

From: Harry Huyton
Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 8:21 PM
To: DL SPADS
Subject: weekend

Hi all

DFM didn't do Sunday Show in the end as she was travelling.

Harry

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, November 18, 2023 9:32 AM
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance [redacted] Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell [redacted]; Elise Black [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh Jamie MacDougall [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Thanks [redacted],

I will go back to the Sunday Show now and let them know DFM can no longer undertake the bid. We will be back in touch if GMS bid for DFM for Monday.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, November 18, 2023 8:48 AM
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell [redacted]; Elise Black [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh Jamie MacDougall [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Good morning [redacted] Thank you for letting us know. We will contact the BBC with the update.

[redacted]

[redacted]
Senior Media Manager
Justice and Home Affairs
Desk: [redacted]
Scottish Government | news.gov.scot

From: [redacted] **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance
Sent: Saturday, November 18, 2023 8:22 AM
To: [redacted]; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted];
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Good morning [redacted],

As discussed on Teams, DFM has flagged that on the basis of likely tech issues due to travel, DFM will now withdraw from this bid. DFM has noted that she could be made available for GMS on Monday morning instead, if there was a request.

Grateful if the withdraw / decline can be communicated with the BBC.

Many thanks,

[redacted]
Deputy Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance –
Shona Robison MSP
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E: [redacted]
M: [redacted]



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From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 7:40 PM
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted];
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Hi [redacted]

The Sunday Show can do a virtual interview for this. We will forward on the details of timings/format etc when we get them (likely to be tomorrow).

Many thanks
[redacted]

[redacted]
Senior Media Manager
Justice and Home Affairs
Desk: [redacted]
Scottish Government | [news.gov.scot](https://www.news.gov.scot)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 6:17 PM
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted];
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Hi [redacted]

I'll check and come back to you.
Thanks
[redacted]

[redacted]
Senior Media Manager
Justice and Home Affairs
Desk: [redacted]
Scottish Government | [news.gov.scot](https://www.news.gov.scot)

From: [redacted] **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 6:14 PM
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth

Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted];
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Hi [redacted]/ [redacted]

DFM would only be available to do this virtually on Sunday. Grateful if comms can check if Sunday Show are minded to do this virtually or in person only?

Thanks,

[redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance –
Shona Robison MSP
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E: [redacted]

M: [redacted]



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.

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From: [redacted];

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 5:13 PM

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted];

Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Hello,

Copying in tonight's duty officer [redacted] to progress once DFM feeds back.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:57 PM

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted];

Subject: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

PS DFM,

The Sunday Show has bid for DFM – details below.

The interview will focus on:

Looking ahead to the UK Autumn statement – and examine recent concerns raised about Scotland’s public finances by the finance committee at Holyrood last week, and the auditor general this week. Additionally, we would like to discuss the DFM and FM’s decision to back the Health Secretary after he admitted to misleading the public - and the questions of trustworthiness that now hang over him in his cabinet position.

Comms and spad view is that DFM should accept if available. Can you confirm if DFM is content to undertake the bid and if so which studio she would prefer to do the interview from?

Thanks,

[redacted]

WHO	OUTLET	TIME	LIVE/PRE-REC	INTERVIEWER	TOPICS	Recommendation
DFM	BBC Sunday Show	10am	Live in studio (Glasgow or Dundee)	Martin Geissler	Autumn Statement, public finances, Audit Scotland report/consolidated accounts, Health Secretary	Accept

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Colin McAllister

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:50 PM

To: [redacted]; Kevin Pringle David Hutchison Jack Middleton Julie Grant [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell [redacted]; Elise Black [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh Jamie MacDougall [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: RE: Spad view: BBC Sunday Show DFM bid

Agree accept

Regards

Colin McAllister

[redacted]



Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: [redacted]

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:49 PM

To: Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Colin McAllister; Julie Grant; Russell Fallis

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted];

Subject: RE: Spad view: BBC Sunday Show DFM bid

Thanks Kevin,

Adding Julie, [redacted] and Colin for info as well. I'll put to DFM shortly.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: Kevin Pringle

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:27 PM

To: [redacted]; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton;

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted];
Subject: RE: Spad view: BBC Sunday Show DFM bid

I'd recommend accept.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 12:05 PM
To: Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted];
Subject: Spad view: BBC Sunday Show DFM bid

Hello,

The Sunday Show has bid for DFM – details below.

The interview would be focused on:

Looking ahead to the UK Autumn statement – and examine recent concerns raised about Scotland’s public finances by the finance committee at Holyrood last week, and the auditor general this week. Additionally, we would like to discuss the DFM and FM’s decision to back the Health Secretary after he admitted to misleading the public - and the questions of trustworthiness that now hang over him in his cabinet position.

Appreciate there’s quite a lot they are looking to cover but may be a good platform for DFM to outline SG asks around the Autumn Statement and also reinforce our messaging around the consolidated accounts? Spads – keen for your views on this.

Thanks,

[redacted]

WHO	OUTLET	TIME	LIVE/PR E-REC	INTERVIEWER	TOPICS	Recommendation	Other details (if required)
DFM	BBC Sunday Show	10am	Live in studio (Glasgow or Dundee)	Martin Geissler	Autumn Statement, public finances, Audit Scotland report/consolidated accounts, Health Secretary		

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Jack Middleton

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 3:30 PM

To: [redacted]; [redacted];

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

No worries. Do you have the name and number of the producer?

Jack Middleton

Special Adviser to the First Minister

[redacted]

[redacted]

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: [redacted]

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 3:24 PM

To: Jack Middleton; [redacted];

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Hi Jack,

Adding [redacted] to the chain. They haven't bid for Mr Robertson and this bid is currently still with DFM for consideration.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: Jack Middleton

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 2:15 PM

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jennie Barugh; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Julie Grant; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Removing POs. Have they bid for Angus Robertson? If DFM knocks back should go to him for an accept.

Jack Middleton

Special Adviser to the First Minister

[redacted]

[redacted]

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: [redacted]

Sent: Saturday, November 18, 2023 8:54 AM

To: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: Duty handover Saturday 18/11

Morning Saturday team

DFM has, this morning, withdrawn from the Sunday Show bid. She has indicated that she may do GMS if asked on Monday. [redacted], as you have planned activity around the autumn statement, can I leave this with you to make a call on whether to pro-actively place a GMS bid? I'll hold off contacting the BBC.

Hope duty goes OK. I'll keep my mobile on so please don't hesitate to ring if I can help with anything.

Thanks

[redacted]

[redacted]

Senior Media Manager

Justice and Home Affairs

Desk: [redacted]

Scottish Government | news.gov.scot

From: [redacted]

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 5:15 PM

To: [redacted]

Subject: RE: DUTY: BBC Sunday Show DFM bid

[redacted]

[redacted]

Senior Media Manager
Justice and Home Affairs

Desk: [redacted]

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

From: [redacted]

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 5:14 PM

To: [redacted]

Subject: DUTY: BBC Sunday Show DFM bid

Contact details for the Sunday Show.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 11:32 AM

To: [redacted]

Subject: BBC Sunday Show DFM bid

Morning [redacted],

Thanks for taking my call just now.

I'd like to put a bid in to speak to the DFM on The Sunday Show with a 1+1 live studio interview with Martin Geissler from 10am.

We'd like to look ahead to the UK Autumn statement – and examine recent concerns raised about Scotland's public finances by the finance committee at Holyrood last week, and the auditor general this week.

Additionally, we would like to discuss the DFM and FM's decision to back the Health Secretary after he admitted to misleading the public - and the questions of trustworthiness that now hang over him in his cabinet position.

Best wishes,

[redacted]

Senior Journalist

[redacted]

BBC Scotland Politics | The Sunday Show | Politics Scotland

From: [redacted] **Sent:** Saturday, November 18, 2023 9:05 AM

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Thanks both

[redacted]
Senior Media Manager
Justice and Home Affairs
[redacted]
Scottish Government | news.gov.scot

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, November 18, 2023 9:05 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Oops emails are still loading so replied to your message last night before seeing this one [redacted] I'll still pick up with the Sunday Show [redacted] to let you crack on with other stuff.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 7:47 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: BBC Sunday Show DFM interview request

Hi [redacted]

As discussed on the phone, the Sunday Show interview with the Deputy First Minister would have to be done virtually.

Grateful if you could send on details – timings (would this still be 10am?), format and a joining link, along with a name and contact number for tomorrow and Sunday morning.

Copying in my Saturday colleagues.

Thanks
[redacted]

[redacted]
Senior Media Manager
Justice and Home Affairs
[redacted]
Scottish Government | news.gov.scot

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2023 4:09 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Thanks. I was just about to try and see this on catch-up. We'll see if she does anything tomorrow.

Jackie

Jackie Wilkins
Deputy Director | Performance & Outcomes Division | Performance, Delivery and Resilience Directorate | DG Strategy and External Affairs | Scottish Government | [redacted] | [redacted] | blackberry [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 November 2023 09:38
To: Jackie Wilkins
Subject: Fwd: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Hi Jackie- in case you were planning to watch the DFM interview, it's no longer taking place today. Colleagues offered Monday instead, but for now there is no confirmation.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, November 18, 2023 9:31:59 AM
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance; [redacted]; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning; Minister for Community Wealth & Public Finance; Minister for Parliamentary Business;
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Elisabeth Campbell; [redacted]; Elise Black; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jackie Wilkins; [redacted]; [redacted]; Jamie MacDougall; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Communications DFM & Finance; Communications NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care; [redacted]; [redacted]; Colin McAllister; Kevin Pringle; David Hutchison; Jack Middleton; Julie Grant [redacted]; [redacted];
Subject: RE: BBC Sunday Show - DFM bid

Thanks [redacted],

I will go back to the Sunday Show now and let them know DFM can no longer undertake the bid. We will be back in touch if GMS bid for DFM for Monday.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, November 17, 2023 3:43 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: media on the consolidated accounts

[redacted]

Many thanks. Very useful to see these. Great if you can keep an eye on things. I will try and watch the DFM on Sunday morning TV.

Have a good weekend, aside from media watching.

Jackie

Jackie Wilkins
Deputy Director | Performance & Outcomes Division | Performance, Delivery and Resilience Directorate | DG Strategy and External Affairs | Scottish Government | [redacted] | [redacted] | blackberry [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 17 November 2023 15:22
To: Jackie Wilkins
Subject: media on the consolidated accounts

Jackie,
I've checked what has been published on the consolidated accounts in the media until now and the links to the relevant articles are below. While they mention the performance reporting, they have focused on the underspend and the affordability of public services going forward.

- [Scotland's public services 'unaffordable and in need of reform' according to watchdog | STV News](#)
- [Scottish Government records £509m underspend | The Herald \(heraldscotland.com\)](#)
- ['Cash-strapped' SNP Government post huge £500m underspend amid financially unsustainable warnings - Scottish Daily Express](#)
- [Scottish Government was quick to respond to inflation, say auditors | The National](#)

I expect there'll be more after the DFM appearance on TV on Sunday.

I'll have a further look during the weekend in case anything else comes up, so we have a bit more time on Monday.

[redacted]

[redacted] | Strategic Insights Unit | Performance, Delivery and Resilience | DG Strategy and External Affairs | Scottish Government

Working from home: [redacted]

[redacted]

Strategic Insights Unit

Scottish Government