affairs, Scottish Government | ☎ 0131 244 [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | 📍 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | ✉ [dgsea@gov.scot](mailto:dgsea@gov.scot) | 📄 1N.04A  
St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot)

**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 6:55 AM

**To:** First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot) ; Director of Culture and Major Events  
[Directorofcultureandmaforevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmaforevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ; Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ; DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot) ; Richard Foggo [Richard.Foggo@gov.scot](mailto:Richard.Foggo@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot) ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development [MinisterforCEID@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforCEID@gov.scot) ; Hugh Gillies [Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot](mailto:Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot) ; DG Net Zero [DGNetZero@gov.scot](mailto:DGNetZero@gov.scot) ; Joe Griffin [Joe.Griffin@gov.scot](mailto:Joe.Griffin@gov.scot)

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Morning Chris,

Penelope is on leave this week so I'm replying on her behalf.

This commission would fall to my Major Events Team to deliver for First Minister. That team is fully deployed on the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships which will hold its opening ceremony on 2 August however so I just don't have the resource to be able to provide a detailed response to your commission within the deadline you've suggested. What I have done is to set out the position, as I currently know it, below which I hope is helpful as an initial view. If you are around today, it would be helpful to have a conversation about this.

I've spoken to contacts in the Commonwealth Games Scotland, DCMS and the Welsh Government on this yesterday. As you'd expect it is a fast moving situation with a lot of unknowns and different opinions at this stage but this would be my initial assessment against your questions.

1. **What the latest position is in relation to any alternative arrangements for 2026 – including whether the Games organisers are exploring alternative cities or a multi-nation approach.**

You will have seen the public responses of the Commonwealth Games Federation and Commonwealth Games Australia to the State of Victoria's announcement. There's been no further comment from the Commonwealth Games Federation from that position: it is "taking advice on the options available to us and remain[s] committed to finding a solution for the Games in 2026 that is in the best interests of our athletes and the wider Commonwealth Sport Movement".

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

**2. Your assessment of whether a single Scottish bid would be feasible.**

Hosting a Commonwealth Games is expensive. The total costs for Birmingham 2022 were c.£778m. That funding included the redevelopment of the Alexander Stadium for athletes, building the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the Parry Barr regeneration. [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)].

**3. An assessment of whether a joint bid across the nations of the UK would be feasible, specifically covering: whether Games organisers would consider it; the appetite from other nations; and whether this could realistically be delivered.**

The Commonwealth Games Federation's Chief Executive Katie Sadler is quoted publicly as saying they would be open to having a conversation if the Games was something UK nations were interested in. The UK Government spokesperson has said that its hope is for the Victoria Government, Commonwealth Games Australia and the Commonwealth Games Federation to work together to find a solution.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

**4. Any advice or estimate on potential costs – both for the single bid and the multi-nation approach. Acknowledging the great uncertainty around this, any indicative cost estimates at this stage would be helpful – even if it was extrapolated from existing Victoria cost estimates.**

As noted above, the costs of hosting the Games are significant but the exact quantum would be dependent on the requirements that were agreed and any associated legacy plans attached to hosting. Birmingham cost £778m with the revamp of the Alexander Stadium costing £72m. The cost for Glasgow 2014 was £537m.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. It is also worth noting that there is a very short timeframe in which to deliver the event which will increase costs. The inflationary pressures on many aspects of major event delivery remain strong so a significant degree of contingency and optimism bias would need to be built into any business case.

**5. Any other relevant points.**

As noted, we are just about to deliver the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships. Scotland is also committed to a UK and Ireland bid for EURO 2028, which is currently be assessed by UEFA. Redacted section 33(2)(b).

The Commonwealth Games Federation annual meeting is in November 2023. Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii).

Hope this is helpful. Happy to talk this through further as required.

Best wishes  
Rachael

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**

Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot)  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Christopher Mackie [Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot](mailto:Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot) **On Behalf Of** First Minister

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 10:26 AM

**To:** Director of Culture and Major Events [Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot](mailto:Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot)

**Cc:** First Minister [FirstMinister@gov.scot](mailto:FirstMinister@gov.scot) ; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [DFMCSF@gov.scot](mailto:DFMCSF@gov.scot) ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot) ; Permanent Secretary [PermanentSecretary@gov.scot](mailto:PermanentSecretary@gov.scot) ; DG Strategy and External Affairs [DGSEA@gov.scot](mailto:DGSEA@gov.scot) ; John Nicholson [John.Nicholson@gov.scot](mailto:John.Nicholson@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@[gov.scot](mailto:gov.scot) ; Rachael McKechnie [Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot](mailto:Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@[gov.scot](mailto:gov.scot) ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@[gov.scot](mailto:gov.scot) ; Colin McAllister [Colin.McAllister@gov.scot](mailto:Colin.McAllister@gov.scot) ; Callum McCaig [Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot](mailto:Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot) ; Leanne Dobson [Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot](mailto:Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot) ; DG Health & Social Care [DGHSC@gov.scot](mailto:DGHSC@gov.scot) ; Andrew Bruce [Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot](mailto:Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot) ; David Hutchison [David.Hutchison@gov.scot](mailto:David.Hutchison@gov.scot)

**Subject:** Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hi Penelope,

I hope you are the appropriate person to direct this request to. If not, please let me know.

You will be aware of the recent announcement by the Victoria government in Australia that they can no longer host the Commonwealth Games in 2026.

The FM was asked about this development yesterday in interviews - [Humza Yousaf to 'explore' Scotland Commonwealth Games bid - BBC News](#)

You will note that in his remarks, the FM committed to exploring the possibility of Scotland being part of a wider, multi-nation event to allow the Games to proceed. These remarks follow the comments from Paul Bush, who had suggested this approach.

I would therefore be grateful if we could commission some initial advice on the feasibility of this approach and indeed a single Scottish bid. I appreciate that there

will be great uncertainty around various aspects, but can I ask for the advice to cover:

1. What the latest position is in relation to any alternative arrangements for 2026 – including whether the Games organisers are exploring alternative cities or a multi-nation approach.
2. Your assessment of whether a single Scottish bid would be feasible.
3. An assessment of whether a joint bid across the nations of the UK would be feasible, specifically covering: whether Games organisers would consider it; the appetite from other nations; and whether this could realistically be delivered.
4. Any advice or estimate on potential costs – both for the single bid and the multi-nation approach. Acknowledging the great uncertainty around this, any indicative cost estimates at this stage would be helpful – even if it was extrapolated from existing Victoria cost estimates.
5. Any other relevant points.

I would be grateful for a return by close on Thursday 27 July. Please let me know if this deadline provides any challenges.

Happy to discuss if helpful.

Thanks,

Chris

**Chris Mackie**

Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

T: 0131 244 [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | M: 07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]



## DOCUMENT 2

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ teamscotland.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 8:21 AM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot

**Cc:** Jon Doig jon.doig@ teamscotland.scot

**Subject:** Victoria 2026

Morning both,

I'm sure by now you'll have seen the news from Victoria. Certainly not what we were expecting to wake up to!

We've issued a short statement this morning: <https://www.teamscotland.scot/cgs-express-shock-and-disappointment-at-victoria-withdrawal/>

I don't anticipate us making any further comment at this stage, and will consider our follow-up response.

CGF response: <https://www.commonwealthsport.com/news/3594069/response-to-victoria-government-2026-commonwealth-game-host-withdrawal>

CG Australia: <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/cga-statement-from-craig-phillips-am-victoria-2026/>

Happy to jump on a call if there's anything you want to chat through – Jon is in Germany but trying to stay connected when he can.

Thanks,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**Head of Marketing and Communications**

**Email:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

@ teamscotland.scot

**Mobile:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[www.teamscotland.scot](http://www.teamscotland.scot) | @ Team\_Scotland

## Document 3

### Final scoping advice

#### **BACKGROUND AND LATEST POSITION**

- The Commonwealth Games Federation position is: it is *“taking advice on the options available to us and remain[s] committed to finding a solution for the Games in 2026 that is in the best interests of our athletes and the wider Commonwealth Sport Movement”*.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

- The Gold Coast mayor said his region could offer to step in and host the event, [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. The Queensland government has publicly said it is completely focused on the 2032 Olympics and has no interest in hosting the 2026 Games.

Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii)

#### **Assessment of costs**

- In his announcement, the leader of Victoria, Daniel Andrews, said the cost of hosting had grown beyond his expectations: *“what’s become clear is that the cost of hosting these Games in 2026 is not the \$2.6bn (£1.3bn) which was budgeted and allocated,”* he said. *“It is in fact at least \$6bn and could be as high as \$7bn.”* The level of cost overrun is disputed by the Federation, which points to the fact decisions made by Victoria were driving the high costs of the event. There was a lot of new infrastructure build in the project, despite there being purpose-built facilities available elsewhere in the state. This was part of the policy basis for the investment – putting in sporting infrastructure to regional communities.
- The total cost of Glasgow 2014 was £537m. Birmingham 2022 cost around £778m, which included the redevelopment of the Alexander Stadium for athletes, building the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the Parry Barr regeneration.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

#### **Feasibility of a joint UK nations’ bid**

- The Commonwealth Games Federation’s Chief Executive Katie Sadler is quoted publicly as saying they would be open to having a conversation if the Games was something UK nations were interested in. A UK Government spokesperson said its hope is for the Victoria Government, Commonwealth Games Australia and the Commonwealth Games Federation to work together to find a solution.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

#### **Further context and background**

We have just delivered the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships. Scotland is also committed to a UK and Ireland bid for EURO 2028, which is currently be assessed by UEFA. Redacted section 33(2)(b).

## DOCUMENT 4

### Scoping advice – Active Scotland Edit

#### **BACKGROUND AND LATEST POSITION**

- The Commonwealth Games Federation position is: it is *“taking advice on the options available to us and remain[s] committed to finding a solution for the Games in 2026 that is in the best interests of our athletes and the wider Commonwealth Sport Movement”*.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

- The Gold Coast mayor said his region could offer to step in and host the event, [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. The Queensland government has publicly said it is completely focused on the 2032 Olympics and has no interest in hosting the 2026 Games.

Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii)

#### **Assessment of costs**

- In his announcement, the leader of Victoria, Daniel Andrews, said the cost of hosting had grown beyond his expectations: *“what’s become clear is that the cost of hosting these Games in 2026 is not the \$2.6bn (£1.3bn) which was budgeted and allocated,”* he said. *“It is in fact at least \$6bn and could be as high as \$7bn.”* The level of cost overrun is disputed by the Federation, which points to the fact decisions made by Victoria were driving the high costs of the event. There was a lot of new infrastructure build in the project, despite there being purpose-built facilities available elsewhere in the state. This was part of the policy basis for the investment – putting in sporting infrastructure to regional communities.
- The total cost of Glasgow 2014 was £537m. Birmingham 2022 cost around £778m, which included the redevelopment of the Alexander Stadium for athletes, building the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the Parry Barr regeneration.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

#### **Feasibility of a joint UK nations’ bid**

- The Commonwealth Games Federation’s Chief Executive Katie Sadler is quoted publicly as saying they would be open to having a conversation if the Games was something UK nations were interested in. A UK Government spokesperson said its hope is for the Victoria Government, Commonwealth Games Australia and the Commonwealth Games Federation to work together to find a solution.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

#### **Further context and background**



We are currently delivering the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships. Scotland is also committed to a UK and Ireland bid for EURO 2028, which is currently be assessed by UEFA. Redacted section 33(2)(b).

## DOCUMENT 5

### Scoping advice original draft

#### **BACKGROUND AND LATEST POSITION**

- The Commonwealth Games Federation position is: it is *“taking advice on the options available to us and remain[s] committed to finding a solution for the Games in 2026 that is in the best interests of our athletes and the wider Commonwealth Sport Movement”*.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

- The Gold Coast mayor said his region could offer to step in and host the event, [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)] The Queensland government has publicly said it is completely focused on the 2032 Olympics and has no interest in hosting the 2026 Games.

Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii)

#### **Assessment of costs**

- In his announcement, the leader of Victoria, Daniel Andrews, said the cost of hosting had grown beyond his expectations: *“what’s become clear is that the cost of hosting these Games in 2026 is not the \$2.6bn (£1.3bn) which was budgeted and allocated,”* he said. *“It is in fact at least \$6bn and could be as high as \$7bn.”* The level of cost overrun is disputed by the Federation, which points to the fact decisions made by Victoria were driving the high costs of the event. There was a lot of new infrastructure build in the project, despite there being purpose-built facilities available elsewhere in the state. This was part of the policy basis for the investment – putting in sporting infrastructure to regional communities.
- The total cost of Glasgow 2014 was £537m. Birmingham 2022 cost around £778m, which included the redevelopment of the Alexander Stadium for athletes, building the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the Parry Barr regeneration.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

#### **Feasibility of a joint UK nations’ bid**

- The Commonwealth Games Federation’s Chief Executive Katie Sadler is quoted publicly as saying they would be open to having a conversation if the Games was something UK nations were interested in. A UK Government spokesperson said its hope is for the Victoria Government, Commonwealth Games Australia and the Commonwealth Games Federation to work together to find a solution.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

#### **Further context and background**

We are currently delivering the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships. Scotland is also committed to a UK and Ireland bid for EURO 2028, which is currently be assessed by UEFA. Redacted section 33(2)(b).

## **DOCUMENT 6**

**Paul Sweeney (Scottish Labour, Glasgow):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will consider making an offer to the Commonwealth Games Federation for Glasgow to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games, in light of the withdrawal of the Australian state of Victoria as hosts. (S6W-20043)

### **Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture**

The 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games received international recognition as an outstanding fortnight of sporting and cultural events.

The Scottish Government will of course explore if Scotland can support a multi-city, multi-partner hosting opportunity however the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage.

## Document 7

From: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 6:56 PM  
To: First Minister FirstMinister@ gov.scot  
Subject: The Commonwealth Games

I cannot believe that the First Minister of Scotland should dare consider Scotland hosting the Commonwealth Games, now that Australia has pulled out. Where on earth is the funds going to come from? We are already the highest taxed country in the UK.

The FM refuses to fund the hundreds of Newly Qualified Teachers who lost their jobs two weeks ago, yet he blatantly talks of spending millions in these games. At whose expense?

It's really time the Chancellor of the Exchequer gets involved here and investigates this matter urgently.

A total waste of funds that could be well spent elsewhere! Australia are wise.

Time to re-think Sir!

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300368417

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 18 July 2023 to the First Minister following comments made in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply.

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland.

In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Active Scotland - Delivery

## Document 8

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 5:59 PM  
**To:** First Minister FirstMinister@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** Commonwealth Games

Good afternoon first Minister

I have just heard on the BBC that Australia has pulled out of hosting the next Commonwealth Games and that Scotland was being considered.

I wish to express my opposition if this is the case as the money could be much better spent on the NHS, Ferries the A9 being just a few suggestions.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300368455  
Your Reference: Commonwealth Games

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 18 July 2023 to the First Minister following comments made in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland.

In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Active Scotland - Delivery

## Document 9

From: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 10:58 PM  
To: First Minister FirstMinister@ gov.scot  
Subject: COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026

Dear Mr Yousaf

I have been most concerned today, after Australia deciding to withdraw from hosting the above Games, that there is even a question of Scotland considering hosting them.

I have much sympathy for all the Athletes involved and can only imagine how disappointed they are at this turn of events.

However, our country has people who can't feed their children even when they are in employment Fuel bills that have nearly tripled in a year, causing many pensioners and disabled people among many others unable to afford to heat their homes. An NHS that is on its knees, not through any fault of the wonderful staff that are trying so hard to keep it going.

I'm sure that any funds that may be found could go to help any of these well deserving people and the NHS.

I would like, therefore, to confirm my strong objection to Scotland hosting the Games.

I look forward to hearing from you in early course.

Sincerely [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300368458  
Your Reference: COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 18 July 2023 to the First Minister following comments made in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland. In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Active Scotland - Delivery



## Document 10

From: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Sent: 18 July 2023 18:45

To: Yousaf H (Humza), MSP Humza.Yousaf.msp@parliament.scot

Subject: Commonwealth games Humza, delighted you were elected leader of our party and first minister. I emailed you the day Nicola resigned urging you to stand. Despite the press I'm impressed with the plans you're proposing for our country and independence. P...

CAUTION: This e-mail originated from outside of The Scottish Parliament. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Humza,

Firstly I was delighted you were elected leader of our party and first minister. On the day Nicola resigned I emailed you urging to stand. Despite the press, I'm impressed with the proposals you are putting forward for our country and our independence.

I've been a member, acraiving and supporter since the 70's.

To the point I wish to make. With Victoria pulling out of the Commonwealth in 2026 I would ask you and our Government seriously consider Edinburgh as our capital offering to host the games. Understand it's a huge cost in the current climate but the international prestige and showing our wonderful country on the international stage will promote our independence as a nation. Edinburgh badly needs a new indoor arena. I know this will meet resistance but consider the benefits of hosting the event. We have venues and our nations hosting is second to none. Please consider this suggestion and act before we miss the chance. Yours in support [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300368509

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 18 July 2023 to the First Minister following comments made in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland. In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Active Scotland - Delivery

## Document 11

From: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2023 7:56 AM  
To: First Minister FirstMinister@ gov.scot  
Subject: Commonwealth Games

Dear Sir

I am writing directly to you to indicate my concern that you may be considering a part-hosting of the 2026 Games.

Scotland is in the grip of a financial squeeze, there is very little support, except from within the 'Games community' for this event.

The health service in my area of Angus is desperately in need of more quality NHS care facilities, are you aware that one of our main hospitals is at Stracathro, a world war two building.

I hope that you will take the right decision and consider that these Games are no longer relevant, except obviously to a couple of hundred athletes. This is a luxury that cannot be justified.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300368524

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 20 July 2023 to the First Minister following comments made in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply.

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland. In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Active Scotland – Delivery

## Document 12

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 4:37 PM

**To:** First Minister FirstMinister@ gov.scot

**Subject:** Commonwealth Games

Dear First Minister

2026 Commonwealth Games

For all the disappointment of Australia pulling out of hosting the next Games (and remembering the buzz of energy in Glasgow in 2014!) I was also pleased, for I no longer believe that the cost - financial, social and environmental - is justifiable.

Sometimes, even long-running, much-loved regular 'events' have to come to an end. Yes, the Games are important especially to those who take part; yes, it may be one of few times when athletes can compete under the 'Scottish' flag - but *right now we are in the midst of a climate crisis, as well as a a cost of living crisis. The well-being of the earth and all its people must take priority. As proud hosts of COP26 - we must not only stick to our commitments but take the lead.*

Please, please, First Minister, realise that hosting the Commonwealth Games makes no sense for Scotland, nor the world, nor for the crumbling Commonwealth going forward.

We must seek new ways.

For transformation to happen we need to change our ways.

That is the Art of Possibility.

Now. Before its too late.

Listen, hear and act.

thank you

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300368549

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 18 July 2023 to the First Minister following comments made in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply.

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland. In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at

this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Active Scotland - Delivery

## Document 13

From: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
Sent: Friday, July 21, 2023 11:13 AM  
To: First Minister FirstMinister@ gov.scot  
Subject: Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games

Dear First Minister,

With Australia walking away from hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games and rumours of them never being held again it would be a shame if one of the worlds largest sporting events came to an end.

The Commonwealth Games are an important ceremony of where more than 70 countries not only come to compete but show how united they are.

Para athletes also get the chance to show their amazing skill and dedication alongside non disabled athletes as this is one of few sporting events where everyone competes together as one.

The Glasgow 2014 games were an amazing event that not only provided outstanding sporting achievements but also brought an incredible buzz and atmosphere to Glasgow not to mention the economic value it created contributing an estimated £30 million to Glasgow's GVA.

Whilst hosting the games would come at some expense all of the facilities built or upgraded for the 2014 games still stand.

Emirates Arena - Built specifically for the games in 2014 little would be required to make this facility reach its former international standard as it is hosting the 2023 UCI World Cycling Championships showing it is still capable of hosting large events. It still has the capability to host the badminton events.

Tollcross International Swimming Centre - For the games Tollcross ISC was extensively upgraded with the addition of the new 6 lane, 50m warm up pool. In the last few years this has been out of commission but has begun to be repaired in anticipation of the return of international level events. The main pool hall also requires upgrades but these are already going to be carried out when the facility shuts at the beginning of next year and are only expected to take a year meaning they would be finished in time to host the swimming events. Should work not be completed in time the Royal Commonwealth pool in Edinburgh could be used as it would already have to host the diving due to Glasgow not having a diving pool.

Glasgow Green Hockey Centre - Upgraded for 2014 the pitches here could once again serve as the venue for hockey events if Glasgow were to host in 2026.

Celtic Park - Holding the opening ceremony in 2014 we could again use this stadium as it still stands and has the capability to hold large scale events.

Ibrox - In 2014 this stadium played host to the Rugby sevens and still has the capacity to do so.

Hampden - Held the athletics and the closing ceremony and it still hosts a variety of large scale events such as concerts and football.

Cathkin Braes could still be able to host mountain biking events.

The SEC has a number of facilities in one concentrated area which are able to be temporarily converted into sporting venues for activities such as Boxing, Judo and wrestling.

Across the river from this is both the BBC Scotland and STV buildings which served at the centre for media and broadcasting making it ideal to once again perform this role.

Scotstoun Stadium, Kelvingrove Lawn Bowls Centre, Barry Button Shooting Range and Strathclyde Country Park could all once again be utilised to host events in 2026.

Having all of these facilities already built and operational in Glasgow should keep the cost of hosting the games down as not much would need to be spent on venues.

The only structures from the 2014 games that no longer can be used is the athletes village however whilst a new one could be built and then sold off afterwards as the 2014 one was a more temporary solution could be viable such as temporary houses that can be placed on a disused piece of land and then removed after the games or something like a cruise ship could be moored in the Clyde for the period the athletes are staying as it has sleeping and meal facilities onboard already.

Glasgow has always been a major player in hosting large sporting events from swimming to athletics and cycling and has proved twice that it is capable of hosting large events and delivering an unparalleled experience for athletes, volunteers and spectators.

I hope the government looks into the possibility of hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Sincerely,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300368585

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 21 July 2023 to the First Minister following comments made in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply.

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland. In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Active Scotland - Delivery



**Document 14**

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

**Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2023 4:58 PM

**To:** Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport MinisterSCMWS@ gov.scot

**Subject:** Fwd: Commonwealth Games 2026

Dear Maree,

I have just sent the following email to the Minister for Sport at the Welsh Assembly.

All the best

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Date: Fri, 28 Jul 2023, 16:54

Subject: Commonwealth Games 2026

To: Correspondence.Dawn.Bowden@ gov.wales

Dear Dawn,

Whilst I appreciate how expensive it would be for Cardiff to attempt to host the Commonwealth Games in 2026, at this late juncture a joint offer to steo in between Glasgow, Wales and Northern Ireland (and perhaps even Dublin) might be more realistic.

Glasgow still has heritage from 2014, and at Hampden Park has a natural bowl for athletics.

However Cardiff International Pool and the Principality/Millennium Stadium are great venues for Swimming and Rugby Sevens, perhaps sharing the latter with the Aviva Stadium or Croke Park in Dublin.

Northern Ireland, with its history of great boxers could use the Waterfront in Belfast or host the Lawn Bowling.

Scotland can use its legacy of the forthcoming UCI Cycling for cycling events, but the road races could be in Wales or Northern Ireland.

The games could colloquially be nicknamed the Celtic Commonwealth Games.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Our Reference: 202300370353

11 August 2023

Dear [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Thank you for the email dated 28 July 2023 to Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport, where you copied an email you sent to the Welsh Government in relation to Scotland potentially playing a part in hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As part of Active Scotland, I have been asked to reply.

The Commonwealth Games is an important event for the Scottish Government as it represents the only opportunity for many athletes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland. In light of the recent statements from Australia's state of Victoria and the Canadian province of Alberta, the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage. However, we are currently engaging with Commonwealth Games Scotland, and other partners, to explore different scenarios should the Commonwealth Games Federation make an approach to discuss whether there is an appetite to host the games across the UK.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
Active Scotland - Delivery

## Document 15

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 9:49 AM

**To:** Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen

Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Jack Middleton Jack.Middleton@ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Cc:** Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsAndCulture@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** SPAD info: Commonwealth Games, Scotsman

Morning SPADs, officials,

For your awareness, The Scotsman has asked for a comment on Scotland potentially hosting part of the 2026 Commonwealth Games – this is on the back of Alberta pulling out of the 2030 Commonwealth Games bid today. We will reissue the following cleared line given the position has not changed and will issue if we get further queries throughout the day.

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“The 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games received international recognition as an outstanding fortnight of sporting and cultural events. The Scottish Government will of course explore if Scotland can support of a multi-city, multi-partner hosting opportunity however the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage.”

Thanks,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

[www.gov.scot/news](http://www.gov.scot/news)



## Document 16

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Commonwealth Games proposal - FM media bid

[Redacted section 30(c)]

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:51 PM  
**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Commonwealth Games proposal - FM media bid

[Redacted section 30(c)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Scottish Government |

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:35 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Commonwealth Games proposal - FM media bid

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ],

There are no current discussions on this at the moment. I'd expect that UK Sport are likely to look at the viability of a multi-partner bid but that's not been confirmed at this stage. We have no idea of the practical or financial implications of this at this stage so I would ask that any lines we do deploy are non-committal. [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] lines do that so I'd be happy with them.

Best wishes  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events

Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:32 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]@ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events  
Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie

Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section  
38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section  
38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @  
gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Commonwealth Games proposal - FM media bid

I would suggest keeping the lines vague as I assume we have not had any conversations. I have suggested the following to [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] who is on the ground with FM. Grateful for any suggested changes.

(middle lines were previously cleared lines from 2022):

*"It is disappointing news that the Australian state of Victoria has announced it will no longer host the 2026 Commonwealth Games. The 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games has been recognised internationally as an outstanding fortnight of sporting and cultural events. At the heart of this success, the east end of Glasgow was transformed with the development of world-class sporting facilities and venues. I am sure the Commonwealth Games Federation will now take time to consider its next steps."*

C

Thanks,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Constitution, External Affairs and Culture  
Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

[www.gov.scot/news](http://www.gov.scot/news)



**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:26 PM

**To:** Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@  
gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section  
38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @  
gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @  
gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @  
gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @

gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Commonwealth Games proposal - FM media bid

Adding Director's box.

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:24 PM

**To:** Penelope Cooper Penelope.Cooper@ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** URGENT: Commonwealth Games proposal - FM media bid

**Importance:** High

Hi all,

FM is about to undertake a round of media bids at a visit in Peterhead and has asked for any lines to take on the possibility of Scotland being involved with the next Commonwealth Games, following the State of Victoria's withdrawal.

Specifically in regard to comments below from Event Scotland director Paul Bush.

**Are you aware of any internal / ongoing discussion on this?** Or if we're not aware of any proposals, could he at least say we would consider joining any rUK proposal, subject to any cost implications?

Response appreciated asap, thanks.

Thanks,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

Commonwealth Games' issues after Victoria cancels 2026 event - BBC Sport

*Bush, a former chairman of Commonwealth Games Scotland and Team Scotland chef de mission for the Melbourne Games in 2006, does not anticipate any offer from Scotland to stage the 2026 event.*

*However, he suggested Scotland - which hosted the Games in 1970, 1986 and 2014 - could play a role in a broader coalition.*

*"In terms of funding resources, it would be hugely challenging, probably not viable," he said of a potential rescue bid.*

*"Scotland could be part of something bigger in a multi-country, multi-city environment."*

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]Constitution, External Affairs and Culture  
Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

[gov.scot/news](http://gov.scot/news)



## Document 17

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:48 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: REQUEST FOR LINES: Commonwealth games

All,

To confirm [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] has confirmed via comms she is content with this line.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:46 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: REQUEST FOR LINES: Commonwealth games

Comms have now suggested this which we're happy to go with in the meantime.

*Obviously It's disappointing that Victoria hasn't been able to go ahead as host, but I understand the Commonwealth Games Federation are looking at their options and it wouldn't be right to speculate as to what an alternative venue might be.*

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** 18 July 2023 14:43

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: REQUEST FOR LINES: Commonwealth games

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]. Looks like [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] out of the office until 15.00 but will check in on this then. Is that OK timewise? [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. Especially as they'll be totally focused on cycling at the moment. But [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] will be able to confirm. [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. Cheers. [Redacted section 38(1)(b)].

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 2:23 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot



section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** FW: REQUEST FOR LINES: Commonwealth games

Hi folks,

I've asked Active Scotland colleagues about this but it might be one for Major Events. Do we have lines on this?

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** 18 July 2023 14:19

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** REQUEST FOR LINES: Commonwealth games

Hello all

Sorry for the urgent email but FM is out an event this afternoon and may be asked about Melbourne pulling out of hosting the Commonwealth Games and whether it might mean that Glasgow will put itself forward again. Can we get a short line on that? Is it even a possibility? Need something ASAP please.

Thanks so much

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Scottish Government  
Communications Health and Social Care  
0 [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

**Please note: my non-work day is a Monday**

## Document 18

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:03 PM

**To:** Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen

Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie

Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: FOR SpAd VIEW PLEASE MEDIA QUERY: Comment on Commonwealth Games - Herald and Daily Express

Hi Kevin

Thanks for the changes, we'll put these lines up to the Minister now.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:02 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen

Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie

Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted

section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted

section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted

section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted

section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: FOR SpAd VIEW PLEASE MEDIA QUERY: Comment on Commonwealth Games - Herald and Daily Express

I'd be inclined just to go with these sentences, and the bit in red . .

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 3:55 PM

**To:** Ross Ingebrigtsen Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Kevin Pringle

Kevin.Pringle@ gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@ gov.scot



[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]Constitution, External Affairs and Culture  
Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

[gov.scot/news](https://www.gov.scot/news)



## Document 19

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 5:35 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development MinisterforCEID@gov.scot ; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport MinisterSCMWS@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: FOR MINISTER CLEARANCE PLEASE MEDIA QUERY: Comment on Commonwealth Games - Herald and Daily Express

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

Content for this to issue, thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

Office of Angus Robertson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG | T: +44 (0)131 244

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | M: +44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]



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](http://www.lobbying.scot)

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Taylor.Scott@gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 5:27 PM

**To:** Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

Matt.Paterson@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Susan.Nickalls@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Jack.Matthews@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Kerri.Docherty@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Jenny.Scott@ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Craig.Keddie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Jamie.Duguid@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Richard.Walsh@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Jennifer.Skipper@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Mark.Taylor@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Derek.Watson@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Suzi.Mair@ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@ gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development MinisterforCEID@ gov.scot ; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport MinisterSCMWS@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: FOR MINISTER CLEARANCE PLEASE MEDIA QUERY: Comment on Commonwealth Games - Herald and Daily Express

Hi all

We discussed with officials earlier who [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)] advised we should keep our comment high level. Given outlets are likely to refer to the FM's comments, suggest we keep the SG line slightly more top line.

Kevin, if you are content, would be grateful if PO could seek clearance on the following line:

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“The 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games received international recognition as an outstanding fortnight of sporting and cultural events. **The Scottish Government will of course explore if Scotland can support of a multi-city, multi-partner hosting opportunity however the Commonwealth Games Federation will need time to consider next steps, and it would be premature to comment further at this stage.**”

Thanks,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

[www.gov.scot/news](http://www.gov.scot/news)



**From:** Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 5:16 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @

gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture  
CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events  
Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@ gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development  
MinisterforCEID@ gov.scot ; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport  
MinisterSCMWS@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: FOR MINISTER CLEARANCE PLEASE MEDIA QUERY: Comment on Commonwealth Games - Herald and Daily Express

Ideally, would recraft the quote to reflect FM remarks.

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 5:14 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events  
Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@ gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development MinisterforCEID@ gov.scot ; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport MinisterSCMWS@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: FOR MINISTER CLEARANCE PLEASE MEDIA QUERY: Comment on Commonwealth Games - Herald and Daily Express

Hi all,

FM was asked about this at a media event today so would suggest directing any queries to this clip: Radio Clyde News on Twitter: "Could Scotland play a role in rescuing the 2026 Commonwealth Games? Victoria in Australia has pulled out of hosting them Speaking to @ Finlay\_Jack5 - @ HumzaYousaf reveals Scotland will explore being part of a multi-city, multi-country hosting opportunity, but warns about costs <https://t.co/61siYJ469C>" / Twitter

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Constitution, External Affairs and Culture  
Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

gov.scot/news



**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 4:08 PM

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture  
CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie  
Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; Kevin Pringle Kevin.Pringle@ gov.scot ; Ross Ingebrigtsen Ross.Ingebrigtsen@ gov.scot ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@ gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development  
MinisterforCEID@ gov.scot ; Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing & Sport  
MinisterSCMWS@ gov.scot

**Subject:** FOR MINISTER CLEARANCE PLEASE MEDIA QUERY: Comment on Commonwealth Games - Herald and Daily Express

Private Office

CC Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport for awareness

With help from officials and SpAds we've drafted a response, below, to queries from the Express and Herald asking whether Scotland would take on the Commonwealth Games in 2026 given that Melbourne has announced it's pulling out. The Herald has also included comments from Paul Bush at EventScotland, below. The journalists have asked for a response **today**

Grateful to know if the Minister is content.

Best wishes

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

## Response

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]



## QUERY

Paul Bush - former boss at Commonwealth Games Scotland and now boss at Event Scotland - was asked about Scotland stepping into host the games in three years time after Victoria's shock exit.

BBCGMS journo: "The blueprint is there from 2014. The infrastructure is in place, which means there wouldn't be the huge spend that Victoria were looking at. Is that a possibility for Scotland to step in and host the Games?"

Bush: "I think in the current global economic situation that will be hugely challenging. You know, you never say never. That would obviously be down to the Scottish Government in terms of funding resources. Scotland could be part of something bigger you know, in a in a multi country, multi city environment, but hosting on its own I think, you know, it's probably not viable at this point in time."

Is this something the SG could consider? Are these discussions taking place?

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Constitution, External Affairs and Culture  
Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029

[www.gov.scot/news](http://www.gov.scot/news)



## Document 20

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 12:29 PM  
**To:** ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox ETFMQPQ@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: PQ - S6W-20043 - Due 2nd Aug

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

This is a new area of work with no established team to take it so we have been discussing who might be able to respond to it on a one-off basis.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] has very kindly offered to answer this (thanks again for that, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)])

Could you allocate to him please.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government |

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot **On Behalf Of** ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 12:23 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot  
**Cc:** ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox ETFMQPQ@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: PQ - S6W-20043 - Due 2nd Aug  
**Importance:** High

Hi there

Please can you let us have an update for the below PQ awaiting allocation on the tracker.

Kind regards  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Scottish Government, Room 1N.04. St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG.  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot **On Behalf Of** ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ gov.scot  
**Cc:** ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox ETFMQPQ@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** PQ - S6W-20043 - Due 2nd Aug

Hello

I would appreciate it if you could take a look at the below PQ and let me know if this is for your area.

**S6W-20043 Paul Sweeney:** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will consider making an offer to the Commonwealth Games Federation for Glasgow to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games, in light of the withdrawal of the Australian state of Victoria as hosts.

**PQ deadline is – 02/08/2023**

If not your area, grateful if you could let me know why and point me in the right direction of who you think may be able to lead.

Thank you in advance  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] Scottish Government, Room 1N.04. St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG.  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

## Document 21

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 12:37 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** FW: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

Thanks for taking the written PQ on commonwealth games as an one-off to help. Some material from Rachael below for background note. I've attached comms line (which has link further down to what FM said earlier in week). I'd be inclined to repeat the comms line as the answer but may need to see if we need to amend based on this development Commonwealth Games: Gold Coast ready to step in as 2026 hosts, says mayor Tom Tate - BBC Sport

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Scottish Government |

**FOR THE REST OF THE EMAIL CHAIN SEE DOCUMENT 1 FROM THE EMAIL DATED THURSDAY JULY 20, 2023, 6:55AM**

**FOR ATTACHMENT SEE DOCUMENT 4**

## Document 22

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 2:23 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** FW: PQ: Commonwealth Games

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Scottish Government |

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 1:28 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: PQ: Commonwealth Games

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

All good this end, hope you are too!

Was going to upload our response to the PQ today. It's been cleared by our DD and I've attached it for your reference regarding your MiCases.

Hope all is clear but if you need anything else just get in touch.

Cheers,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 1:12 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** PQ: Commonwealth Games

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

I hope you are well?

I was made aware of a PQ being asked around Scotland potentially hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games and notice it has been allocated to you on the PQ tracker.

I have a number of MiCases on the same subject and wondered whether we could have a conversation about the response, so we are all joined up?

Many thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]Active Scotland  
Scottish Government  
Area GA South, Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ  
Tel: 0131 244 [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]  
Email: [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]



To find out more about Active Scotland, please visit us on **Twitter** or on our **Actify hub**.

**FOR ATTACHMENT PLEASE SEE DOCUMENT 6**

## Document 23

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 2:31 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: PQ: Commonwealth Games

I can do!

Will upload once it's done.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 2:23 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** FW: PQ: Commonwealth Games

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

Hope you had a good weekend.

Thanks again for picking this up. Can I check that you can access this to file the PQ response once you get it through the system?

Major Events Policy: Future Pipeline: 2021-2026 - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Scottish Government |

**FOR THE REST OF THIS EMAIL CHAIN PLEASE SEE DOCUMENT 22 FROM THE EMAIL DATED MONDAY, JULY 31, 2023 1:28 PM**

**Document 24**

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Sent:** Monday, July 31, 2023 8:46 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot

**Subject:** FW: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

To see.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Scottish Government |

**FOR THE REST OF THE EMAIL CHAIN PLEASE SEE DOCUMENT 1 FROM THE EMAIL DATED FRIDAY JULY 28, 2023, 8:41AM**



## Document 25

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 10:11 AM  
**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture  
CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ;  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ;  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events  
Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot  
**Cc:** Cycling World Championships SG 2023 cyclingworlds@ gov.scot ; [Redacted  
section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: Urgent - Major Events FMQ Brief

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

As discussed on Teams, I understand that the Cabinet Secretary no longer needs this info but the current lines on the Commonwealth Games would be useful, following the withdrawal of Victoria and Alberta. These are set out in the attached PQ, along with advice in the background note (which covers potential costs). Legacy report on Glasgow 2014 is here: [Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games legacy: summary findings April 2018 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

I've also attached some key stats on golf events and festivals that we'd pulled together following your request.

Kind regards

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | Scottish Government |

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture  
**Sent:** Monday, August 14, 2023 9:27 AM  
**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] @ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot  
**Cc:** Cycling World Championships SG 2023 cyclingworlds@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** Urgent - Major Events FMQ Brief  
**Importance:** High

Good morning everyone

I hope you are all well and getting to recover from a busy couple of weeks!

Mr Robertson has requested sight of an overview of Major Events across the board, with high level, up to date stats on everything from Cycling World Championships,

Commonwealth Games, COP26, Golf Majors, Festivals etc. Is there an FMQ brief or similar that has this information to hand?

I appreciate some of this may be available publicly so if there are any sources which have this you are able to share as soon as possible this morning that would be ideal.

Thank you

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] [Office of Angus Robertson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture](#) [CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot)

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG | T: +44 (0)131 244

[Redacted section 38(1)(b) ] | M: +44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b) ]



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**ATTACHMENTS: DOCUMENT 6 and a second document which is out of scope**

## Document 26

### Extract from Major Events Team contribution to briefing for FM engagement on 8 September

#### 2026 Commonwealth Games

##### Lines to take:

- The 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games received international recognition as an outstanding fortnight of sporting and cultural events.
- I understand the Commonwealth Games Federation is still in discussion with Victoria on the implications of the announcement. I wouldn't wish to pre-empt those discussions.
- As I confirmed before, I have asked my officials to carry out some very early work on the feasibility of being part of a UK-wide joint bid but until the Federation confirms its plans for the 2026 Games, it would be inappropriate to speculate on what might happen.

##### Background:

- On 18 July 2023, Australia's state of Victoria has announced its withdrawal as host of the 2026 Commonwealth Games due to budget issues. The State subsequently agreed to pay the Commonwealth Games Federation £190 million as a result.
- The government of Alberta, Canada pulled its support for hosting the 2030 iteration of the event on 4 August over concerns at the likely cost.
- On 25 August 2023 the Commonwealth Games Federation stated:  
*"Now we have reached a settlement with the Victorian government, our main focus is on finding a solution for 2026 that is in the best interests of athletes and the wider Commonwealth sport movement. We have been particularly inspired by the huge support from around the world and the enthusiasm for the Games that has been expressed over the last few weeks and are working to turn that interest into a clear plan."*

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

- The costs of hosting the Commonwealth Games are significant but the exact quantum would be dependent on the requirements that were agreed, and any associated legacy plans attached to hosting. Birmingham cost £778m with the revamp of the Alexander Stadium costing £72m. The cost for Glasgow 2014 was £537m.
- [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. Scottish Government officials are in contact with the UKG and other stakeholders and will continue to provide updates to Ministers, as appropriate.

## Document 27

### Attachment 1 – see Document 6

### Attachment 2

## BACKGROUND NOTE FOR S6W-20043

Paul Sweeney was elected as MSP (Scottish Labour) for the Glasgow region in 2021. The question relates to a public announcement from the State of Victoria on 18 July 2023 that it would withdraw funding to host the Games.

### Latest Position

Australia's state of Victoria has announced its withdrawal as host of the 2026 Commonwealth Games due to budget issues.

The public response from the Commonwealth Games Federation and Commonwealth Games Australia has remained as follows:

*'taking advice on the options available to us and remain[s] committed to finding a solution for the Games in 2026 that is in the best interests of our athletes and the wider Commonwealth Sport Movement'*

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

Tom Tate, mayor of the Gold Coast located in the state of Queensland, has publicly stated that the Gold Coast is ready to step in to stage the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii)

### **Could Scotland submit a single bid to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games?**

Hosting a Commonwealth Games is expensive. The total costs for Birmingham 2022 were c. £778m. That funding included the redevelopment of the Alexander Stadium for athletes, building the Sandwell Aquatics Centre and the Parry Barr regeneration.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

### **Would a joint bid across the UK nations be feasible?**

The Commonwealth Games Federation's Chief Executive Katie Sadler is quoted publicly as saying they would be open to having a conversation if the Games was something UK nations were interested in. A UK Government spokesperson has said that its hope is for the Victoria Government, Commonwealth Games Australia and the Commonwealth Games Federation to work together to find a solution.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

### **Costs**

The costs of hosting the Commonwealth Games are significant but the exact quantum would be dependent on the requirements that were agreed, and any associated legacy plans attached to hosting. Birmingham cost £778m with the revamp of the Alexander Stadium costing £72m. The cost for Glasgow 2014 was £537m.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

### **Other relevant points**

Scotland is about to deliver the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships. Scotland is also committed to a UK and Ireland bid for EURO 2028, which is currently being assessed by UEFA. Redacted section 33(2)(b).

The Commonwealth Games Federation annual meeting is in November 2023. Redacted section 32(1)(a)(ii).

**Contact Name:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)], Culture and Major Events  
**Ext:** Ex. [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

## DOCUMENT 28

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** Ian Reid Ian.Reid@ CyclingWorldChamps.com  
**Subject:** RE: CWG

Done Ian. Look forward to catching up later.

Best wishes  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Ian Reid Ian.Reid@ CyclingWorldChamps.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** Re: CWG

Hi Rachael

Would you mind sending a teams message?

Ian

Sent from Outlook for iOS

---

**From:** Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 9:01:22 PM  
**To:** Ian Reid Ian.Reid@ CyclingWorldChamps.com  
**Subject:** RE: CWG

This email originated from outside of VisitScotland. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the source of this email and know the content is safe.

They would be great Ian thanks. Just let me know if a call or Teams works best for you out there.

Best wishes  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Ian Reid Ian.Reid@ CyclingWorldChamps.com  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 6:58 PM  
**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** Re: CWG

Hi Rachael

Yes - good. Probably easier to have a quick about it.

I'm out in Saudi right now but could do a quick call around 5pm your time tomorrow if that works?

Ian

Sent from Outlook for iOS

---

**From:** Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 8:55:26 PM  
**To:** Ian Reid Ian.Reid@ CyclingWorldChamps.com  
**Subject:** RE: CWG

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Hi Ian,

How did Friday's meeting go?

Best wishes  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Ian Reid Ian.Reid@ CyclingWorldChamps.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 4:47 PM  
**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: CWG

Hi Rachael

I hope you are well.

[Redacted section 30(c)] the Queensland state has already come out and said they would not host and are focussed on 2032 Olympics. Things may change of course but Gold Coast is far from a concrete offer at this stage.

The Queensland premier, Anastacia Palaszczuk, also ruled out stepping in, saying the state was focused on the 2032 Olympics instead.

The [Gold Coast Bulletin](#) reported that Palaszczuk told the Women in Sport Summit: “I’ve had people say to me: ‘Can we run the Commonwealth Games?’

“Well, no we can’t because we’re focused on the Olympics and any extra money we have to put into issues like social housing.”

[Redacted section 30(c)]

All good here as Silver – no major issues reported today!

Best wishes

Ian

**From:** Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 4:28 PM

**To:** Ian Reid Ian.Reid@ CyclingWorldChamps.com

**Subject:** CWG

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Hi Ian, have you got any more intelligence on the Gold Coast position other than what’s reported in the news?

Hope all is well with you today.

Best wishes

R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**

Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events

Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

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Tha beachd sam bith a chuirear an cèill sa phost-d seo leis an neach a chuir e agus faodar nach eil e a' riochdachadh beachdan Farpais Rothaireachd na Cruinne 2023 Earranta. Thoir an aire gum bithear a' cumail sùil air siostam post-dealain Farpais Rothaireachd na Cruinne 2023 (a' gabhail a-steach susbaint nam post-d agus leas-fhaidhlichean sam bith) air adhbharan tèarainteachd agus trèanadh.

Tha Farpais Rothaireachd na Cruinne 2023 Earranta na companaidh chuingichte le barrantas ann an Alba (àireamh chlàraichte SC656048) le a h-oifis chlàraichte C/O VisitScotland, Ocean Point One, 94 Ocean Drive, Dùn Èideann, An Rìoghachd Aonaichte, EH6 6JH. Tha Farpais Rothaireachd na Cruinne 2023 na companaidh a tha fo làn shealbh VisitScotland.

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Tha beachd sam bith a chuirear an cèill sa phost-d seo leis an neach a chuir e agus faodar nach eil e a' riochdachadh beachdan Farpais Rothaireachd na Cruinne 2023 Earranta. Thoir an aire gum bithear a' cumail sùil air siostam post-dealain Farpais Rothaireachd na Cruinne 2023 (a' gabhail a-steach susbaint nam post-d agus leas-faidhlichean sam bith) air adhbharan tèarainteachd agus tràanadh.

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Dh'fhaodadh beachdan pearsanta a bhith gan cur an cèill sam post-d seo nach eil a' riochdachadh beachdan VisitScotland.

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Tha VisitScotland a' comhairleachadh gu bheil sibh a' fosgladh puist-d agus cheangalachain aig ur cunnart fhèin.

## DOCUMENT 29

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 8:35 AM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** Commonwealth Games

Morning [Redacted section 38(1)(b)],

Hope you had a lovely long weekend.

Apologies for the late circulation of the Commonwealth Games information I promised – I was sure I had sent it but I can't see any record of it so must have imagined it!

Attached is the UK Sport paper, note of the meeting and note of UK Sport's subsequent meeting with the home nation Commonwealth Games Associations. Not for further circulation as you'd imagine.

It would be really helpful if [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] could help to set up a restricted ERDM file for this work – can I leave that with you to action?

Many thanks  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

**Document 30,**  
**Document 31 from email dated Wednesday, September 13, 2023 5:29 PM**  
**Document 43**

## DOCUMENT 30

### **CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR ONWARD DISTRIBUTION**

5 September 2023

For DCMS, Welsh Government, Scottish Government

### **Commonwealth Games: Potential UK Hosting Model**

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*The paper has been produced internally by UK Sport Officers as an initial desk top exercise, and who have liaised on budgetary matters with Dave Berry Consulting (DBC). Any DBC detail is noted as source.*

#### **Contents**

- A. Background**
- B. Context and Purpose**
- C. Principle and Assumptions**
- D. The Proposal**
- E. Deliverability**
- F. Cost**
- G. Conclusions**
- H. Next Steps**

#### **A. Background**

1. The Commonwealth Games is a quadrennial international multi-sport event among athletes from the Commonwealth of Nations. The event was first held in 1930 and has run every four years since (except two editions halted by World War II).
2. The event was called the British Empire Games from 1930 to 1950, the British Empire and Commonwealth Games from 1954 to 1966, and British Commonwealth Games from 1970 to 1974. Some Games have included integrated para sports in their schedules since 2002.
3. The event is owned and overseen by the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), which controls the sporting programme and selects host cities. In 2017 CGF Partnerships (CGFP), was established as a joint venture between the CGF and Lagardère Sports to support the delivery of the Games through long-term commercial partnerships and embedding staff within organising committees.
4. As the member bodies of the CGF, the Commonwealth Games Associations (CGA) lead and manage the participation of their teams at the Games. In the UK these are separate associations for each of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The support of CGA(s) are also of critical importance in putting forward a bid to the CGF and would be key partners in any hosting proposal, noting that it is the CGAs that 'submit a bid' with the support of Governments.

5. In the last 20 years, from the 2002 edition, the event has primarily been hosted in the UK or Australia with the exception only of 2010 which was held in India. In 2022, South Africa were due to host the Games but withdrew in 2017, with Birmingham stepping in to host that edition in Dec 2017.
6. Victoria, Australia were due to host the 2026 edition of the Games. Planning was underway when they withdrew in July 2023 citing a budget increase from their planned AUS\$2.6bn to an estimated AUS\$6bn (£1.4bn to £3.13bn). For context (based on publicly reported figures of operating costs), the Birmingham 2022 Games cost £778m, Gold Coast AUS\$1.2 (circa £600m) and Glasgow £473m.
7. Public sources claim that Victoria has agreed to pay AUD\$380m (£190m) to settle all disputes arising from the cancellation of the 2026 Commonwealth Games. This will be paid to the CGF, Commonwealth Games Partnerships (CGFP) and Commonwealth Games Australia. The split is unknown.
8. It is understood that the CGF is still in conversation with Australia to explore any possible solutions that remain. Publicly, all Australian states have counted themselves out of any option to host the Games. No other potential hosts have been suggested by the CGF or in the media.
1. The bidding process for 2030 is currently open and the CGF are actively seeking bids. Alberta, Canada was the only declared interest in the process until August 2023 when they withdrew their interest. [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

## **B. Context and Purpose**

2. Given the risk that now exists to the 2026 Commonwealth Games [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)] UK Sport has produced some preliminary thoughts outlining a potential revised hosting model for 2026 [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)].
3. Whilst this paper explores a potential hosting model [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)], this does not infer that any offer would be made or that any funding has been made available to do so. It would still be for all partners to explore in a robust way whether it is in the interests of the UK, both societally and aligned to wider hosting aspirations, whether this would be worth pursuing. The broad conditions where that course of action might be considered feasible and/or desirable are outlined here, but not explored in full.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

4. No formal conversations have taken place between the UK or home nations and the CGF and there has been no commitment to make a proposal to the CGF.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

In 2021 the CGF reduced the 'core' sports to just two (Athletics and Swimming) and suggested that around 15 sports should be included in the programme in total.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

The CGF currently works with CGF Partnerships (CGFP) on long-term contracts for Games delivery and supply of key staff to any organising committee.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

**Redacted Section 33 (2)(b)**

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

### **C. Conclusions**

As noted in the introductory note, the intention of this paper has been to do some pre-emptive work to outline a proposal that could potentially deliver a Commonwealth Games  
[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

However, it is not intended to be a comprehensive or full assessment of whether this proposal should proceed to the CGF, and it is not a replacement for a feasibility study.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]



## Document 31

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 6:13 PM  
**To:** Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Evening all

[Redacted section 30(c)]

Many thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Rob.Holt@ gov.wales Rob.Holt@ gov.wales  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 11:57 AM  
**To:** michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Hi

[Redacted section 30(c)]

Rob

Sent from Outlook for iOS

---

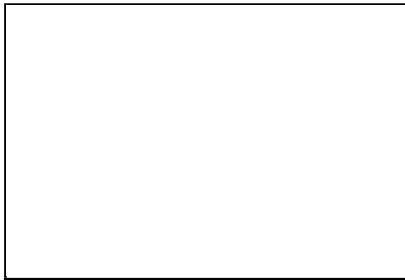
**From:** Michael Livingston michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 11:40:08 AM  
**To:** Holt, Rob (ETC - Culture, Sport & Tourism - Event Wales) Rob.Holt@ gov.wales  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk

38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk Sally.Munday@  
uksport.gov.uk ; Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ;  
[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@  
uksport.gov.uk

**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Thanks both.

[Redacted section 30(c)]



**Michael Livingston** (he/him)  
Deputy Director, Major Sporting Events & Delivery  
SRO, Grassroots Facilities Investment Portfolio

100 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2BQ  
michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk | 07[Redacted  
section 38(1)(b)]  
PA: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk

*I may email outside of normal work hours. Please do not feel you need to respond outside of your own work schedule.*

On Tue, 19 Sept 2023 at 11:24, Rob.Holt@ gov.wales wrote:

Hi

[Redacted section 30(c)]

Rob

Sent from Outlook for iOS

---

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 11:14 am

**To:** Holt, Rob (ETC - Culture, Sport & Tourism - Event Wales) Rob.Holt@ gov.wales  
; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk ; Rachael  
Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@  
visitscotland.com ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk [Redacted section  
38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk [Redacted  
section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ;  
Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@  
uksport.gov.uk

**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

All,

[Redacted section 30(c)]

Many thanks [Redacted section 38(1)(b)].

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Senior Technical Major Events Consultant | UK Sport**

**M:** +44 (0) 7826 891170

**From:** Rob.Holt@ gov.wales Rob.Holt@ gov.wales

**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2023 7:47 AM

**To:** michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

**Cc:** @ uk sport.gov.uk; Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk;

Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk; Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk; @ uk sport.gov.uk; @ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Thanks Michael

[Redacted section 30(c)]

Rob

**From:** Michael Livingston michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk

**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 4:34 PM

**To:** Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

**Cc:** @ uk sport.gov.uk; Holt, Rob (ETC - Culture, Sport & Tourism - Event Wales)

Rob.Holt@ gov.wales ; Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com; [Redacted section

38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk;

Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk; Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk; @ uk sport.gov.uk;

@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Thanks Anna, all. Some thoughts from me:

- [Redacted section 30(c)]

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

Thanks,

Michael



**Michael Livingston** (he/him)  
Deputy Director, Major Sporting Events & Delivery  
SRO, Grassroots Facilities Investment Portfolio

100 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2BQ  
michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk | 07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
PA: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk

*I may email outside of normal work hours. Please do not feel you need to respond outside of your own work schedule.*

On Thu, 14 Sept 2023 at 08:11, Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot wrote:

Thanks Anna, this is really helpful to see  
Redacted section 30(c)

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

Best wishes

R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**

Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 5:29 PM

**To:** Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; Rachael McKechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Dear all,

We wanted to share with you a readout from our meeting with the CGAs earlier today, [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

From a UK Sport side it was myself, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] and Simon; the CGAs were the 4 x CEOs from the home nation CGAs plus Frankie Kelly from CGE. Simon chaired the session.

- Simon provided an introduction alongside the context and mandate on which this work has taken place [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]The CGAs shared an outline of their thinking to date:
- [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)] We didn't take any specific actions from the wrap-up, we reiterated the partner position and confirmed that we were not doing any further proactive work with government partners at this stage.

Our headline reflections on the meeting are as follows:

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

In addition, to note that [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] and I have also separately briefed Aine Kearny from Northern Ireland re our conversations – at a high level only at this stage.

We will speak to you all over the next few days at our 1:1s and will make any further round ups after we complete those if needed. To confirm, for now, we are not undertaking any further proactive work but would encourage anyone to share any intelligence with this group should it emerge.

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Technical Mega Events Specialist | UK Sport**

**From:** Rob.Holt@ gov.wales Rob.Holt@ gov.wales

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:09 AM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] @ uk sport.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Hi

[Redacted section 30(c)]

Rob

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 11:22 AM

**To:** Holt, Rob (ETC - Culture, Sport & Tourism - Event Wales) Rob.Holt@ gov.wales ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; Michael Livingston michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

All,

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)] we will confirm when the CGA meeting is arranged in order to help you manage this.

Please let me know if anyone disagrees with that as a way forwards.

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Technical Mega Events Specialist | UK Sport**

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

**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 9:57 AM

**To:** Rob Holt rob.holt@gov.wales ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@gov.scot ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@visitscotland.com ; Michael Livingston michael.livingston@dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@dcms.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@uksport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@uksport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@uksport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@uksport.gov.uk

**Subject:** CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Dear all,

Thank you for your time today to discuss the paper and next steps on any requirements around a Commonwealth Games. It felt like we were in alignment on a number of key principles and actions:

- Good piece of work, based on shared assumptions/principles

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

It was agreed that we need to communicate with the CGAs (and relatively soon) – in order to set clear expectations and hopefully achieve alignment and control any messaging with CGF. Partners requested UKS do this. [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

Actions (for UKS):

- Arrange 1:1s for feedback
- Arrange meeting with 4 x CGAs and UKS
- [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]UKS to brief partners in NI (via Aine Kearney) on work done to date and position
- Share readout with this group post CGA meeting.

A final reminder to all to please ensure that **the paper is not shared outside of this distribution.**

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Technical Mega Events Specialist | UK Sport**

*Pronouns: She/Her*

T: +44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]M: +44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]



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Sganiwyd y neges hon am bob feirws hysbys wrth iddi adael Llywodraeth Cymru. Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cymryd o ddifrif yr angen i ddiogelu eich data. Os cysylltwch â Llywodraeth Cymru, mae ein hysbysiad preifatrwydd yn esbonio sut rydym yn defnyddio eich gwybodaeth a sut rydym yn diogelu eich preifatrwydd. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn anfon ateb yn Gymraeg i ohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi. On leaving the Welsh Government this email was scanned for all known viruses. The Welsh Government takes the protection of your data seriously. If you contact the Welsh Government then our Privacy Notice explains how we use your information and the ways in which we protect your privacy. We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

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## DOCUMENT 32

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:22 AM

**To:** Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; michael.livingston@dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Thanks Rob,

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

To confirm - the meeting with the CGAs (England, Wales, NI, Scotland) has just been confirmed for tomorrow, it will be myself and Simon from a UKS side.

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

I'll supply a short readout following and we also have the 1:1s scheduled with each of you over the next few days and early next week so will be able to discuss anything then too.

Thanks

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Technical Mega Events Specialist | UK Sport**

**FOR THE REST OF THE EMAIL CHAIN PLEASE SEE DOCUMENT 31 FROM THE EMAIL DATED TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023, 11:00AM**



## DOCUMENT 033

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk On Behalf Of [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Mailbox

**Sent:** Friday, September 8, 2023 2:18 PM

**To:** Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Michael Livingston michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL: CWG - follow-up to 7 Sept mtg

Thanks [Redacted section 38(1)(b)], this is a really helpful note. [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
**Major Sporting Events and Delivery Unit**  
100 Parliament Street, LONDON SW1A 2BQ  
[www.gov.uk/dcms](http://www.gov.uk/dcms)

On Fri, 8 Sept 2023 at 11:29, Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com wrote:

Anna

Thanks, content with both note and approach.

Paul

**FOR THE REST OF THE EMAIL CHAIN PLEASE SEE DOCUMENT 31 FROM THE EMAIL DATED FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2023, 11:22AM**

## DOCUMENT 34

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 5:31 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Cc:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk; Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Thank you, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)], for the quick read out which is really appreciated.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

We are on track to have the UKS report with you on Monday as per the brief and perhaps after that meeting we can agree our engagement plan with CGAs moving forward to ensure they are clear on the government sentiment and position.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk On Behalf Of [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Mailbox  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 5:05 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk; Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Thanks [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] that's really helpful to know.

Just for copy recipients' benefit, [Redacted section 30(c)]  
No actions resulted, and it was a very short meeting.

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]  
Major Sporting Events and Delivery Unit  
100 Parliament Street, LONDON SW1A 2BQ  
[www.gov.uk/dcms](http://www.gov.uk/dcms)

On Tue, 22 Aug 2023 at 18:01, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk wrote:  
Dear all,

I wanted to provide a short interim update on the below, in particular on the timeline:

- You will see that we are due to regroup on 7 Sept.
- We have been able to start developing this piece of work, but still have some areas that we would like to give further consideration to; therefore we will aim to share a paper with you for your consideration by the 5 Sept ahead of this meeting.

The line remains as below and we appreciate your continued discretion, if any one has any concerns please let me know.

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Technical Mega Events Specialist | UK Sport**

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2023 11:26 AM

**To:** Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk; Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Morning all,

Thank you for joining us for the call yesterday, and as agreed on the call please see below an outline of the agreed next steps:

- We remain agreed that our preference is that the CGF find a solution with Australia for the hosting of the 2026 CWG, [Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]. If you have any specific thoughts yourselves please send them to [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

We will look to regroup towards the end of August, unless anything changes in the interim our line remains that we hope the CGF are able to find a solution with Australia. We appreciate your continued discretion on this topic which will aid us to complete this piece of work effectively.

Many thanks

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | UK Sport**

Pronouns: She/Hers

M: +44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

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## DOCUMENT 35

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 7:17 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Cc:** Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk

**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Hi all,

[Redacted section 30(c)]

Best wishes

R

Rachael McKechnie

Deputy Director, Cultural Futures and Major Events

Email: Rachael.McKechnie@ gov.scot

Tel: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

---

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk on behalf of [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Mailbox [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk

**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 6:57:18 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Cc:** Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk

**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Thanks all – [Redacted section 30(c)]

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

On Thu, 10 Aug 2023 at 18:34, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk wrote:  
Thanks Rob, [Redacted section 30(c)]

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | UK Sport**

Pronouns: She/Hers

M: +44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

---

**From:** Rob.Holt@ gov.wales Rob.Holt@ gov.wales

**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 6:31:11 PM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk

**Cc:** Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@

uksport.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Simon Morton  
Simon.Morton@ uksport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uksport.gov.uk ;  
michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk  
**Subject:** RE: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted section 30(c)]  
Rob

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk **On Behalf Of** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Mailbox  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 5:21 PM  
**To:** Holt, Rob (ETC - Culture, Sport & Tourism - Event Wales) Rob.Holt@ gov.wales  
**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Rob [Redacted section 30(c)]  
Thank you!

Lucy

On Thu, 10 Aug 2023 at 16:54, Rob.Holt@ gov.wales wrote:  
[Redacted section 30(c)]  
Rob

Sent from Outlook for iOS

---

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk on behalf of [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Mailbox [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 4:11 pm  
**To:** Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uksport.gov.uk  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uksport.gov.uk ; Holt, Rob (ETC - Culture, Sport & Tourism - Event Wales) Rob.Holt@ gov.wales ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk  
michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ;  
Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uksport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@  
uksport.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Hi Sally, [Redacted section 30(c)]

Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

On Thu, 10 Aug 2023 at 15:55, Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uksport.gov.uk wrote:  
[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)] Thanks for this Lucy. [Redacted section 30(c)] Sally

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk On Behalf Of [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]Mailbox

**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2023 10:36 AM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Cc:** Rob Holt rob.holt@ gov.wales ; michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Simon Morton Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Sally Munday Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Hi all, just to let you know [Redacted section 30(c)]  
Thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

On Fri, 4 Aug 2023 at 16:58, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk wrote:

Thanks Rob, we are aiming for end of August.

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

On 4 Aug 2023, at 13:01, Rob.Holt@ gov.wales wrote:

Thanks Michael

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

CGW are asking about our timelines?

Rob

Sent from Outlook for iOS

---

**From:** Michael Livingston michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 12:30 pm

**To:** Holt, Rob (ETC - Culture, Sport & Tourism - Event Wales) Rob.Holt@ gov.wales

**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot

rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; **[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk** ;

Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk Simon.Morton@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Sally.Munday@

uk sport.gov.uk Sally.Munday@ uk sport.gov.uk ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@

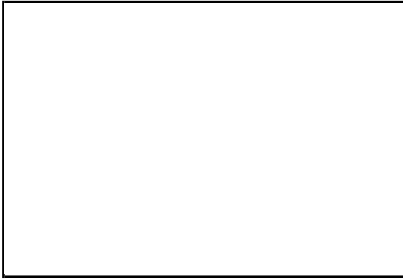
uk sport.gov.uk

**Subject:** Re: CONFIDENTIAL - CG

Thanks Rob. [Redacted section 30(c)]

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]

Michael



**Michael Livingston** (he/him)  
Deputy Director, Major Sporting Events & Delivery  
SRO, Grassroots Facilities Investment Portfolio

100 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2BQ  
michael.livingston@ dcms.gov.uk | 07[Redacted  
section 38(1)(b)]  
PA: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ dcms.gov.uk

*I may email outside of normal work hours. Please do not feel you need to respond outside of your own work schedule.*

On Fri, 4 Aug 2023 at 07:36, Rob.Holt@ gov.wales wrote:  
Hi

[Redacted Section 29(1)(a)]  
Worth another catch up?

Rob

**FOR THE REST OF THIS EMAIL CHAIN PLEASE SEE DOCUMENT 34 FROM  
THE EMAIL DATED THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023, 11:26AM**



## DOCUMENT 36

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 10:00 AM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com  
**Subject:** RE: CWG - 1:1 follow-up mtg

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b)],

I could do 11.45-12.30 on Tuesday 19 September. Can you invite [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] along for me too please?

Many thanks  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 9:38 AM  
**To:** Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: CWG - 1:1 follow-up mtg

Thanks Paul,  
Rachel let me know if the 19<sup>th</sup> works for you and I can put something in or alternatively can offer some other times next week  
thanks

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Technical Mega Events Specialist | UK Sport**

**From:** Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 9:02 AM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk ; Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: CWG - 1:1 follow-up mtg

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] See below.  
P

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 8:53 AM  
**To:** Rachael Mckechnie rachael.mckechnie@ gov.scot ; Paul Bush Paul.Bush@ visitscotland.com  
**Subject:** CWG - 1:1 follow-up mtg

This email originated from outside of VisitScotland. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Hi both,

Good to talk to you last week re the CWG – I committed to arranging 1:1s with partners to follow up on more granular specific views from the paper, do any of the following work for you to find 45 mins – an hour?

Thu 14 - 10:30 – 11:30 – [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Fri 15 - 12:00 – 13:00 – [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

Tue 19 – 9:30 – 14:00 – Could do between 11am and 12.30pm

Thanks

**[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | Technical Mega Events Specialist | UK Sport**

*Pronouns: She/Her*

T: +44 (0)20 [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] M: +44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]



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Dh'fhaodadh beachdan pearsanta a bhith gan cur an cèill sam post-d seo nach eil a' riochdachadh beachdan VisitScotland. Tha siostam post-dealain VisitScotland (an teachdaireachd sam post-dealain seo agus ceangalachain sam bith) ga mheasadh agus ga chlàradh gu tuairamach airson adhbharan tèarainteachd agus trèanadh.

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## DOCUMENT 37

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 1:26 PM  
**To:** Jon Doig jon.doig@ teamscotland.scot  
**Subject:** RE: 2026 Commonwealth Games

Hi Jon,

Redacted – Out of scope

Best wishes  
Rachael

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Jon Doig jon.doig@ teamscotland.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2023 12:19 PM  
**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** FW: 2026 Commonwealth Games

Hi Rachael

Further to our brief conversation at the Cycling, we have continued to look at options across the UK Commonwealth Games bodies while we know that [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] has also kept things moving through the UK Sport group looking at it from the events angle. We now have a Teams meeting scheduled for this Thursday and I was wondering If you are attending and whether we can speak prior to update each other.

Let me know your thoughts.

Kind regards

Jon

**Jon Doig OBE**  
**Chief Executive**  
Email: jon.doig@ teamscotland.scot  
Mobile: 07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

www.teamscotland.scot|@ Team\_Scotland



**Commonwealth Games Scotland, Airthrey Castle, Hermitage Rd, University of Stirling, Stirling, FK9 4LA**

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---

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## DOCUMENT 38

**From:** Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 4:13 PM

**To:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hi Rachael

Redacted – Out of scope

Secondly, and relevant to this, Andy Beattie is the Commonwealth liaison person and offered to meet with you and Scott to see how he can help with this, in particular to discuss the future of the games.

Might be an idea to pro-actively set that meeting up when you're back on an even keel.

Kind regards,

*Penelope*

Penelope Cooper | Director of Culture and Major Events | The Scottish Government Mob:0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

(she/her)

***I am working a hybrid working pattern – please email, contact me on MS Teams or phone my mobile.***

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@gov.scot

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2023 10:11 AM

**To:** First Minister FirstMinister@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Ken Thomson Ken.Thomson@gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance DFMCSF@gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care CabSecNRHSC@gov.scot ; Permanent Secretary PermanentSecretary@gov.scot ; DG Strategy and External Affairs DGSEA@gov.scot ; John Nicholson John.Nicholson@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot ; Callum McCaig Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot ; Leanne Dobson Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot ; DG Health & Social Care DGHSC@gov.scot ; Andrew Bruce Andrew.Bruce@gov.scot ; David Hutchison David.Hutchison@gov.scot ; Richard Foggo Richard.Foggo@gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs & Culture CabSecforCEAC@gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International Development MinisterforCEID@gov.scot ; Hugh Gillies Hugh.Gillies@transport.gov.scot ; DG Net Zero DGNetZero@gov.scot ; Joe Griffin Joe.Griffin@gov.scot ; DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox DGScottishExchequer@gov.scot ; DG Corporate dgcorporate@gov.scot ; Alison Cumming Alison.Cumming@gov.scot ;

Jackie Mcallister Jackie.Mcallister2@ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Thanks Chris,

One tiny change to ensure the correct organisational name marked in red but otherwise looks great from my perspective.

Best wishes

Rachael

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**

Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events

Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** Christopher Mackie Christopher.Mackie@ gov.scot **On Behalf Of** First Minister

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2023 4:38 PM

**To:** Rachael McKechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot ; First Minister

FirstMinister@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Ken Thomson

Ken.Thomson@ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events

Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot

**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance DFMCSF@ gov.scot ;

Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care CabSecNRHSC@

gov.scot ; Permanent Secretary PermanentSecretary@ gov.scot ; DG Strategy and

External Affairs DGSEA@ gov.scot ; John Nicholson John.Nicholson@ gov.scot ;

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ;

Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@ gov.scot ; Callum McCaig Callum.Mccaig@

gov.scot ; Leanne Dobson Leanne.Dobson@ gov.scot ; DG Health & Social Care

DGHSC@ gov.scot ; Andrew Bruce Andrew.Bruce@ gov.scot ; David Hutchison

David.Hutchison@ gov.scot ; Richard Foggo Richard.Foggo@ gov.scot ; [Redacted

section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs &

Culture CabSecforCEAC@ gov.scot ; Minister for Culture, Europe & International

Development MinisterforCEID@ gov.scot ; Hugh Gillies Hugh.Gillies@

transport.gov.scot ; DG Net Zero DGNetZero@ gov.scot ; Joe Griffin Joe.Griffin@

gov.scot ; DG Scottish Exchequer Mailbox DGScottishExchequer@ gov.scot ; DG

Corporate dgcorporate@ gov.scot ; Alison Cumming Alison.Cumming@ gov.scot ;

Jackie Mcallister Jackie.Mcallister2@ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Rachael – thanks for this.

Based on your advice, I have drafted the below line to take the FM could deploy if asked about the status of the feasibility review. Can you confirm you are happy with this?

“I understand the **Commonwealth** Games Federation is still in discussion with Victoria on the implications of the announcement. I wouldn't wish to pre-empt those discussions. As I confirmed before, I have asked my officials to carry out some very

early work on the feasibility of being part of a UK-wide joint bid but until the Federation confirms its plans for the 2026 Games, it would be inappropriate to speculate on what might happen”.

Thanks

Chris

**Chris Mackie**

Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

T: 0131 244 [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | M: 07[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]



**FOR THE REST OF THIS EMAIL CHAIN SEE DOCUMENT 1 FROM THE EMAIL DATES TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2023, 9:09AM**



## Document 39

**From:** Ken Thomson Ken.Thomson@ gov.scot

**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2023 9:58 AM

**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot

**Cc:** DG Strategy and External Affairs DGSEA@ gov.scot ; Joe Griffin Joe.Griffin@ gov.scot ; Director of Culture and Major Events Directorofcultureandmajorevents@ gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)], Rachael –

Thanks for giving Ministers that heads-up, and the offer of an update later (definitely after UCI, Rachael!), and for including me in your emails. I'm using this to pass them on to Joe Griffin, whom I briefed about this among other things yesterday afternoon, and to ask that you keep him in touch with further developments.

K

**Ken Thomson** | Director General, Strategy & External Affairs, Scottish Government | 📞 0131 244 [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | 📠 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)] | ✉️ dgsea@ gov.scot | 📧  
1N.04A St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

**FOR THE REST OF THIS EMAIL CHAIN SEE DOCUMENT 1 FROM THE EMAIL DATES FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 2023, 9:48AM**

## DOCUMENT 40

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 8:28 AM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)][Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Thanks so much for pulling this together [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]– really appreciate your flexibility in taking it on. I've just added two very small things in red. With these changes made, I'm content with the answer.

Best wishes  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**From:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2023 2:28 PM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot ; Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Cc:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)], Rachael

Please see draft response to the PQ attached.

Have largely used Rachael's note for the background with some slight changes to reflect the link [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] circulated re. the Gold Cost mayor's comments. I'm not sure this fundamentally changes anything in the written answer over what the cleared comms. lines said but have a look and let me know if you want anything additional added.

Thanks,

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**ATTACHMENT – Document 27**

**FOR THE REST OF THIS EMAIL CHAIN SEE DOCUMENT 1 FROM THE EMAIL DATED THURSDAY JULY 20, 2023, 12:37PM**

## DOCUMENT 41

**From:** Rachael Mckechnie Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2023 10:58 AM  
**To:** [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ gov.scot  
**Subject:** FW: Official Sensitive: Commonwealth Games advice

Hi [Redacted section 38(1)(b)],

As just discussed, here's the email that I sent First Minister's office and the response they've come back with which I need to go back with an answer today. I'll copy you in when I do that and then you can see anything else that comes through the chain.

Best wishes  
R

**Rachael McKechnie (she/her)**  
Deputy Director, Creative Futures and Major Events  
Scottish Government

Email: Rachael.Mckechnie@ gov.scot  
Mobile: 0[Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

**FOR THE REST OF THIS EMAIL CHAIN SEE DOCUMENT 1 FROM THE EMAIL DATED THURSDAY JULY 20, 2023, 1:17PM**

**DOCUMENT 42**

**UK SPORT SLIDES – Separate attachment**

## Document 043

From: Simon Morton

To: Rachael McKechnie, Paul Bush, Rob Holt, Michael Livingston, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Mailbox

Cc: Sally Munday, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport.

Subject: Confidential – CWG26 Paper

Sent: Tuesday 5 September 2003 at 15.19

Dear all,

With huge thanks to [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] for leading this work, please find attached the paper summarising our initial thinking regarding the 2026 Commonwealth Games, should the UK be presented with the opportunity to consider hosting the event. Please note this should be considered highly confidential and should not be shared outside of this distribution group at this stage. The document has been password protected and this password will be shared separately. We can discuss any further distribution or summaries to other parties when we meet on Thursday, until then we would appreciate your full cooperation on this.

We only have 30 minutes on Thursday, therefore we will assume the paper has been read prior to the meeting and will not be giving a lengthy review. We also recognise that you will have questions about the content of the paper and suggest we pick those up separately as 1:1 conversations, so that we can prioritise the time we have for discussion and agreement of next steps.

Suggested agenda as follows:

1. Intro/headline update – Simon
2. Round table – feedback from each partner only (headlines only – please focus on your view on next steps)
3. CGA engagement and next steps

Many thanks and look forward to speaking on Thursday.

Simon

Simon Morton  
Deputy CEO, Director Sporting Systems and Events  
UK Sport

+44 (0) [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]

From: [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport

To: Rachael McKechnie, Paul Bush, Rob Holt, Michael Livingston, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)] Mailbox

Cc: Sally Munday, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport, [Redacted section 38(1)(b)]@ uk sport, Simon Morton  
Subject: RE: Confidential – CWG26 Paper

Sent: Tuesday 5 September 2003 at 15.22

The password for the document is [Redacted s30(c)]

Many thanks

[Redacted section 38(1)(b)], Technical Mega Events Specialist, UK Sport