

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

25 October 2023

Meeting 1: UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi

Meeting 2: [Redacted - S38(1)(b)] and SDI In Country Team

Meeting 3: H.E. MS. Mariam Bint Mohammed Almheiri

Meeting 4: Alison Hall, Deputy Consul General, UK Embassy

Meeting 5: Robotics Roundtable, Heriot Watt Campus

Meeting 6: Masdar CEO, Mohamed Jameel Al Ramahi

Meeting 7: GlobalScot Engagement

26 October 2023

Meeting 8: Dubai Eye Business Breakfast Show

Meeting 9: IGS Visit

Meeting 10: Mosque Visit

Meeting 11: Mohammed Alhawi, Undersecretary at the Ministry of Investments of the UAE

Meeting 12: Meeting with Yaser Al Mazrouei, ADNOC Executive Director, People, Commercial and Corporate Services

Meeting 13: Khaled Al Shamlan – Deputy Platform CEO – Disruptive Investments, Mubadala

Meeting 14: TAQA Managing Director – Jasim Husain Thabet

Meeting 15: Interview with AGBI – Arabian Gulf Business Index

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

25 October 2023

MEETING 1: UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi

TIME	09:00-09:45
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Special Advisor to the UAE Minister of Foreign Trade• Ministry of Economy representatives• Gregor Irwin – DG Economy• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Trade and Investment Envoy for Scotland in the UAE• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG COP28 Lead• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Regional Director Middle East – SDI• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DCG – British Embassy
NOTES	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Minister for Foreign Trade and the Ministry of Economy – clearly leading the relationship with Scotland and valuing the work we are doing.2. Signing of MOU covering Clean Energy, Education and Technology.3. This MOU, Scotland's first with a Gulf Nation was achieved as a result of all of the work the Taskforce has over the last 12 months. which has met regularly since Dr Thani's visit to Scotland.4. We should not underestimate the wider and future economic opportunities this MOU can bring.5. The UAE were very keen to mention the task force to be specifically named in the press release and have said they have been so impressed by the work delivered that this task force approach is now being implemented with other countries. They noted directly with Cab Sec that they do plenty of visits and often see little action or follow up, so they have been thoroughly impressed by our work and what we have to offer in Scotland.6. Key outcome - Cab Sec invited HE Dr Thani back to Scotland for 2024 and to bring another business delegation. The Cab Sec offered and said he was keen to have the first UAE-Scottish Business Forum to-take place in Scotland in early 2024 and an official invite will follow for this. HE Dr Thani accepted and thought that was a good idea. Cab Sec also introduced NZTC who are keen to set up in UAE and they are very interested to hear more who will be at COP28.7. The Cab Sec also highlighted the Scotland at COP28 Business programme and highlighted the nearly 20 companies that are coming to the UAE and keen to get the UAE Ministry of Economy assistance with socialising those businesses. Also highlighted FM and Cab Sec Net Zero attendance and asked for any opportunities to be part of Trade Day at COP28.

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

ACTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] 2. [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] 3. [Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 2: [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] and SDI In Country Team

TIME	10:00-10.30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Trade and Investment Envoy for Scotland in the UAE • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG COP28 Lead • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Regional Director Middle East – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Science & Tech lead - SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Energy lead - SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Food and Drink specialist - SDI
NOTES	An informal opportunity to meet with SDI in country Team and hear firsthand about the work that they are doing to support trade for Scotland in respective areas of Food and Drink, Science and tech and Energy. Cab Sec thanked them for all that the do in country.
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 3: H.E. MS. Mariam Bint Mohammed Almheiri

TIME	11:00-11:30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change – UAE Govt • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Trade and Investment Envoy for Scotland in the UAE • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG COP28 Lead • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Science & Tech lead – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DCG – British Embassy
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting With HE Mariam Almeirhi - Minister of Climate Change and Environment - a key player in the UAE and a key partner of Sultan Al Jaber as COp28 President. • Strong introductory meeting lots of future collaborations to deliver on mutual net zero priorities.

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared Scotland’s UAE priorities for COP28 in particular on Loss and Damage, and on the Just transition. The importance of working with the O&G sector to ensure future climate objectives can be met “course correct” • Discussed importance of Food security and the UAE mangrove initiative • Shared Scotland’s experience of hosting COP26 and also the COP 28 business programme. • Keen to hear more about the Wellbeing Economy concept and the opportunity to connect on emerging technologies coming from Scotland in the Net Zero space. • Invited to St Andrews Celebration
ACTIONS	<p>[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]</p> <p>[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]</p>

MEETING 4: UK Embassy – Alison Hall, Deputy Consul General

TIME	12:00-12:30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG COP28 Lead
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated on the UAE & UK relationship • The wider geo politics at play • The work of the British Embassy in the UAE
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 5: Robotics Roundtable, Heriot Watt Campus

TIME	12:30-13:30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gillian Murray - Deputy Principal – Enterprise and Business – HWU • Tadhg O’Donovan – Deputy VP HWU Dubai • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Trade and Investment Envoy for Scotland in the UAE
NOTES	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

MEETING 6: Masdar CEO, Mohamed Jameel Al Ramahi

TIME	15.15-16:00
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Husain Al Meer – Global Director Offshore Wind and UK • Mohammed El-Ramahi - Chief Green Hydrogen Officer - • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Energy Specialist – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI regional Director • Alison Hall – DCG – British Embassy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – PS to Cab Sec
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear that they have [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] of capital to invest and they are keen to do something in Scotland. • The will and the intention is there but still unclear on the exact details. • They want SG to come up with the package and proposition in response to their interests they have shown. • They are keen to speak to existing partners in Scotwind and to understand wider opportunities in Scotland [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • They know they want offshore wind to green H2 to ship to Europe. • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • Cab Sec asked The CEO to visit in the new year and he plans to visit. • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • They highlighted they would always look to deliver their Scottish projects with local content and understood the need for wider economic benefits for Scotland • They agreed to share analysis of key sites they are interested in the North Sea • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)]
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 7: GlobalScot Engagement

TIME	18:00-20:00
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Global Scots from the UAE • 20 Global Scots from across the globe joined virtually • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Trade and Investment Envoy for Scotland in the UAE • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG COP28 Lead • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Regional Director Middle East – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Science & Tech lead - SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Energy lead - SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Food and Drink specialist - SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – PS Cab Sec • SDI staff – joined virtually
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cab Sec launched the COP28 business programme to the Global Scot network. With both about 30 Global Scot's in the room and several more online from around the world. • Welcomed the opportunity to talk about COP28 and the Business programme • Strengths of the UAE market • Information shared on the signing of the MOU and the growing relationship with the UAE Govt including Ministry of Economy • Thanked the network for all their efforts to helping secure greater benefits for Scotland. •
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

26 October 2023

MEETING 8: Dubai Eye Business Breakfast Show

TIME	07:00-08:00
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • John Rynehart – Seven media
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live media Interview with Dubai eye - radio and TV interview - broadcasting across the UAE. • highlighted the MOU signing, • details around the COP28 business programme, Scotland's priorities for climate change and the drive to net zero and wider scotland and uae relations • highlighted Glasgow hosting the COP26
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 9: IGS Visit

TIME	08:45-09:30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – IGS • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – IGS partners • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Science & Tech lead – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Regional Director SDI

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed the huge scale of opportunity • The upcoming project to be announced at COP looks like it is only the start. • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • Also an opportunity for future FM and Cab Sec engagement in relation to mangroves and climate goals while out for UAE.
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 10: Mosque Visit

TIME	11:00-11:30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mosque representatives and tour guide • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Science & Tech lead – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Energy lead - SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cab Sec visited the Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi - a cultural engagement very valuable in terms of showing respect to local religion, customs and values but also an opportunity to demonstrate Scotland values. • Reference to this visit in subsequent meetings was very well regarded.
ACTIONS	No Actions

MEETING 11: Mohammad Alhawi, Undersecretary at the Ministry of Investments of the UAE

TIME	12:30-13:00
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Energy lead - SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DCG – British Embassy
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with the Minister was requested however he was travelling and the undersecretary apologised he couldn't be there.

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Ministry, only 3 months old but one that will grow with importance. • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • A strong opportunity for SG to continue to build a G2G relationship with this emerging Ministry in the UAE. • interested in well-being Economy and keen to understand more about this idea and what it means. • The Minister as lead for wellbeing Economy talked them through this priority for Scotland and also raised the importance of Human Rights, fairness and equality as we continue to do business and attract investment into Scotland. • Also we're keen to hear more about companies on the COP28 business delegation.
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 12: Meeting with Yaser Al Mazrouei, ADNOC Executive Director, People, Commercial and Corporate Services

TIME	14:30-15:00
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADNOC Team • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Regional Director Middle East – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – PS • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI Energy Specialist • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DCG – British Embassy
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting with ADNOC focused on energy transition projects. • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • they have agreed to a regular H2/CCS dialogue, • [Redacted – s38(1)(b)] energy lead will now meet regularly with the their respective people.
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 13: Khaled Al Shamlan – Deputy Platform CEO – Disruptive Investments, Mubadala

TIME	16:00-16:30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)], Executive Director – CFO Disruptive Investments

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Regional Director Middle East – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – PS • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI Energy Specialist • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DCG – British Embassy
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlighted that they have invested [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] through the Sovereign Investment Partnership with the UK, exceeding their original £10bn target over five years. • They now want to sign a new SIP and are keen for projects to come forward in Scotland. They are keen to come north of the border and cab sec clearly welcomed this. • Cab Sec keen to speak to them further with tangible investment propositions from Scotland, infrastructure investment projects could be one future area of interest that was discussed
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 14: TAQA Managing Director – Jasim Husain Thabet

TIME	16:00-16:30
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Executive Director of Oil and gas - TAQA • Gregor Irwin – DG Economy • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DITI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Regional Director Middle East – SDI • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – PS • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SDI Energy Specialist • [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – DCG – British Embassy •
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A last-minute meeting that HE DR Thani asked us to do. • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • they just said they are very excited by the XLinks project, although it is at a very early stage, and they would follow up specifically on the cable manufacturing element. • Oil and Gas - they said they had six platforms in the North Sea, now down to five, with one recently decommissioned. TAQA Britannia will essentially move from a production to a decommissioning company. • [Redacted – S33(1)(b)] • At present, they employ 1,500 people in Scotland and are very keen to talk further about Skills, Just Transition and would be open to further talks in the Blue Zone at COP28.
ACTIONS	[Redacted – S33(1)(b)]

MEETING 15: Interview with AGBI – Arabian Gulf Business Index

Visit to UAE – 25-26th October 2023, Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

TIME	13:00- 13:30 (Phone interview while travelling)
ATTENDEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – Deputy Editor Arabian Gulf Business Index• [Redacted – S38(1)(b)] – SG
NOTES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wide ranging Media Interview on Scotland's relationship with the UAE• The signing of the MOU between Scotland and the UAE• The strengthening of the G2G relationship• The positioning of Scotland as a net zero leader• The importance of direct trade relationships• The COP 28 Business programme
ACTIONS	No actions