

Annex A

Document 1

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 27 October 2022 16:33

To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: 'Ross, Douglas' <Douglas.Ross@scottishconservatives.com>;
ian.blackford.mp@parliament.uk

Subject: Scotland must join the Euro as a condition of membership - timeline chronology.

Importance: High

Dear First Minister,

I refer to the recent question tabled by Douglas Ross, in the Holyrood Chamber, about the need for Scotland to adopt the Euro as a condition of any future EU Membership application. In answering the question, you appeared to overlook the timeline chronology in place. By way of a recap.

- **David Cameron promises 'In/Out' referendum – Jan 2013**

On the 23rd January 2013, David Cameron has said the British people must "have their say" on Europe as he pledged an in/out referendum if the Conservatives win the election. I presume that you will accept the reporting of this fact by the BBC in this link <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-21148282>

- **Scotland's Future – Nov 2013**

This was published on the 26th November 2013, some ten months after David Cameron announced his EU policy intention. So both you and Alex Salmond were of this fact well in advance.

In the Foreword, it states, and I quote *"Scotland's referendum on 18 September 2014 is a choice between two futures. If we vote Yes, we take the next step on Scotland's journey. We will move forward with confidence, ready to make the most of the many opportunities that lie ahead. The most important decisions about our economy and society will be taken by the people who care most about Scotland, that is by the people of Scotland. The door will open to a new era for our nation. Scotland's future will be in Scotland's hands. If we vote No, Scotland stands still. **A once in a generation opportunity to follow a different path, and choose a new***

and better direction for our nation, is lost. Decisions about Scotland would remain in the hands of others”.

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-future/>

Can I now refer you to section 557 of this publication which states, and I quote: **557 If Scotland votes No, will there be another referendum on independence at a later date?**

*“The Edinburgh Agreement states that a referendum must be held by the end of 2014. There is no arrangement in place for another referendum on independence. **It is the view of the current Scottish Government that a referendum is a once-in-a-generation opportunity.** This means that only a majority vote for Yes in 2014 would give certainty that Scotland will be independent”.*

As such, any claim by you or by the electorate, that they were not aware of the potential for an ‘In/Out’ referendum, given David Cameron’s statement in January 2013 is irrational, and unfounded.

- **Scottish Independence Referendum – Sept 2014**

A referendum on Scottish independence from the United Kingdom was held in Scotland on 18 September 2014. As such, any claim by you or by the electorate, that they were not aware of the potential for an ‘In/Out’ referendum, given David Cameron’s statement in January 2013 is irrational, and unfounded.

- **David Cameron wins election – May 2015**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2015-32633099>

The pledge made in January 2013 by David Cameron now comes into effect. As such, any claim by you or by the electorate, that they were not aware of the potential for an ‘In/Out’ referendum, given David Cameron’s statement in January 2013 is irrational, and unfounded.

- **EU Referendum – June 2016**

On 23 June 2016 a referendum was held across the United Kingdom and Gibraltar about whether the UK should remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union. More importantly, this referendum was on the basis of one person/one vote. True democracy in action.

The people of Scotland were aware of David Cameron's pledge in January 2013, and by voting to stay part of the UK in 2014, they did so in the full knowledge of the 'In/Out' referendum. The Foreword in the Scotland's Future Nov 2013 also made this clear well in advance, and I quote again from it: *A once in a generation opportunity to follow a different path, and choose a new and better direction for our nation, is lost. Decisions about Scotland would remain in the hands of others*". Yes, the British people who all voted, thereby exercising their democratic rights.

On this collective basis, for you to make the claim that Scotland was dragged out of the EU against its will is totally irrational and unfounded.

- **Independence: what you need to know (subject to Supreme Court ruling)**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/independence-what-you-need-to-know/pages/european-union/>

This omits the fact that Scotland will have to adopt the Euro as its currency and give up the £. This also means that the European Central Bank (ECB) will set monetary policy, and not an independent Scotland. I make reference to the following: *"SNP must join Euro before EU membership is considered if Scotland becomes independent, says report. Senior figures in Brussels have insisted the SNP government must commit to joining the Euro before its membership can be considered, according to a newspaper report"*.

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/people/snp-must-join-euro-before-eu-membership-is-considered-if-scotland-becomes-independent-says-report-3895652>

By omitting this important fact, are you now misleading the people in Scotland about the material impact that the Euro will have on their lives, and the value of the assets they hold (e.g. their homes)? You have also not mentioned how long it will take an independent Scotland to become an EU member state. Obviously, Scotland will not be able to jump the queue!

Yours.

[Redacted]

Document 2

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 17 October 2022 15:01
To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>
Subject: Independent Scotland in the EU

Dear First Minister

I read with interest your paper on Building a new Scotland etc, published today.

You state that “We propose that an independent Scotland should apply to re-join the European Union, opening our borders with Europe, and with Northern Ireland, again.”

And throughout the paper, you assume that an independent Scotland would become an EU Member State.

However, this is an assumption, a hope, and is not a guaranteed outcome as, I’m sure you are aware, EU membership is at the discretion of the 27 current Member States.

In the Brexit debate, we were promised certain things that have not come to pass and you are, understandably, critical of these. I therefore assume and expect you are prepared to explain to people, the outcome for Scotland if any of your assumptions about an independent Scotland did not materialise.

Please can you tell me what you would do if Scotland was not able to join the European Union, for example as a result of one or more Member States vetoing membership?

What would an independent Scotland outwith the EU, be like?

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]

Document 3

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 18 October 2022 14:37
To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>
Subject: Economic argument

Dear First Minister,

I was surprised by the lack of discussion / referencing of the peaceful separation of Czechoslovakia in Jan 1993 into the Czech republic and Slovakia ([Dissolution](#)

[of Czechoslovakia - Wikipedia](#)) in the “stronger economy with Independence” booklet. I would have thought that this would be of great interest to those undecided about Independence, especially is the so called weaker state, Slovakia, has thrived since dissolution. The irony is not lost on me that the Slovak National Party or **SNP** got their wish. The separation was by parliamentarians and not by referendum. Scotland’s support for independence is much greater than the opinion polls were in Czechoslovakia for dissolution.

As I have emailed in the past, that Scottish parliamentarians took us into the voluntary union and it will require Scottish parliamentarians to take us out of the union as I don’t see Westminster agreeing to a democratic second referendum. Scottish Westminster parliamentarians could invoke the Scottish Grand Committee to vote on whether to either unilaterally dissolve the union (akin to what you are proposing at the next election, even though you have the majority of Scottish Westminster MPs to do this now) or demand that a referendum be granted as the will of the people through the election of their existing Westminster Scottish MPs, the latter probably would be best, although the result of a referendum might not break the stalemate between Independence and status quo required.

Regards,

[Redacted]

Document 4

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 19 October 2022 05:49

To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Subject: Scotlands economic model

I listened to you setting the SNP proposals for the future of the country and was intrigued by the fact that most of your planed were to be funded by oil revenue from the north sea, a fossil fuel which I do believe the world is heading towards other alternatives in the attempts to save the planet, If Scotland had done the same as the Shetlands and brokered a deal with the oil companies 40 years ago, then there would be funds available to do what you are proposing in your paper with having to borrow on the strength of a rapid declining source
It would be nice to get a reply, but I do not expect one

[Redacted]

Document 5

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 19 October 2022 07:41

To: Robertson A (Angus), MSP

Subject: Constituent at [Redacted] - has queries about the proposed new Scottish currency

Dear Angus

I have some queries about the valuing of the proposed new Scottish currency as well as other concerns about the SNP/Green policies having read the online publication at

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/building-new-scotland-stronger-economy-independence/pages/8/>

I would be very grateful if you could spare some time to deal with the following:

1. Re Box 5 'Monetary policy influences...the value of the currency.' While Scotland's people continue to use sterling, how will an independent Scotland have any ability to influence the value of the currency? Could the Danes use the Swiss franc in Denmark, and, if they could, could the Danish government influence the value of Swiss francs circulating in Denmark? Would the value of sterling used in Scotland have the same or different value from sterling used in the rest of the UK? What is the Bank of England's opinion on this issue? How will it actually be possible for Scotland to separate from the UK and continue to use the same currency as the rest of the UK which is managed by the Bank of England? It is true that as noted in the publication: 'Sterling has been the legal currency in Scotland for centuries and is internationally traded.' But this is only because Scotland has been part of the UK.

2. Further down: 'Financial services and products would remain denominated in sterling. Monetary policy during this period would also continue to be set by the Bank of England.' Yet simultaneously: 'On day one of independence, the Scottish Government would have legal and regulatory responsibility for the macroeconomic regime...' and yet it is hoped that 'UK regulators' will help the Scottish Government 'to ensure a coordinated and clear process.' How is that going to work?! What is macro and what is micro, and who will determine these?

3. 'tax revenues move in line with economic growth.' Here, the assumption is that the people who help the Scottish economy to grow (usually SMEs) will be happy to give increasing amounts of tax as the economy grows. This may not be the case; they may wish to keep more of their income rather than paying more and more of it to the Scottish Government.

4. An independent Scotland would lose the Barnett Formula grant from Westminster. The proportion given to Scotland is unfairly high anyway and its abolition would result in a large decrease for each person in Scotland but an increase of about 3% per person in England. (See Wikipedia on the Barnett Formula.) Could an independent Scotland be 'fiscally stable' without the Barnett Formula grant?

5. In the publication, pre-Brexit 2018 statistics show that 60% of Scottish exports went to the rest of the UK while only 19% went to the EU. Why would Scotland wish to go back into the EU Single Market? The EU will prevent easy trade with the rest of the UK which will remain outside its Market. Thus, an independent Scotland would be burdened by enormous hurdles to maintaining good exports.

6. A point that is not discussed anywhere in the publication is how a return to the EU will (particularly if an independent Scotland uses the euro) entail the subjugation of the Scottish Central Bank to the European Central Bank. The Scottish Government may be glad of any funds from the EU, but Parliamentarians and the Scottish Central Bank will not retain their independence and power to act in what they believe to be the best interests of the people and businesses of Scotland.

7. Currently, the public sector in Scotland is very large because of the generous Barnett grant which Independence would end. Production and manufacturing of essentials and non-essentials have, as in the rest of the UK, been left largely to the Chinese – whose economy has boomed and whose poverty has diminished. Scotland's powerfully capable working class history has all but vanished, particularly with the recent focus on obeying the Green decarbonisation agenda and working towards reducing its production and manufacturing carbon dioxide emissions to nil. So how will an independent Scotland balance the books? How will people be employed? What will happen to skills so very many of which have already been lost? Electronics, accountancy, medicine and law are all useful, but people still need ships, trains, ferries, tractors, large fork-lifts, mining equipment, aircraft...

8. The Green's agenda will inevitably reduce the healthy impact accorded to current statistics by oil and gas from the North Sea (of which the Nationalists used to be so proud), while the absurd 'decarbonisation' energy policy prevents exploitation of Scotland's coal and the rich undersea resources beyond the West coast. Denying fossil fuel extraction and use has prevented and will prevent the economic growth of coastal towns, rural communities and cities inhabited by vast numbers of people unemployed for generations. How long would an independent Scotland remain beholden to the Greens?

9. Efficient linking of the islands remains a written rather than an actual project. The recent fiasco (corruption-led, rather than worker-led) concerning ferries is a very sad example of governance which is ideological rather than competent – which characterizes much of the fervour for Independence. It is worthwhile mentioning that the Shetlands have various movements demanding independence from the Scottish mainland. Thus, the SNP/Green ruling collective may see the break-up and weakening of Scotland rather than its enrichment.

Aspirations and ideals create warm and fuzzy feelings, and obviously much work has gone into presenting the case, but Scotland's declining population will continue to decline as the best brains leave to find opportunities for growth and prosperity away from a region governed by people blindly following a globalist project to de-industrialise, destroy democracy and absorb nations into its robotic embrace.

I look forward to receiving your replies to and comments on the above.

Best wishes

[Redacted]