

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Jackson Carlaw MSP
Convener
Citizen Participation and
Public Petitions Committee

10 June 2022


Dear Jackson,

Thank you for your letter of 13 May, in which the Committee asks how the petitioner can directly engage with the development of the national strategy on ending intimate and sexual violence against men and boys.

As mentioned in the previous letter on 21 February, the development of this strategy is ongoing, with the intention to engage and consult on the strategy from September 2022. When developing any strategy, it is a priority for the Scottish Government to involve key stakeholders in the process through active engagement. This ensures that the Scottish Government is drawing on and collaborating with the opinions of trusted voices which help inform and shape successful strategies. As such, officials will be in contact with stakeholders to invite them to give their views and help inform the development in due course.

I would like to thank the petitioner for their interest in the work and reiterate that while it is absolutely clear that women are, by far, most impacted by domestic abuse and sexual violence, we take the issue of intimate partner violence seriously regardless of the gender of the victim, or of the perpetrator. This is why we recognise the importance of developing this strategy, which will be complementary to the Equally Safe Strategy which addresses violence against women and girls.

Yours sincerely,



CHRISTINA MCKELVIE

From: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Sent: Monday, September 12, 2022 5:01 PM

To: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Subject: RE: Violence Against Men and Boys Discussion - 12th September - action required.

Afternoon

Thanks to all of you who attended this morning. It help like a really helpful initial discussion.

As requested I am attaching the powerpoint presentation, which contains information about the work we are undertaking that, in some ways, contributes to the commitment (whilst recognising that none was developed specifically in response to this commitment).

I hope the following accurately reflects the key points of the discussion held:

*We should be able to quite easily pull together a paper which evidences the work we are undertaking to fund services for men and boys and which supports men and boys who have experienced domestic and sexual violence. There is an enormous amount of this as captured at a high level in the powerpoint.

*[redacted –s29(1) formulation or development of government policy]

*[redacted –s29(1) formulation or development of government policy]

*[redacted –s29(1) formulation or development of government policy]

*I will work with [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information] to develop a paper to DDs to pass to them to request that they consider the appropriate approach to this work (options as discussed). The paper will outline our discussion and the issues we have identified and also provide information about the work we are all doing to further this agenda. We will be in touch in the next couple of weeks to request further information and gain feedback on the draft document.

Please do let me know if I have missed anything – and thanks once again...

All the very best

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Equality Unit | Directorate For Equality, Inclusion & Human Rights |

Scottish Government | m: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information] e: [redacted –

s38(1)(b) personal information] Area 3H (North) | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

My usual working pattern is REDACTED



From: REDACTED

Sent: 08 September 2022 12:33

To: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Subject: Violence Against Men and Boys Discussion - 12th September - action required.

Dear Colleagues

In advance of our meeting on Monday 12th, I thought it would be helpful to confirm the purpose of the meeting, set out a brief agenda and **request some (very brief) material** to keep us focussed in the time we have together.

The purpose of the meeting is to agree how best to draw on work that we are all undertaking to meet the 21/22 PfG commitment to *“progress work to tackle violence against men and boys, investing in services which support male survivors of rape and domestic abuse.”*

I would propose the following agenda:

- Purpose/background to the commitment
- Confirmation of our work in this area
- Collectively delivering the commitment
- Next steps.

In order to enable the second agenda item to be as brief as possible to allow more time for items three and four, **I am asking that every area provide me with 2/3 bullet points which address your work in this area.** I will then pull these together into a powerpoint so we have a collective visual reference. **I would be grateful to receive these by 9am on Monday 12th September to enable me to pull the information together.**

Apologies for the short turn-around time I am giving but I hope that given how small the task is this should not be problematic. By way of an example VAWG equalities bullet points will be: *definition of violence against women and girls within Equally Safe explicitly includes children of all genders as subject to harm through violence; *funding provided to services which support men and boys, specifically Men’s Advice Line, LGBT Domestic Abuse project – but also Women’s Aid groups who support boys.

I am attaching some background information which includes the wording with the PfG, and links to the work undertaken by the UK government in this area.

I believe you all have the link to the meeting, which will take place at 10.30am, but just in case not:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Meeting ID: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Passcode: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

All the best

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Equality Unit | Directorate For Equality, Inclusion & Human Rights |

Scottish Government | m: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information] e: [redacted –

s38(1)(b) personal information] Area 3H (North) | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6

6QQ

My usual working pattern is REDACTED



From: Bland N (Nick) <Nick.Bland@gov.scot>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 11:41 AM
To: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]
Cc: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]
Subject: FW: Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee Correspondence for consideration PE1909: Remove the "gender-based crime" domestic abuse narrative and make it gender neutral and equal

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information], [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Thank you and well done for supporting the Minister with this letter and accompanying comms activity. Great stuff.

Nick

From: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information] **On Behalf Of** Minister for Equalities and Older People
Sent: 10 June 2022 09:02
To: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; Minister for Equalities and Older People <MinisterEOP@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]; Bland N (Nick) <Nick.Bland@gov.scot>; [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]
Subject: RE: Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee Correspondence for consideration PE1909: Remove the "gender-based crime" domestic abuse narrative and make it gender neutral and equal

Morning [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

Please find attached final signed copy issued this morning.

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information] I [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information],

Office of Minister for Equalities and Older People, Christina McKelvie

[redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information] | www.gov.scot | [redacted – s38(1)(b) personal information]

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From: REDACTED

Sent: 10 June 2022 08:25

To: Minister for Equalities and Older People <MinisterEOP@gov.scot>

Cc: REDACTED; REDACTED; REDACTED; Bland N (Nick)

<Nick.Bland@gov.scot>; REDACTED

Subject: Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee Correspondence for consideration PE1909: Remove the "gender-based crime" domestic abuse narrative and make it gender neutral and equal

Morning REDACTED,

Please see re-drafted letter attached with SPAD clearance.

Best wishes,
REDACTED

REDACTED | **REDACTED** | Scottish Government

21/22 PfG commitment to *“progress work to tackle violence against men and boys, investing in services which support male survivors of rape and domestic abuse.”*

Purpose/background to the commitment

Confirmation of our work in this area

Collectively delivering the commitment

Next steps

Background/Context

- [redacted –s29(1) formulation or development of government policy]
- [redacted –s29(1) formulation or development of government policy]
- [redacted –s29(1) formulation or development of government policy]
- [redacted –s29(1) formulation or development of government policy]

VAWG Equalities

- definition of violence against women and girls within Equally Safe explicitly includes children of all genders as subject to harm through violence;
- funding provided to services which support men and boys, specifically Men's Advice Line, LGBT Domestic Abuse project – but also Women's Aid groups who support boys

VAWG Justice

- Some funding to men and boys are victim's through VCAF
- Recognition of men within prostitution policy work.
- Bairnshoos
- Implementing Lady Dorian's review

SARCS

- The Scottish Government has invested £14.6 million over five years (2018-19 – 2022-23) to embed national Healthcare Improvement Scotland standards and to support implementation of the Forensic Medical Services (Victims of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021 Act, which provides a statutory basis for health boards to provide forensic medical services for people who have experienced rape or sexual assault as well as consistent access to self-referral.
- Scotland's first national clinical pathway for adults - as well as a separate clinical pathway for children and young people were published in November 2020. The pathways help to ensure consistency in the delivery of care to this vulnerable group, with specific reference to the healthcare needs of males where appropriate.
- A national awareness raising campaign with the strapline 'Turn to SARCS' was launched in April 2022 to signpost people to NHS Inform, which provides information about how to self-refer.
- One of the posters and online videos for the campaign were purposefully fronted by a male, to highlight that SARCS are not only for females.
- [Turn to SARCS - YouTube](#)
- [Posters - A4 - Rape and Sexual Assault Self-Referral - April 22.pdf](#)
- Since go live on 1 April – 31 August 2022, the NHS 24 self-referral telephony service has handled 218 self-referral calls, 139 of these have been referred to local SARCS for further triage, which have included calls from men (8 calls in August)
- A National Strategic Network is being established, chaired by a health board Chief Executive, to provide leadership for SARCS within the NHS and to help ensure consistency in the quality of care provided.
- The Network has begun identifying priority areas of work including scoping out the enhancement of the person-centred care approach with dedicated / more focussed and inclusive pathways for males, (as well as for LGBTQI, BAME groups and people with complex or multiple needs).
- The SARCS policy unit within the CMO Policy division will work closely with the Network to support the continuous improvement of SARCS for anyone in Scotland who needs this service.

Child Protection

- Harmful Sexual Behaviour Group (sub-group of the National Child Protection Leadership Group) leads on delivery of the proposals set out in the report of the [Expert Group on Preventing Sexual Offending Involving Children and Young People](#) in 2020. This work is relevant to VAMB as it covers harmful sexual behaviours presented by children of any gender towards other children of any gender
- On funding for children of all genders, the Children, Young People and Families Early Intervention Fund grants:
 - Barnardo's Scotland (£315,000) - Support for children and young people at risk of, or affected by child sexual exploitation (CSE)
 - Stop it Now! Scotland (£19,950) - Development/maintenance of Upstream, online resource to prevent child sexual abuse (CSA)
 - Moira Anderson Foundation (£26,250) - Therapy/counselling for child survivors of CSA
- Again on funding, Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, s.10 grant:
 - Stop it Now! Scotland (£100,000) - Prevention of CSA; work with perpetrators of online abuse, family support work; practitioner training

All documentation from John Swinney's meeting with Andy Burnham on August 12, including correspondence (internal as well), minutes/notes from the meetings, briefing notes prepared, policy and analysis, between July 1 and date of this FOI

[Item 1 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:55 PM

To: Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

Thank you for the swift response Colin

Will respond to FMPO now so they can get this actioned.

[Redacted]

From: Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:50 PM

To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

We should take the meeting.

Regards

Colin McAllister

[Redacted]



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From: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:26 PM

To: [Redacted]; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

[Redacted]

I think FMPO has asked if Colin/Emily have a view about taking a meeting – FM's predecessors have had short informal meetings when the mayor has been in Edinburgh for festival related events. [Redacted]

Thoughts?

Donald

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:09 PM

To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: FW: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

Importance: High

Donald,
Colin,
Emily,

Please note as per below, a request from Andy Burnham, the Mayor of Greater Manchester, to meet with the First Minister on the 13th August.

I would appreciate a quick steer from you all to confirm that you would be content for the FM's office to arrange a meeting that day. I will respond to the diary request immediately on receipt of your email.

Thank you and please note this an official record that will be saved on eRDM for reference.

[Redacted]

Business Manager/ Constitution and UK Relations Division/ [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 10:49 AM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

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.*

Good Morning all,

Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, will be in Edinburgh on Tuesday 13th August and has asked to enquire for a meeting with the Scottish First Minister.

Please could I see if the First Minister has availability on the 13th August to meet with the Mayor. The Mayor can be flexible with his diary throughout the day.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

[Redacted]
Parliamentary and Government Relations Manager
Greater Manchester Combined Authority
M: [Redacted]

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[Item 2 – Emails]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Saturday, August 10, 2024 7:14 PM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024

<CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary

<PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs

<DGSEA@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Bill Reeve

<Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; Bettina Sizeland

<Bettina.Sizeland@transport.gov.scot>; Donald Cameron

<Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Communications

First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister

<Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>

Subject: Re: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Thanks [Redacted]

I can confirm FM is content for Steve Rotheram to join the meeting as well.

Thanks,
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 4:51:15 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; Bettina Sizeland <Bettina.Sizeland@transport.gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

PS/First Minister

I'm attaching an updated briefing note with a minor amendment regarding the 2024 Smart Ticketing Strategy. Transport policy colleagues have advised that the publication of the strategy has been delayed to later in the month.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 4:26 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; Bettina Sizeland <Bettina.Sizeland@transport.gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

PS/ First Minister

Please find attached a briefing note ahead of the FM's meeting with the Mayor of Greater Manchester.

As you know, Mr Burnham's office has requested if Steve Rotheram, Mayor of the Liverpool City Region, can join the meeting. The note has therefore been drafted on the basis that Mr Rotheram will be in attendance, but it can be amended as required.

Confirmation of official support for this meeting will follow on Monday.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 2:16 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

FMPO,

We've been approached by Mr Burnham's office asking whether Steve Rotheram, Mayor of the Liverpool City Region, could join the meeting that FM and Mr Burnham are having on Tuesday 13 August.

Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram will be speaking at an event of the International Book Festival on Monday 12 August focussed in the recent book they co-authored 'Head North'. Further information about the event is here: [Andy Burnham & Steve Rotheram: Another Way – Politics Post-Westminster | What's | Edinburgh International Book Festival \(edbookfest.co.uk\)](https://edbookfest.co.uk)

I'd be grateful if you could confirm if FM is happy to extend the meeting to Mr Rotheram so that this can be communicated to Mr Burnham's office and factored in briefing.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 12:31 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

[Redacted]

I am not sure if you will be looking for Official Support. However, Bill Reeve the Director of Rail may be best placed from a TS perspective given the agenda items. [Redacted]he may be able to attend. If so, grateful if you can send Bill the details and his PA, [Redacted] ccd will flag this to him on his return.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 9:13 AM

To: [Redacted] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Thanks [Redacted]

We spoke about location of the meeting, which will be St Andrew's House.

Kate – we chatted about SpAd cover – Colin is happy for you to take this one. I'll add you the invite.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 10:28 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

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

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for this. I have let Mr Burnham's office know about this additional item for the agenda.

It'd also be helpful if you could confirm the location of the meeting as I don't think that those details have been shared with us.

Separately, Kate Higgins (SpAd) have asked whether it'd be possible for her to attend the meeting given the transport focus. Please let us know if this would be possible.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 9:59 AM

To: [Redacted] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Thanks for this [Redacted]

FM would like to add “measures to eradicate child poverty” as an additional issue to discuss.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 4:55 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

Mr Burnham's office have confirmed that they would like to discuss the following items in the meeting with the FM:

- Devolution, regional powers and relations with UK Government including Council of Nations and Regions
- Transport connectivity including cross border services and bus franchising

It would be helpful to know if there are particular issues that FM would like to cover under these two agenda items so that briefing can be commissioned. Similarly, if there are any issues that the FM would like to discuss beyond these suggested

items, we are happy to factor those in as part of briefing (and to inform Mr Burnham's office accordingly about additional topics for the agenda).

Kind regards
[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 6:00 PM
To: [Redacted] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

It was through [Redacted], Parliamentary and Government Relations Manager - [Redacted]

Thanks,
[Redacted]
[Redacted] Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 4:21 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

Yes, we will provide briefing by the required deadline. Was the meeting organised via Mr Burnham's office? If you have contact details then we can get in touch and check to see if there is anything in particular he wishes to discuss.

Thanks, [Redacted]
[Redacted] Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 12:55 PM
To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]
Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Subject: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi both,

The First Minister will be meeting with Andy Burnham next Tuesday, 13th August at 17:15. This will be a 30 minute meeting, with no set agenda.

I'd be really grateful if you could confirm that your team is able to provide official support for this meeting please, and if you could prepare briefing to be with me by 4pm this Friday (9th).

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Deputy Private Secretary
Office of the First Minister**

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

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

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.

Please note 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 for information.

[Attachment to above email chain]

BRIEFING NOTE: MEETING WITH ANDY BURNHAM, GREATER MANCHESTER MAYOR, and STEVE ROTHERAM, MAYOR OF THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

Tuesday 13 August, 17:15 – 17:45, FM's office, 5th floor, SAH

Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram attended an International Book Festival [event](#) on 12 August to present the book they co-authored 'Head North'. In this book, they propose a ten-point plan to 'rewire' and 'reimagine' the UK beyond Westminster, putting equality at the fore. Mr Burnham will also attend a [discussion session at the Edinburgh Fringe](#) (14 August). Short biographies of Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram are included at **Annex A**.

Mr Burnham met with former First Ministers in August 2022 and 2023. In his meeting with Mr Yousaf in August 2023, they discussed net zero and just transition (including Low Emissions Zones), housing, skills and the devolution of social security benefits.

The following agenda has been agreed with his office.

1. Devolution, regional powers and relations with UK Government including Council of the Nations and Regions.
2. Transport connectivity including cross border services and bus franchising. Briefing provided by Transport colleagues at **Annex B**.

3. Eradicating Child Poverty. Background briefing on child poverty, including Andy Burnham quotes on the two-child benefit cap limit at **Annex C**.

Public Disorder in Greater Manchester and Liverpool City Region (including Southport)

At the beginning of the meeting, you may wish to **offer your solidarity** in relation to the Southport attack and the recent episodes of disorder experienced in Greater Manchester and Liverpool City Region. You may want to offer an update on the current situation in Scotland and your engagement with political leaders, community representatives and faith and belief leaders.

Engagement with Mayors

The Scottish Government interacts with the other national devolved governments and the UK Government, rather than local government elsewhere in the UK. Interests and perspectives of national and local government differ, although there is scope for co-operation on matters of common interest.

Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram are firm supporters of the UK Government's proposal for the establishment of a Council of the Nations and Regions and English devolution more widely. In an article to the Guardian, following the meeting between the PM and England's Mayors on 9 July, Mr Burnham described the Council of the Nations and Regions as a '*gamechanger*' which will mean that '*Whitehall departments will need to talk to (the Mayors of Combined Authorities) as equal partners in the running of the country*' and support the drive towards further devolution of power in England¹. Following the same meeting with the PM, Mr Rotheram was quoted in the BBC saying: '*with power you have to be accountable, and we've been now given some real power by this government*'.

In a previous meeting between Mr Burnham and the former First Minister in August 2022, Mr Burnham suggested the possibility of fostering greater cooperation through a forum involving the six mayors in northern England and the Scottish Government. The Council of the Nations and Regions would in part deliver this aim.

ANNEX A - Biographies

Andy Burnham

- Andy Burnham was elected Mayor of Greater Manchester in May 2017, and was re-elected for a second term in May 2021.
- The Mayor joins Greater Manchester's Combined Authority as its chair and eleventh member. He is also the lead for Policy & Reform and Transport.
- Prior to being Mayor, Andy was MP for Leigh from 2001. In Government, Andy has held Ministerial positions at the Home Office, Department of Health

¹ [Tory governments talked down to regional mayors like me. Now Keir Starmer is listening to us | Andy Burnham | The Guardian](#)

and the Treasury. In 2008 he became Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, before returning to Health as Secretary of State in 2009.

- In opposition, Andy has served as Shadow Education Secretary, Shadow Health Secretary and Shadow Home Secretary.
- Andy lives in Leigh, Greater Manchester, with his wife and three children. He is a keen supporter of Everton FC.

Steve Rotheram

- Steve Rotheram was elected as the first Metro Mayor of the Liverpool City Region on 5 May 2017 with 59% of the vote to lead the Combined Authority.
- He began his political career when he was elected to serve as a councillor in 2002 on Liverpool City Council.
- He was elected as the Member of Parliament for the Liverpool Walton constituency in 2010. During his time in Westminster, he led campaigns for justice for the Hillsborough families; in support of blacklisted workers; for compensation for those suffering from mesothelioma and asbestosis; and to change the law on the use of old tyres on buses and coaches.
- In 2015, Steve served as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Leader of the Opposition, Jeremy Corbyn, before successfully seeking the nomination to be Labour's candidate for Metro Mayor of the Liverpool Region.
- One of eight children, Steve was born and raised in Kirkby to a stay-at-home Mum and forklift truck driver Dad. After leaving school with few formal qualifications, Steve began a bricklaying apprenticeship. He went on to run his own building company before working for the Learning and Skills Council.

ANNEX B – Transport connectivity including cross border services and bus franchising

Cross-border passenger rail

Rail connectivity between Scotland and the North of England is important for the economy, society and the environment, as well as connectivity to the Midlands and London. Avanti and TPE provide this on the West Coast Main Line. Avanti's performance is not good enough with too many cancellations and delays impacting passengers (as well as poor Network Rail infrastructure reliability).

The UKG Secretary of State for Transport met with Avanti and Network Rail on 16 July 2024 to challenge poor performance. Understand UKG Ministers will hold regular performance reviews to hold them to account. [Redacted]

High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill

UKG confirmed it will not reverse the decision to cancel the second Phase of HS2, but instead, will continue to repurpose the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill to provide powers to construct and operate rail projects which improve east to west connectivity across the north of England.

[Redacted]

Railways Bill (Rail Reform)

You may want to **note that the Scottish Government looks forward to engaging with the UK Government constructively** as they develop the detail of their plans to bring railways into public ownership.

[Redacted]

Bus Franchising

The Scottish Government has now delivered all the bus powers within the Transport (Scotland)

Act 2019 to enable local transport authorities to consider all the powers available to them,

including partnership working, franchising and local authority run services which sit alongside

their ability to subsidise services.

We encourage all local transport authorities to consider the full range of tools available to them

under the 2019 Act, to ensure that everyone has accessible public transport regardless of where they are in Scotland. We also acknowledge that it is the decision of each local transport authority to determine which of the powers are suitable to improve services in their area.

Phases one and two of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority franchise scheme have now commenced, [Redacted]

Smart Ticketing & Travel data

[Redacted]

You may want to note the Scottish Government will be publishing its 2024 Smart Strategy this month, outlining our programme of work for the next 5-10 years for smart and integrated ticketing, travel data and Mobility as a Service.

[Redacted]

Concessionary Bus Travel

Our National Concessionary Travel Schemes provide free travel for over 2 million people in Scotland, including to under 22s, people aged 60 and over and eligible disabled people. [Redacted]

ANNEX C - Eradicating Child Poverty

The need to eradicate child poverty was discussed at your meeting with the PM on 7 July. At the meeting, the PM confirmed that they would set out a strategy on this soon but noted that ending the two-child cap would not be feasible until the fiscal situation changed.

Mr Burnham has been one of the many voices in UK Labour to publicly support the removal of the two-child cap. On 18 July, in his interview with Andrew Marr he indicated that removal of the two-child benefit cap '*clearly should be at the front*' of Keir Starmer's priorities when '*resources allowed*'. Consistent with this, on 23 July, following the suspension of 7 Labour MPs for voting against the UK Government's on two-child benefit cap, he said on BBC Newsnight: '*I strongly support the removal of the two child cap, that said, this Government is less than three weeks in... they need to be given time and space.*'

The Leader of the Opposition in the Liverpool City Region (Lib Dem) wrote to Mr Rotheram on 22 July 2024 asking him to join other politicians in their calls to end the two-child cap.² Ian Byrne, the MP for Liverpool West Derby, was one of the 7 MPs suspended following the vote on the two-child benefit cap at Westminster and Kim Johnson, the MP for Liverpool Riverside, submitted an amendment to end the policy in the King's Speech debate.

[Redacted]

SG action on Eradicating Child Poverty

Our tackling child poverty progress report, published in June, highlights that in 2023-24 we invested almost £2.9bn across a range of programmes targeted at low income households, with spend directly benefitting children rising to nearly £1.4bn. This includes awarding almost £430m to families through our Scottish Child Payment, now worth £26.70 per week, with more than 329,000 children benefitting from the payment as of 31 March 2024.

We have also continued to mitigate the likes of the Benefit Cap and 'bedroom tax' through Discretionary Housing Payments, with £83.7m made available to Local Authorities in 2023-24.

We continue to build on progress to date and have committed further key investment, including:

- A further £80 million for affordable housing over the next two years, building on the success of our National Acquisition Programme which invested more than £83 million in 2023-24 and delivered almost 1,500 affordable homes.
- £16 million over the next two years within six Early Adopter Community projects, including Glasgow, to expand access to childcare services while aligning with the Pathfinders to support parents and carers to enter or sustain employment.
- Establishing a one-off, emergency fund of £1.5m to support councils to help remove the impact of school meal debt on families.
- A further £4m for the Extra Time Programme, which in partnership with the Scottish Football Association, will provide access to vital before and after school and holiday clubs for around 3,000 families on low incomes.
- Announcing up to £500,000 for local projects to trial innovative ways of combating child poverty through the second round of our Child Poverty Practice Accelerator Fund.

² [Lib Dem Boss calls on Metro Mayor to back calls to scrap the Two Child Benefit Cap - Liverpool Liberal Democrats \(liverlibdems.org.uk\)](https://www.liverlibdems.org.uk)

[Item 3 – Extract from document]

FM meeting with Andy Burnham Steve Rotheram

Discussion included the relationship with the UK Government, including the Council of the Nations and Regions; transport and cross-border connectivity issues; and child poverty.

[Item 4 – Briefing note]

BRIEFING NOTE: MEETING WITH ANDY BURNHAM, GREATER MANCHESTER MAYOR 13 August 2024

Cross-border passenger rail

Top Lines:

- Rail connectivity between Scotland and the North of England is important for the economy, society and the environment, as well as connectivity to the Midlands and London. Avanti and TPE provide this on the West Coast Main Line.
- Avanti's performance is not good enough with too many cancellations and delays impacting passengers (as well as poor Network Rail infrastructure reliability).

Discussion

[Redacted]

High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill

Top Lines:

- UKG confirmed it will not reverse the decision to cancel the second Phase of HS2, but instead, will continue to repurpose the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill to provide powers to construct and operate rail projects which improve east to west connectivity across the north of England.

Discussion

[Redacted]

Railways Bill (Rail Reform)

Top Lines:

- Scottish Ministers and the UKG share similar ambitions for the railways, bringing rail into public ownership in order to deliver safe, accessible, reliable, affordable and efficient services. We look forward to engaging with them constructively as they develop the detail. However, we will not accept any erosion of the devolved position as regards rail in Scotland, or for it to be in any way undermined.

Discussion

[Redacted]

BUS FRANCHISING

Top Lines:

- The Scottish Government has now delivered all the bus powers within the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 to enable local transport authorities to consider all the powers available to them, including partnership working, franchising and local authority run services which sit alongside their ability to subsidise services.
- We encourage all local transport authorities to consider the full range of tools available to them under the 2019 Act, to ensure that everyone has accessible public transport regardless of where they are in Scotland.
- We also acknowledge that it is the decision of each local transport authority to determine which of the powers are suitable to improve services in their area.

Discussion

[Redacted]

Smart Ticketing & Travel data

Top Lines:

- Our aim is to make accessing public transport easier through integrated and smart ticketing, payment and travel data. We have established the National Smart Ticketing Advisory Board and are progressing 2019 Act measures including on smart ticketing technological standards and bus open data.

Discussion

[Redacted]

Concessionary Bus Travel

Top Lines:

- Through the Older & Disabled and Young Persons Concessionary travel schemes over £300 million spent is spent each year to provide free bus travel for over 2 million people in Scotland, including all children and young people under 22, eligible disabled people and everyone aged 60 and over.

Discussion

[Redacted]

All documentation from John Swinney's appearance taking the salute at the Edinburgh Royal Tattoo on August 14 including correspondence (internal as well), minutes/notes from the meetings, briefing notes prepared, policy and analysis, between July 1 and date of this FOI

Ops Note –

FM engagement: Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Event & location	Bute House Reception followed by the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle
Date & time	Wednesday 14 August - 21:30 – 23:30
Format	<p>First Minister has accepted the invitation to take the salute at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.</p> <p><u>Bute House</u> First Minister will host a a pre performance reception for 14 staff and 6 young people from seven organisations focusing on child poverty.</p> <p>Convoy will depart from the front of Bute House, First Minister in car followed by guests on coach transportation.</p> <p><u>Tattoo</u> Prior to the performance, First Minister will be met by Jason Barrett (CEO of The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo) on the esplanade before being escorted to join his guests in the Royal Box. First Minister will take the salute at the end of each individual performance and at the finale.</p>
Key contacts	[name redacted]
Dress code	Business Attire
Attendees	[name redacted] (V&E) [telephone number redacted] [name redacted] (V&E) [telephone number redacted] [name redacted] (PS)
Annexes	Annex A – Guest List Annex B – Seating Plan Annex C – Salute Takers Briefing Note
Programme outline	<p>19:15 Guests arrive at Bute House and escorted to the drawing room where refreshments will be served.</p> <p>19:20 First Minister joins guests in the drawing room. Guest list attached at Annex A. First Minister will also be joined by Andrew Kerr who is the Director on duty at the Tattoo.</p>

19:40

First Minister will say a few words of welcome.

19:45

Bowl Food is served.

Chickpea, spinach, and almond butter seasonal vegetables with warm in house made blackthorn focaccia bread.

Mini Scottish beef burger with Scottish cheddar cheese and inhouse made tomato sauce.

Hand cut chips

Macaroni and cheese in a Scottish cheddar cheese sauce with a crispy cheese topping, micro herbs

Mini bite size treats selection

Scottish vanilla ice cream with fresh fruit

[redacted]

A pre-recorded narration will introduce the **First Minister** to the audience.

[redacted]

21:30

Tattoo performance begins.

First Minister will stand at the end of each performance to take the salute [redacted]

23:00

Tattoo concludes. There will be a short drinks reception at the back of the Royal Box to allow the crowds to clear. **First Minister** will have the opportunity to meet with the other guests who have been in the corporate boxes.

[redacted]

EVENT ENDS

NAME	ROLE	ORGANISATION
Jordan Butler	Founder	Heavy Sound
Sarah Barrett	Head of Youth Services	Heavy Sound
John Taylor	Edinburgh Programme Coordinator	Street Soccer Scotland
Jordan McCartney	Edinburgh Programme Coordinator	Street Soccer Scotland
Kirsten Urquhart	Chief Executive	Young Scot
Mary Cane	Project Officer	Young Scot
John Dickie	Chief Executive	CPAG
Maria Marshall	Policy Officer	CPAG
Stewart Wilson	Head of Service	Sistema
Irini Dimitriadou	Senior Musician	Sistema
Mary Glasgow	Chief Executive	Children 1 st
Sinead Haddow	Financial Wellbeing Service Manager	Children 1 st
SallyAnn Kelly	Chief Executive	Aberlour
Lynne O'Brien	Chief Officer	Aberlour

Young people

NAME	AGE	ORGANISATION / ROLE
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Heavy Sound, participant
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Heavy Sound, participant
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Street Soccer Scotland, Youth Volunteer
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Street Soccer Scotland, Youth Volunteer
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Young Scot, Equity Panel Member
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Young Scot, Equity Panel Member

Annex B –Seating Plan

[redacted]

Annex C - Salute Takers Briefing Note

[redacted]

Submission – 4 July 2024:

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Culture and Historic Environment
4 July 2024

FIRST MINISTER

Priority and Purpose

1. **Urgent** – the timing is in order to make arrangements for the FM's Bute House reception (para 7), if he is minded to host the event.

Recommendation

2. That the First Minister provide his views on the recommendations for engagement with the major Edinburgh Festivals:
 - a) [out of scope]
 - b) Accept - Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Salute-Taker (14 Aug)
 - c) [out of scope]
 - d) [out of scope]

Context and Issues

3. It is customary for the First Minister to engage with the key August Festivals, in particular hosting the All Festivals Reception in Bute House, key engagements with high profile international visitors, as well as performing the role of Salute-Taker at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

[out of scope]

Recommendations

The below invitations represent those that officials and Special Advisers are aware of at this time, and further suggestions for engagements that the First Minister may wish to attend will be provided as they emerge over the summer festival season.

Accepts

[out of scope]

4. **Wed 14 Aug – Salute Taker at Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle** – annual event which the First Minister attends and can invite a group of up to 20 guests. Last year, FFM invited family members and Ukrainian musicians.
 - a. [redacted – s.30(b)(i)]

[out of scope]

Contribution to the Government's Three Missions

5. The August season of the Edinburgh festivals impacts positively across the three missions. As well as contributing to Scotland's global brand, the August season also impacts on economic growth and enabling communities to thrive through engagement with creatives.

[out of scope]

Quality Assurance

6. This Submission has been approved by [redacted - s.38(1)(b)], Head of International Policy Team, and Special Advisers Emily Mackintosh and Davie Hutchison.

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Culture and Historic Environment
4 July 2024

Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers Copy List	For Action	For Information Portfolio interest	For Information Constituency interest	For Information General awareness
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic		X (as per Mr Robertson's constituency recusal)		
Cabinet Secretary CEAC		X		

Officials Copy List
Joe Griffin [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] Visits and Events Comms CEAC David Hutchinson, SPAD Emily Mackintosh, SPAD

s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted -
s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Thanks [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]. Really helpful to have all this set out.

In order for us to get a steer from the FM, I would ask you to send us a formal submission with this all outlined (essentially what you have below, but set out in a format appropriate to go to the FM for decision). Please seek Spad clearance (Davie & Emily) prior to submission, which [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] can then send up to the FM for decision.

You can work on the basis that BH could be available should the FM decide to host the reception.

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 3:46 PM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>

Cc: David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>; Visits and Events <VisitsandEvents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Many thanks for checking in on this – I have taken [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] off as the amicable divorce between Culture and Major Events is now complete, and [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] is now back with Major Events. I have added colleagues in Culture to the copy ([redacted - s.38(1)(b)], as well as UK Relations/Constitution on the Book

festival event, and international colleagues with whom we work on August engagements.

Yes, you are correct that normally we would issue a list of engagements over August for First Minister to consider attending, usually via Emily M, however I am still awaiting the remaining festival programmes and invites coming until I have a comprehensive list. At this stage though, I do not believe there will be many more high priority engagements for FM over the August season that are not covered by the below, though of course we still have over a couple of months to go before the August starts so you never know.

On the invitations below, the recommendations are:

1. **Wed 14 Aug – Salute Taker at Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle** – annual event which FM attends and can invite a group of up to 20 guests. Last year, FFM invited some family members and some Ukrainian musicians. We haven't yet put this to the FM, but plan to do so asap as V&E need to confirm with organisers.

- a. [redacted – s.30(b)(i)]

[out of scope]

Best wishes,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:19 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>

Cc: David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>; Visits and Events <VisitsandEvents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Copying in FM's diary secretary.

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]**On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:18 AM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>

Cc: David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>; Visits and Events <VisitsandEvents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>

Subject: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Davie said you were the right people to get in touch with re: Edinburgh Festival.

We have a few invites on the cards for the FM, which we are yet to put to him, but it made me think it might be worth having some advice on coordination across SG on events and meetings we are proposing for ministers in and around the Festival. If this is all already in hand, wonderful! But if not, the below is what we have for the FM which it would be helpful to see worked into some comprehensive advice for FM, DFM and Cab Sec – so we can see the full picture and ensure no overlap.

My colleague @[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] covers the culture portfolio in FMPO, so can pick up anything when she returns from leave. I have also copied Spads and V&E who will have an interest in FM events.

7. **Wed 14 Aug – Salute Taker at Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle** – annual event which FM attends and can invite a group of up to 20 guests. Last year, FFM invited some family members and some Ukrainian musicians. We haven't yet put this to the FM, but plan to do so asap as V&E need to confirm with organisers.

[out of scope]

I will leave you to tell me when a reasonable time to expect this advice is, as I'm not sure how progressed Festival plans are yet, but on the basis we are putting the Salute invite to the FM this week, it would be good if I could give him a window in which to expect the advice.

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Senior Private Secretary to the First Minister

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

Email exchange – 7 July 2024:

From: John Swinney
Sent: 07 July 2024 20:04
To: First Minister
Subject: RE: Urgent submission - Edinburgh Festivals - FM engagements

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am happy to accept the recommendations made. I would like the guest list for the Tattoo to focus on my work on eradicating Child Poverty. Could I have some suggestions about an invite list. It should be a list that incorporates some of the good work being undertaken.

Thanks

FM

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 3:00 PM
To: John Swinney <John.Swinney@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Urgent submission - Edinburgh Festivals - FM engagements
Importance: High

FM,

Please see attached submission on festival engagements that has been cleared by SpAds.

It recommends that you:

- a) [out of scope]
- b) Accept - Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Salute-Taker (14 Aug)
- c) [out of scope]
- d) [out of scope]

Please see below comments from diary perspective:

- a. [out of scope]
- b. Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Salute-Taker on 14 August – you already agreed that you will attend and it's confirmed in your diary. You will see in the submission that you can invite a group of up to 20 people [redacted – s.30(b)(i)]
- b.
- c. [out of scope]

Many thanks,

Hope all's well. I have received clearance from Special Advisers to issue the submission for FM's August Festival engagements – please see attached an urgent submission for his consideration.

First Minister - Edinburgh Festivals 2024 - Submission - 4 July 2024 details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

Best wishes,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Email exchange – 12 July 2024:

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] on behalf of First Minister
Sent: 12 July 2024 12:02
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Cc: First Minister; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice 2024; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; DG Communities; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Director, Tackling Child Poverty and Social Justice; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications First Minister; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Visits and Events; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Subject: First Minister

Good afternoon [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

As discussed, the First Minister will be attending the Edinburgh Military Tattoo on Wednesday 14th August at 21:30pm.

[redacted – s.39(1)]

This year, the First Minister would like the guest list to focus on the First Ministers work on eradicating Child Poverty. Therefore, I would be grateful if some suggestions could be put together for the FMs consideration – this should be a list that incorporates some of the good work being undertaken. I would be grateful if this could be provided by **Friday 19th July 2024**.

For helpful background, the Former First Minister attended last year and invited family members and Ukrainian musicians to mark displaced Ukrainians coming to Scotland.

[redacted – s.39(1)]

Happy to also discuss further.

Many thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

Email exchange – 14 August 2024:

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 14 August 2024 13:51
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications First Minister; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture; Communications Education & Skills; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: For Policy View: Draft Social Media - FM at Tattoo

Thanks [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]. I'll put below to SpAds at 14:30. Grateful if other colleagues can comment before then if necessary.

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 12:40 PM
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]2@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Communications Education & Skills <CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: For Policy View: Draft Social Media - FM at Tattoo

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Thanks – this is fine with me, but I only work on arts/culture policy so happy to defer to veterans/defence colleagues – adding [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] in defence..

Best wishes,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 12:37 PM
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]2@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Communications Education & Skills <CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: For Policy View: Draft Social Media - FM at Tattoo

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

As discussed, draft social media post below to mark FM's attendance at the Tattoo tonight on @ScotGovFM (post likely to issue tomorrow morning given timings).

Also adding [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] and veterans policy colleagues for possible views.

Grateful if colleagues can come back with views by 14:00 please.

Thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Media Manager | News - First Minister
The Scottish Government
m: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Draft post for @ScotGovFM (275/280)

First Minister @JohnSwinney was honoured to be the Salute Taker at the @EdinburghTattoo, a world-class military event rooted in Scottish traditions.

@ScotGov wholeheartedly supports the Armed Forces and veterans, and recognises their contribution to communities in Scotland.

Email exchange – 15 August 2024:

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 15 August 2024 11:17
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; First Minister
Cc: Emily Mackintosh; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)];
Ross Ingebrigtsen; Jack Middleton; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)];
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted -
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications First
Minister; Communications Social Justice; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted -
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: For FM awareness - Tattoo - Social

Good morning,

With thanks to [redacted - s.38(1)(b)], please find below links to the social media posts marking last night's Bute House reception and the First Minister's attendance at the Tattoo.

[out of scope]

Tattoo: <https://x.com/ScotGovFM/status/1824026424077852861>

Thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:08 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]2@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: For FM awareness - Tattoo - Social

First Minister, PO,

For your awareness please find below the comms handling and content to mark the pre Tattoo reception at Bute House and the Tattoo.

Many thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
News | First Minister Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

www.gov.scot/news



COMMS HANDLING – Tattoo reception/Tattoo	
WHAT	First Minister will host young people at Bute house for a pre Tattoo reception before they accompany him to the Royal Edinburgh Tattoo.
WHEN	Wednesday 14 August
TIME	Reception 1915, Tattoo 2115
COMMS HANDLING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FM Comms will attend Bute House to capture stills and b-roll footage of FM• Tattoo comms will capture stills of FM at the Tattoo both on arrival and when seated during the event
SOCIAL MEDIA	[out of scope] Tattoo <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stills will be sent by Tattoo comms to FM Comms and posted on xScotGovFM on Thursday morning [out of scope]
COMMS SUPPORT	[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] for visual content

[out of scope]

Tattoo:

First Minister @JohnSwinney was honoured to be the Salute Taker at the @EdinburghTattoo, a world-class event rooted in Scottish traditions.

He was pleased to invite young people working with anti-poverty charities like @StreetSoccerSco to attend the Tattoo as his guests.

All documentation from John Swinney's meeting with Angela Rayner on August 15 including correspondence (internal as well), minutes/notes from the meetings, briefing notes prepared, policy and analysis, between July 1 and date of this FOI

[Item 1 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:35 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Communications First Minister

<CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot> [Redacted]; Julie Grant

<Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Donald Cameron

<Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Chief Planner

<Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG

Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; John Webster

<John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen

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

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

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

PS/FM,

Please find attached the briefing for FM's meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister tomorrow. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted] | W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 6:41 PM

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

<DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister

<Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]; Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro

<Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs

<DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>;

Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Joe Griffin

<Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily

Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton

<Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted] <Jen.Schofield@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Hi,

Apologies, just to confirm we are checking this for Thursday, not tomorrow afternoon.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic – Kate Forbes MSP

Leas-rùnaire Priobhaideach dhan Leas-Phrìomh Mhinistear is do Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson na h-Eaconamaidh is Gàidhlig – Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E: DFMCSEG@gov.scot

M:[Redacted]



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

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From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 4:53 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Hi folks,

We are checking if DFM can do tomorrow afternoon and will follow up asap.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic – Kate Forbes MSP

Leas-rùnaire Priobhaideach dhan Leas-Phrìomh Mhinistear is do Rùnaire a'

Chaibineit airson na h-Eaconamaidh is Gàidhlig – Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E: DFMCSEG@gov.scot

M: [Redacted]



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

From: [Redacted] **Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 3:12 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Thanks [Redacted]

The meeting will be in person at Bute House – the time is still to be firmed up, dependant on DFM's diary. This was a very recent request from DPM's office, so details are still fairly thin on the ground.

Thanks,

[Redacted] Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 3:00 PM

To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Thank you, Donald. Has the meeting been confirmed for in person at Bute House as indicated in FM's diary?

Adding media SPADs – I think given this is the first in person meeting between FM and DPM there would be merit in inviting media for establishment shots and issuing a short line. Grateful for a SPAD view.

We will also line up a photographer to get stills.

Thanks,

[Redacted] **News | First Minister's Communications Team Leader**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [Redacted] Portfolio Media inquiries: [Redacted]

www.gov.scot/news



From: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 2:51 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant

<Julie.Grant@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Thanks [Redacted], looping in other FM comms colleagues and to confirm that [Redacted] is leading on prep.

We'll confirm official support shortly.

Donald

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 11:55 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister

<Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief

Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster

<John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

<DFMCSEG@gov.scot>

Subject: FM meeting DPM

Hi all,

Thank you for your support for FM's call with DPM a couple of weeks ago. FM was content with the meeting note – I've attached, grateful if you could ensure this is uploaded to eRDM and share the link please.

The First Minister is now likely to meet with the Deputy Prime Minister again on Thursday afternoon – DFM may also be joining the call. I will confirm when this is firm in the diary.

I'd be grateful if you are able to prepare briefing for this meeting please, by **5pm tomorrow**.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 6:27 PM

To: Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney

<Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Donald Cameron

<Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner

<Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG

Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster

<John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Subject: FM/DPM introductory call (31/07) - meeting record [draft]

All,

As you're aware, the First Minister met with the Deputy Prime Minister earlier this afternoon.

With thanks to [Redacted] for providing meeting support and the note itself, please find below a record of the discussion. Please note thought that the FM has not cleared this yet (Colin has reviewed though); I just wanted to give you early sight.

The key points I would highlight: the DPM echo'd the Prime Minister and Chancellor's sentiments/words regarding resetting the relationship between SG and UKG; the DPM stated that the Prime Minister will lead on IGR for UKG; and the DPM will travel to Scotland over the next few weeks.

[Redacted]

Actions:

1. SG Officials to share relevant information with UKG.
2. FMPO to liaise with DPMPO regarding an in-person meeting in Scotland between the FM and DPM.

I will confirm as/when the FM has considered/cleared the note. Please do share with colleagues accordingly, with the caveat that it's still in draft form.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the First Minister

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

[Redacted] | FirstMinister@gov.scot

[Attachment 1 to above email chain below]

What	Meeting with Angela Rayner, Deputy Prime Minister
Where	Bute House
When	16:00-16:45, Thursday 15 August 2024
Agenda	No formal agenda set, follow up to introductory call.
Who	Angela Rayner, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
Why	An in-person follow up to your introductory call on 31 July.

Supporting official	Dominic Munro, Director for Constitution
Briefing contents	Annex A: Community cohesion and recent disorder in Eng/NI Annex B: Winter Fuel Payments Annex C: Budget Annex D: Economic development and levelling up funding Annex E: Housing Programme Annex F: Eradicating child poverty Annex G: Overview of engagement (tonal shift)
Media handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to time pressures, broadcast press pool (one TV, one radio, 2x photographers for print and wires) set up for establishing shots; TV and radio clips afterwards • Proactive comment to issue from First Minister following meeting
Social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stills will be posted on xScotGov main channel accounts and reshared from ScotGovFM • Option for FM to record video PTC following meeting which would issue the following day on xScotGovFM

ANNEX A – Community Cohesion and Civil Disorder in England/Northern Ireland

[Redacted]

Background

After violent disturbances took place over several days in the previous two weeks in England,

there now appears to be more stability, with the risk of further disorder appearing to have dissipated with speedy and public convictions appearing to have had an effect. More sentences are expected to be handed down this week.

Protests and counter protests do however continue in Northern Ireland and Police Scotland have agreed to a request from the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to provide mutual aid by sending over 100 public order trained officers on Tuesday 13 August 2024.

Police Scotland have worked closely with faith leaders and their communities to provide reassurance. You supported their efforts with a visit to the Central Edinburgh Mosque last Monday and a meeting with representatives of faith and refugee groups last Wednesday.

While Police Scotland are remaining vigilant to the prospect of disorder, their focus is now on continued community reassurance, particularly with schools returning this week. The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills has worked with local authorities and Education Scotland to ensure that schools have the resources in place to and are prepared to support children and young people as they return to school.

Annex B – Winter Fuel Payments

[Redacted]

Background

The UK Government recently announced an intention to move away from a universal Winter Fuel Payment and to restrict entitlement to those in receipt of Pension Credit and other means-tested benefits from this winter.

Pension Age Winter Heating Payment (PAWHP) was due to replace Winter Fuel Payment in Scotland this winter as a universal benefit. [Redacted]

As a result, the Scottish Government has no choice but to replicate the decision made by the UK Government and restrict eligibility for Pension Age Winter Heating Payment to older people on relevant eligible benefits. This is a necessary decision when faced with such a deep cut to our funding and in the most challenging financial circumstances since devolution.

The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice wrote to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on 14 August confirming the decision to follow the UKG's approach of means testing and asking DWP to proceed with their offer to make payments to eligible pensioners in Scotland equivalent to Winter Fuel Payments in England and Wales for this winter. Under these arrangements, delivery of Pension Age Winter Heating Payment in Scotland would be deferred until winter 2025.

Annex C – Budget

[Redacted]

Background

The medium-term outlook for Scotland's capital budget is extremely challenging, with an expected real terms reduction to our UK capital funding of 8.7% between 2023-24 and 2027-28 – a cumulative loss of over £1.3 billion. Alongside this, our 2024-25 FT allocation from the UK Government has dropped by £290 million – or 62% when compared to 2022-23, adding to the significant challenge we already face. This means that we cannot afford all our capital commitments and will need to make difficult decisions to ensure our capital programme is affordable and deliverable.

[Redacted]

Annex D – Economic development

[Redacted]

Background

The National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET) reiterated our commitment to work closely with regional partners to drive regional economic empowerment. The Regional Economic Policy Review sets out a refreshed and strengthened vision for regional economic development. Scottish Ministers have endorsed the reviews 11 recommendations. We continue to support two priority recommendations:

- Establishing a model of regional funding via the Regional Economic Partnerships;
- Establishing Regional Intelligence Hubs, like the Glasgow Model, to assess opportunities and provide an evidence-base for regional investment decisions.

Delivery of both prioritised recommendations has been limited to date due to resource constraints, but we recognise the need to drive this work forward. We will advance a regional funding model as part of our wider approach to public service reform, examining the future role of national and local government in delivering economic priorities.

Funding

Lines to take:

- SG would welcome a more collaborative approach to future funding from UKG.
- [Redacted]

Annex E – Housing Programme

[Redacted]

ANNEX F – Eradicating Child Poverty

The need to eradicate child poverty was discussed at your meeting with the PM on 7 July. At the meeting, the PM confirmed that they would set out a strategy on this soon but noted that ending the two-child cap would not be feasible until the fiscal situation changed.

[Redacted]

Background on SG action

Our tackling child poverty progress report, published in June, highlights that in 2023-24 we invested almost £2.9bn across a range of programmes targeted at low income households, with spend directly benefitting children rising to nearly £1.4bn. This includes awarding almost £430m to families through our Scottish Child Payment, now worth £26.70 per week, with more than 329,000 children benefitting from the payment as of 31 March 2024.

We have also continued to mitigate the likes of the Benefit Cap and ‘bedroom tax’ through Discretionary Housing Payments, with £83.7m made available to Local Authorities in 2023-24.

We continue to build on progress to date and have committed further key investment, including:

- A further £80 million for affordable housing over the next two years, building on the success of our National Acquisition Programme which invested more than £83 million in 2023-24 and delivered almost 1,500 affordable homes.
- £16 million over the next two years within six Early Adopter Community projects, including Glasgow, to expand access to childcare services while aligning with the Pathfinders to support parents and carers to enter or sustain employment.
- Establishing a one-off, emergency fund of £1.5m to support councils to help remove the impact of school meal debt on families.
- A further £4m for the Extra Time Programme, which in partnership with the Scottish Football Association, will provide access to vital before and after school and holiday clubs for around 3,000 families on low incomes.
- Announcing up to £500,000 for local projects to trial innovative ways of combating child poverty through the second round of our Child Poverty Practice Accelerator Fund.

ANNEX G – Overview of SG/UKG engagement

You have been clear that you see the election of a new government as an opportunity to reset the tone, and approach, of intergovernmental relations (a point also reflected in the Labour manifesto, and confirmed in your meeting with the Prime Minister). There have been positive introductory calls throughout the summer

between Scottish and UK Ministers reiterating this point and seeking to build a relationship of trust to help deliver shared ambitions in areas of shared responsibility.

[Redacted]

[Attachment 2 to above email]

[Redacted]

[Item 2 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 4:40 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

No, nothing else to add. And we can have a chat with [Redacted] and [Redacted] about Dominic's question re precedent of redacting material once we have gathered it.

[Redacted] | Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

From: Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 9:01 AM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

[Redacted]

You already have my note of the meeting (first link below).

[Redacted]

Thanks,

Dominic Munro

Director: Constitution

DG Strategy & External Affairs

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:33 AM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

Thank you [Redacted], that's correct. Apologies, perhaps that folder is restricted. Many thanks for coming back to me.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E [Redacted] | W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2024 3:31 PM

To: [Redacted] CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

Hi [Redacted], I am getting an error message when I try to open the middle attachment below, the briefing pack. I'm assuming this is where the briefing I provided on 14 August on WFP will appear (but attaching for completeness). I don't have anything further within scope for the FOI. Regards.

[Redacted] | Head of Social Security Strategy, Welfare Fund and Winter Benefits Social Security Policy Division | Social Security Directorate | Scottish Government
Mob: [Redacted]* [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 4:37 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

Hi all,

Grateful if you can confirm if you have anything additional. To note, [Redacted], I have now included your heads up email that added [Redacted] to the conversation and my initial commissioning email, as flagged by Dominic.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted] | W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 1:33 PM

To: CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

CUKR: Unit Heads

Dominic

[Redacted]

FOI – First Minister’s meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister, 15 August 2024

We have received an FOI from [Redacted], asking for all meeting agendas, notes and information referencing the Winter Fuel Payment from the meeting held between First Minister John Swinney and Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner on 15 August 2024 in Edinburgh.

I have set out below the documents that I have found that should be considered, I’d be grateful if you could please check if you have any further and send on to me. My understanding is that given the wording of the query, the briefing pack and the readout are within scope, as is the email chain discussing the comms statement as it makes explicit reference to the WFP.

Readout – Readout - First Minister meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister - Note approved by FM - 15 August 2024 details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)
Briefing pack – Briefing - FM & DPM Meeting - Thursday 15 August 2024 details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)
Comms statement – FW_ SpAd _ policy views __ proactive comment - FM meeting DPM details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

If you have anything else that you believe to be within scope I’d be grateful if you could share with me by 10am Tuesday.

Many thanks
[Redacted]

[Redacted]
| Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]
| W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew’s House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

[Redacted]

[Item 3 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, September 2, 2024 2:38 PM

To: Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

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

Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Brian Dornan <Brian.Dornan@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

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

Subject: Review of w/c 26 August and forward look

Hi Joe,

Please see below update from last week and forward look. [Redacted] will pick up the update again from next week.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

27 August - FM to DPM follow-up Letter

FM also issued a letter to DPM following up on issues discussed in their meeting on 15 August (attached). The main issues followed up on were the recent civil disorder, the need for working-age migration to Scotland, and the financial transactions capital budget.

[Redacted]

[Item 4 – Email]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 3:48 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: Review of w/c 12 August and forward look

FM and Deputy Prime Minister meeting at Bute House (15 August)

Discussion included affordable housing and Financial Transactions funding; the impact of the Winter Fuel Payments decision on the SG budget and the concerns around how it was handled; the recent disorder in England and NI and Scottish Government's approach – including the guidance shared with schools ahead of term resuming; the holistic approach needed to tackle child poverty; immigration and gender recognition related issues. A letter from the FM to the DPM to follow up on the several matters discussed at the meeting is being drafted. A readout of the meeting – which is pending FM's approval - is attached.

[Redacted]

Head of Constitution Engagement

Directorate for Constitution

Scottish Government

Mob: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Item 5 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 11:40 AM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted] Ian Davidson <Ian.Davidson2@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Jennie Barugh <Jennie.Barugh@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Immediate - Commission for FM/DPM meeting

Hi [Redacted]

Please find contribution for above in respect of winter fuel payment. Copying to Exchequer colleagues for awareness and any comments. I also attach a copy of the letter issued from CSJ to SoS DWP this morning on the subject. Let me know if you require anything further.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Head of Social Security Strategy, Welfare Fund and Winter Benefits Social Security Policy Division | Social Security Directorate | Scottish Government
Mob [Redacted] * [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 2:23 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Immediate - Commission for FM/DPM meeting

Looping in [Redacted] for DGE too.

[Redacted] – you'll want to grab a quick chat with [Redacted] and [Redacted] (who are in Anne-Marie Martin's Division) as part of your coordination role.

Best,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Support, DG Economy | Scottish Government
Mob: [Redacted] | E-mail: [Redacted]

Responsibility for filing key documents and communications on the record, including those sent to DG Economy, rests with relevant policy and operational areas within Directorates. The DG Office Team does not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 12:06 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Immediate - Commission for FM/DPM meeting

Hi all,

To confirm that the meeting will definitely be going ahead on Thursday (exact timings TBC). With apologies for the tight deadline, **I'd therefore be grateful if you could send me a one-pager on the below topics by 10:30am Wednesday**. I'd also appreciate if suggested leads could please confirm that you have got this email and are able to respond by the deadline.

1. Housing programme [Redacted]
2. Community cohesion/recent disorder in England/NI [Redacted]
3. Budget [Redacted]
4. Economic development/levelling up funding [Redacted]
5. Winter fuel payments [Redacted]

Thanks so much

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitutional Projects Leader | Elections & Constitutional Projects Division | Constitution Directorate

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 11:44 AM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] **Cc:** [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Heads-up - FM/DPM meeting - Thursday 15 August

Just adding [Redacted]. As discussed on Teams, winter fuel payment may also be likely to feature on any agenda between FM/DFM and DPM at Thursday's meeting and you will keep us in the loop on any developments over the next few days in terms of SG Ministers deciding on next steps.

[Redacted] | Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 5:03 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Heads-up - FM/DPM meeting - Thursday 15 August

Copying in [Redacted] and [Redacted] for regional econ dev interests

Best,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Support, DG Economy | Scottish Government

Mob: [Redacted]

Responsibility for filing key documents and communications on the record, including those sent to DG Economy, rests with relevant policy and operational areas within Directorates. The DG Office Team does not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

From: [Redacted]**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2024 5:00 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Heads-up - FM/DPM meeting - Thursday 15 August

Hi all. Had a heads-up from FM's office that it's looking very likely that FM will be meeting with DPM this Thursday afternoon at Bute House, potentially with DFM in attendance. FM's office will send out official commission when confirmed, but letting us know now so we have early notice for official support and briefing.

No indication yet about what will be on the agenda but presumably looking to build on the introductory call so potentially covering housing ([Redacted]); community cohesion-recent disorder in England and NI ([Redacted]); budget ([Redacted]) and general economic development/levelling up funding to cover DFM interests ([Redacted]). Will follow up tomorrow when hopefully we know a bit more. (and if we don't have any feedback from DFM's meeting with Ian Murray by tomorrow, it may be worth following up with Joe's office in case there's anything relevant from that too)

[Redacted] | Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

[Item 6 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 5:22 PM

To: Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Communications First Minister

<CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant

<Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Donald Cameron

<Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: SpAd / policy views // proactive comment - FM meeting DPM

Jack

Thanks, to confirm this has issued.

First Minister John Swinney met Deputy First Minister Angela Rayner at Bute House today.

Following the meeting the First Minister said:

“I am committed to building a constructive and collaborative relationship with the UK Government that delivers for the people of Scotland.

“In that spirit of cooperation, I was pleased to welcome the Deputy Prime Minister to Bute House to discuss how our two governments can work together on shared priorities such as supporting strong public services and reaching net-zero.

“Following recent criminal disorder in England and Northern Ireland, both governments restated their duty to tackle hatred of any kind and agreed we have a responsibility to confront racism and religious prejudice wherever, and whenever, it appears – including on social media.

“I expressed concern at the UK Government’s decision to cut spending for the Winter Fuel Payment for pensioners without any consultation with the Scottish Government.

“Scotland faces the most challenging financial circumstances in the devolution era and has no alternative but to replicate this decision which will impact tens of thousands of pensioners in Scotland.

“As I have previously warned, we need an injection of investment in our public services to deal with rising pressures and the ongoing cost of austerity.

“I look forward to engaging with the UK Government in areas where we can work together.”

ENDS

Thanks,

[Redacted] **News | First Minister’s Communications Team Leader**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew’s House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [Redacted] | Portfolio Media inquiries: [Redacted]

www.gov.scot/news



[Redacted]

All documentation from John Swinney's meeting with Andy Burnham on August 12, including correspondence (internal as well), minutes/notes from the meetings, briefing notes prepared, policy and analysis, between July 1 and date of this FOI

[Item 1 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:55 PM

To: Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

Thank you for the swift response Colin

Will respond to FMPO now so they can get this actioned.

[Redacted]

From: Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:50 PM

To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

We should take the meeting.

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: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:26 PM

To: [Redacted]; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

[Redacted]

I think FMPO has asked if Colin/Emily have a view about taking a meeting – FM's predecessors have had short informal meetings when the mayor has been in Edinburgh for festival related events. [Redacted]

Thoughts?

Donald

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2024 3:09 PM

To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Spads Admin <Spads_Admin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: FW: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

Importance: High

Donald,
Colin,
Emily,

Please note as per below, a request from Andy Burnham, the Mayor of Greater Manchester, to meet with the First Minister on the 13th August.

I would appreciate a quick steer from you all to confirm that you would be content for the FM's office to arrange a meeting that day. I will respond to the diary request immediately on receipt of your email.

Thank you and please note this an official record that will be saved on eRDM for reference.

[Redacted]

Business Manager/ Constitution and UK Relations Division/ [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 10:49 AM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Meeting request - Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham

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.*

Good Morning all,

Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, will be in Edinburgh on Tuesday 13th August and has asked to enquire for a meeting with the Scottish First Minister.

Please could I see if the First Minister has availability on the 13th August to meet with the Mayor. The Mayor can be flexible with his diary throughout the day.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

[Redacted]
Parliamentary and Government Relations Manager
Greater Manchester Combined Authority
M: [Redacted]

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[Item 2 – Emails]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Saturday, August 10, 2024 7:14 PM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; Bettina Sizeland <Bettina.Sizeland@transport.gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>

Subject: Re: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Thanks [Redacted]

I can confirm FM is content for Steve Rotheram to join the meeting as well.

Thanks,
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 4:51:15 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; Bettina Sizeland <Bettina.Sizeland@transport.gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

PS/First Minister

I'm attaching an updated briefing note with a minor amendment regarding the 2024 Smart Ticketing Strategy. Transport policy colleagues have advised that the publication of the strategy has been delayed to later in the month.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Friday, August 9, 2024 4:26 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Transport <CabSecfortransport@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; Bettina Sizeland <Bettina.Sizeland@transport.gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

PS/ First Minister

Please find attached a briefing note ahead of the FM's meeting with the Mayor of Greater Manchester.

As you know, Mr Burnham's office has requested if Steve Rotheram, Mayor of the Liverpool City Region, can join the meeting. The note has therefore been drafted on the basis that Mr Rotheram will be in attendance, but it can be amended as required.

Confirmation of official support for this meeting will follow on Monday.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 2:16 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

FMPO,

We've been approached by Mr Burnham's office asking whether Steve Rotheram, Mayor of the Liverpool City Region, could join the meeting that FM and Mr Burnham are having on Tuesday 13 August.

Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram will be speaking at an event of the International Book Festival on Monday 12 August focussed in the recent book they co-authored 'Head North'. Further information about the event is here: [Andy Burnham & Steve Rotheram: Another Way – Politics Post-Westminster | What's | Edinburgh International Book Festival \(edbookfest.co.uk\)](https://edbookfest.co.uk)

I'd be grateful if you could confirm if FM is happy to extend the meeting to Mr Rotheram so that this can be communicated to Mr Burnham's office and factored in briefing.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 12:31 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Bill Reeve <Bill.Reeve@transport.gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

[Redacted]

I am not sure if you will be looking for Official Support. However, Bill Reeve the Director of Rail may be best placed from a TS perspective given the agenda items. [Redacted]he may be able to attend. If so, grateful if you can send Bill the details and his PA, [Redacted] ccd will flag this to him on his return.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 9:13 AM

To: [Redacted] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Thanks [Redacted]

We spoke about location of the meeting, which will be St Andrew's House.

Kate – we chatted about SpAd cover – Colin is happy for you to take this one. I'll add you the invite.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 10:28 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

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

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks for this. I have let Mr Burnham's office know about this additional item for the agenda.

It'd also be helpful if you could confirm the location of the meeting as I don't think that those details have been shared with us.

Separately, Kate Higgins (SpAd) have asked whether it'd be possible for her to attend the meeting given the transport focus. Please let us know if this would be possible.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 9:59 AM

To: [Redacted] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Thanks for this [Redacted]

FM would like to add “measures to eradicate child poverty” as an additional issue to discuss.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 4:55 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

Mr Burnham's office have confirmed that they would like to discuss the following items in the meeting with the FM:

- Devolution, regional powers and relations with UK Government including Council of Nations and Regions
- Transport connectivity including cross border services and bus franchising

It would be helpful to know if there are particular issues that FM would like to cover under these two agenda items so that briefing can be commissioned. Similarly, if there are any issues that the FM would like to discuss beyond these suggested

items, we are happy to factor those in as part of briefing (and to inform Mr Burnham's office accordingly about additional topics for the agenda).

Kind regards
[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Team Leader | Constitution & UK Relations Division | The Scottish Government | Mobile phone: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 6:00 PM
To: [Redacted] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

It was through [Redacted], Parliamentary and Government Relations Manager - [Redacted]

Thanks,
[Redacted]
[Redacted] Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 4:21 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi [Redacted]

Yes, we will provide briefing by the required deadline. Was the meeting organised via Mr Burnham's office? If you have contact details then we can get in touch and check to see if there is anything in particular he wishes to discuss.

Thanks, [Redacted]
[Redacted] Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 12:55 PM
To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]
Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Subject: First Minister meeting with Andy Burnham

Hi both,

The First Minister will be meeting with Andy Burnham next Tuesday, 13th August at 17:15. This will be a 30 minute meeting, with no set agenda.

I'd be really grateful if you could confirm that your team is able to provide official support for this meeting please, and if you could prepare briefing to be with me by 4pm this Friday (9th).

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Deputy Private Secretary
Office of the First Minister**

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

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

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.

Please note 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 for information.

[Attachment to above email chain]

BRIEFING NOTE: MEETING WITH ANDY BURNHAM, GREATER MANCHESTER MAYOR, and STEVE ROTHERAM, MAYOR OF THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

Tuesday 13 August, 17:15 – 17:45, FM's office, 5th floor, SAH

Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram attended an International Book Festival [event](#) on 12 August to present the book they co-authored 'Head North'. In this book, they propose a ten-point plan to 'rewire' and 'reimagine' the UK beyond Westminster, putting equality at the fore. Mr Burnham will also attend a [discussion session at the Edinburgh Fringe](#) (14 August). Short biographies of Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram are included at **Annex A**.

Mr Burnham met with former First Ministers in August 2022 and 2023. In his meeting with Mr Yousaf in August 2023, they discussed net zero and just transition (including Low Emissions Zones), housing, skills and the devolution of social security benefits.

The following agenda has been agreed with his office.

1. Devolution, regional powers and relations with UK Government including Council of the Nations and Regions.
2. Transport connectivity including cross border services and bus franchising. Briefing provided by Transport colleagues at **Annex B**.

3. Eradicating Child Poverty. Background briefing on child poverty, including Andy Burnham quotes on the two-child benefit cap limit at **Annex C**.

Public Disorder in Greater Manchester and Liverpool City Region (including Southport)

At the beginning of the meeting, you may wish to **offer your solidarity** in relation to the Southport attack and the recent episodes of disorder experienced in Greater Manchester and Liverpool City Region. You may want to offer an update on the current situation in Scotland and your engagement with political leaders, community representatives and faith and belief leaders.

Engagement with Mayors

The Scottish Government interacts with the other national devolved governments and the UK Government, rather than local government elsewhere in the UK. Interests and perspectives of national and local government differ, although there is scope for co-operation on matters of common interest.

Mr Burnham and Mr Rotheram are firm supporters of the UK Government's proposal for the establishment of a Council of the Nations and Regions and English devolution more widely. In an article to the Guardian, following the meeting between the PM and England's Mayors on 9 July, Mr Burnham described the Council of the Nations and Regions as a '*gamechanger*' which will mean that '*Whitehall departments will need to talk to (the Mayors of Combined Authorities) as equal partners in the running of the country*' and support the drive towards further devolution of power in England¹. Following the same meeting with the PM, Mr Rotheram was quoted in the BBC saying: '*with power you have to be accountable, and we've been now given some real power by this government*'.

In a previous meeting between Mr Burnham and the former First Minister in August 2022, Mr Burnham suggested the possibility of fostering greater cooperation through a forum involving the six mayors in northern England and the Scottish Government. The Council of the Nations and Regions would in part deliver this aim.

ANNEX A - Biographies

Andy Burnham

- Andy Burnham was elected Mayor of Greater Manchester in May 2017, and was re-elected for a second term in May 2021.
- The Mayor joins Greater Manchester's Combined Authority as its chair and eleventh member. He is also the lead for Policy & Reform and Transport.
- Prior to being Mayor, Andy was MP for Leigh from 2001. In Government, Andy has held Ministerial positions at the Home Office, Department of Health

¹ [Tory governments talked down to regional mayors like me. Now Keir Starmer is listening to us | Andy Burnham | The Guardian](#)

and the Treasury. In 2008 he became Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, before returning to Health as Secretary of State in 2009.

- In opposition, Andy has served as Shadow Education Secretary, Shadow Health Secretary and Shadow Home Secretary.
- Andy lives in Leigh, Greater Manchester, with his wife and three children. He is a keen supporter of Everton FC.

Steve Rotheram

- Steve Rotheram was elected as the first Metro Mayor of the Liverpool City Region on 5 May 2017 with 59% of the vote to lead the Combined Authority.
- He began his political career when he was elected to serve as a councillor in 2002 on Liverpool City Council.
- He was elected as the Member of Parliament for the Liverpool Walton constituency in 2010. During his time in Westminster, he led campaigns for justice for the Hillsborough families; in support of blacklisted workers; for compensation for those suffering from mesothelioma and asbestosis; and to change the law on the use of old tyres on buses and coaches.
- In 2015, Steve served as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Leader of the Opposition, Jeremy Corbyn, before successfully seeking the nomination to be Labour's candidate for Metro Mayor of the Liverpool Region.
- One of eight children, Steve was born and raised in Kirkby to a stay-at-home Mum and forklift truck driver Dad. After leaving school with few formal qualifications, Steve began a bricklaying apprenticeship. He went on to run his own building company before working for the Learning and Skills Council.

ANNEX B – Transport connectivity including cross border services and bus franchising

Cross-border passenger rail

Rail connectivity between Scotland and the North of England is important for the economy, society and the environment, as well as connectivity to the Midlands and London. Avanti and TPE provide this on the West Coast Main Line. Avanti's performance is not good enough with too many cancellations and delays impacting passengers (as well as poor Network Rail infrastructure reliability).

The UKG Secretary of State for Transport met with Avanti and Network Rail on 16 July 2024 to challenge poor performance. Understand UKG Ministers will hold regular performance reviews to hold them to account. [Redacted]

High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill

UKG confirmed it will not reverse the decision to cancel the second Phase of HS2, but instead, will continue to repurpose the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill to provide powers to construct and operate rail projects which improve east to west connectivity across the north of England.

[Redacted]

Railways Bill (Rail Reform)

You may want to **note that the Scottish Government looks forward to engaging with the UK Government constructively** as they develop the detail of their plans to bring railways into public ownership.

[Redacted]

Bus Franchising

The Scottish Government has now delivered all the bus powers within the Transport (Scotland)

Act 2019 to enable local transport authorities to consider all the powers available to them,

including partnership working, franchising and local authority run services which sit alongside

their ability to subsidise services.

We encourage all local transport authorities to consider the full range of tools available to them

under the 2019 Act, to ensure that everyone has accessible public transport regardless of where they are in Scotland. We also acknowledge that it is the decision of each local transport authority to determine which of the powers are suitable to improve services in their area.

Phases one and two of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority franchise scheme have now commenced, [Redacted]

Smart Ticketing & Travel data

[Redacted]

You may want to note the Scottish Government will be publishing its 2024 Smart Strategy this month, outlining our programme of work for the next 5-10 years for smart and integrated ticketing, travel data and Mobility as a Service.

[Redacted]

Concessionary Bus Travel

Our National Concessionary Travel Schemes provide free travel for over 2 million people in Scotland, including to under 22s, people aged 60 and over and eligible disabled people. [Redacted]

ANNEX C - Eradicating Child Poverty

The need to eradicate child poverty was discussed at your meeting with the PM on 7 July. At the meeting, the PM confirmed that they would set out a strategy on this soon but noted that ending the two-child cap would not be feasible until the fiscal situation changed.

Mr Burnham has been one of the many voices in UK Labour to publicly support the removal of the two-child cap. On 18 July, in his interview with Andrew Marr he indicated that removal of the two-child benefit cap '*clearly should be at the front*' of Keir Starmer's priorities when '*resources allowed*'. Consistent with this, on 23 July, following the suspension of 7 Labour MPs for voting against the UK Government's on two-child benefit cap, he said on BBC Newsnight: '*I strongly support the removal of the two child cap, that said, this Government is less than three weeks in... they need to be given time and space.*'

The Leader of the Opposition in the Liverpool City Region (Lib Dem) wrote to Mr Rotheram on 22 July 2024 asking him to join other politicians in their calls to end the two-child cap.² Ian Byrne, the MP for Liverpool West Derby, was one of the 7 MPs suspended following the vote on the two-child benefit cap at Westminster and Kim Johnson, the MP for Liverpool Riverside, submitted an amendment to end the policy in the King's Speech debate.

[Redacted]

SG action on Eradicating Child Poverty

Our tackling child poverty progress report, published in June, highlights that in 2023-24 we invested almost £2.9bn across a range of programmes targeted at low income households, with spend directly benefitting children rising to nearly £1.4bn. This includes awarding almost £430m to families through our Scottish Child Payment, now worth £26.70 per week, with more than 329,000 children benefitting from the payment as of 31 March 2024.

We have also continued to mitigate the likes of the Benefit Cap and 'bedroom tax' through Discretionary Housing Payments, with £83.7m made available to Local Authorities in 2023-24.

We continue to build on progress to date and have committed further key investment, including:

- A further £80 million for affordable housing over the next two years, building on the success of our National Acquisition Programme which invested more than £83 million in 2023-24 and delivered almost 1,500 affordable homes.
- £16 million over the next two years within six Early Adopter Community projects, including Glasgow, to expand access to childcare services while aligning with the Pathfinders to support parents and carers to enter or sustain employment.
- Establishing a one-off, emergency fund of £1.5m to support councils to help remove the impact of school meal debt on families.
- A further £4m for the Extra Time Programme, which in partnership with the Scottish Football Association, will provide access to vital before and after school and holiday clubs for around 3,000 families on low incomes.
- Announcing up to £500,000 for local projects to trial innovative ways of combating child poverty through the second round of our Child Poverty Practice Accelerator Fund.

² [Lib Dem Boss calls on Metro Mayor to back calls to scrap the Two Child Benefit Cap - Liverpool Liberal Democrats \(liverlibdems.org.uk\)](https://www.liverlibdems.org.uk)

[Item 3 – Extract from document]

FM meeting with Andy Burnham Steve Rotheram

Discussion included the relationship with the UK Government, including the Council of the Nations and Regions; transport and cross-border connectivity issues; and child poverty.

[Item 4 – Briefing note]

BRIEFING NOTE: MEETING WITH ANDY BURNHAM, GREATER MANCHESTER MAYOR 13 August 2024

Cross-border passenger rail

Top Lines:

- Rail connectivity between Scotland and the North of England is important for the economy, society and the environment, as well as connectivity to the Midlands and London. Avanti and TPE provide this on the West Coast Main Line.
- Avanti's performance is not good enough with too many cancellations and delays impacting passengers (as well as poor Network Rail infrastructure reliability).

Discussion

[Redacted]

High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill

Top Lines:

- UKG confirmed it will not reverse the decision to cancel the second Phase of HS2, but instead, will continue to repurpose the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill to provide powers to construct and operate rail projects which improve east to west connectivity across the north of England.

Discussion

[Redacted]

Railways Bill (Rail Reform)

Top Lines:

- Scottish Ministers and the UKG share similar ambitions for the railways, bringing rail into public ownership in order to deliver safe, accessible, reliable, affordable and efficient services. We look forward to engaging with them constructively as they develop the detail. However, we will not accept any erosion of the devolved position as regards rail in Scotland, or for it to be in any way undermined.

Discussion

[Redacted]

BUS FRANCHISING

Top Lines:

- The Scottish Government has now delivered all the bus powers within the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 to enable local transport authorities to consider all the powers available to them, including partnership working, franchising and local authority run services which sit alongside their ability to subsidise services.
- We encourage all local transport authorities to consider the full range of tools available to them under the 2019 Act, to ensure that everyone has accessible public transport regardless of where they are in Scotland.
- We also acknowledge that it is the decision of each local transport authority to determine which of the powers are suitable to improve services in their area.

Discussion

[Redacted]

Smart Ticketing & Travel data

Top Lines:

- Our aim is to make accessing public transport easier through integrated and smart ticketing, payment and travel data. We have established the National Smart Ticketing Advisory Board and are progressing 2019 Act measures including on smart ticketing technological standards and bus open data.

Discussion

[Redacted]

Concessionary Bus Travel

Top Lines:

- Through the Older & Disabled and Young Persons Concessionary travel schemes over £300 million spent is spent each year to provide free bus travel for over 2 million people in Scotland, including all children and young people under 22, eligible disabled people and everyone aged 60 and over.

Discussion

[Redacted]

All documentation from John Swinney's appearance taking the salute at the Edinburgh Royal Tattoo on August 14 including correspondence (internal as well), minutes/notes from the meetings, briefing notes prepared, policy and analysis, between July 1 and date of this FOI

Ops Note –

FM engagement: Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Event & location	Bute House Reception followed by the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle
Date & time	Wednesday 14 August - 21:30 – 23:30
Format	<p>First Minister has accepted the invitation to take the salute at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.</p> <p><u>Bute House</u> First Minister will host a a pre performance reception for 14 staff and 6 young people from seven organisations focusing on child poverty.</p> <p>Convoy will depart from the front of Bute House, First Minister in car followed by guests on coach transportation.</p> <p><u>Tattoo</u> Prior to the performance, First Minister will be met by Jason Barrett (CEO of The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo) on the esplanade before being escorted to join his guests in the Royal Box. First Minister will take the salute at the end of each individual performance and at the finale.</p>
Key contacts	[name redacted]
Dress code	Business Attire
Attendees	[name redacted] (V&E) [telephone number redacted] [name redacted] (V&E) [telephone number redacted] [name redacted] (PS)
Annexes	Annex A – Guest List Annex B – Seating Plan Annex C – Salute Takers Briefing Note
Programme outline	<p>19:15 Guests arrive at Bute House and escorted to the drawing room where refreshments will be served.</p> <p>19:20 First Minister joins guests in the drawing room. Guest list attached at Annex A. First Minister will also be joined by Andrew Kerr who is the Director on duty at the Tattoo.</p>

19:40

First Minister will say a few words of welcome.

19:45

Bowl Food is served.

Chickpea, spinach, and almond butter seasonal vegetables with warm in house made blackthorn focaccia bread.

Mini Scottish beef burger with Scottish cheddar cheese and inhouse made tomato sauce.

Hand cut chips

Macaroni and cheese in a Scottish cheddar cheese sauce with a crispy cheese topping, micro herbs

Mini bite size treats selection

Scottish vanilla ice cream with fresh fruit

[redacted]

A pre-recorded narration will introduce the **First Minister** to the audience.

[redacted]

21:30

Tattoo performance begins.

First Minister will stand at the end of each performance to take the salute [redacted]

23:00

Tattoo concludes. There will be a short drinks reception at the back of the Royal Box to allow the crowds to clear. **First Minister** will have the opportunity to meet with the other guests who have been in the corporate boxes.

[redacted]

EVENT ENDS

NAME	ROLE	ORGANISATION
Jordan Butler	Founder	Heavy Sound
Sarah Barrett	Head of Youth Services	Heavy Sound
John Taylor	Edinburgh Programme Coordinator	Street Soccer Scotland
Jordan McCartney	Edinburgh Programme Coordinator	Street Soccer Scotland
Kirsten Urquhart	Chief Executive	Young Scot
Mary Cane	Project Officer	Young Scot
John Dickie	Chief Executive	CPAG
Maria Marshall	Policy Officer	CPAG
Stewart Wilson	Head of Service	Sistema
Irini Dimitriadou	Senior Musician	Sistema
Mary Glasgow	Chief Executive	Children 1 st
Sinead Haddow	Financial Wellbeing Service Manager	Children 1 st
SallyAnn Kelly	Chief Executive	Aberlour
Lynne O'Brien	Chief Officer	Aberlour

Young people

NAME	AGE	ORGANISATION / ROLE
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Heavy Sound, participant
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Heavy Sound, participant
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Street Soccer Scotland, Youth Volunteer
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Street Soccer Scotland, Youth Volunteer
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Young Scot, Equity Panel Member
[name redacted]	[redacted]	Young Scot, Equity Panel Member

Annex B –Seating Plan

[redacted]

Annex C - Salute Takers Briefing Note

[redacted]

Submission – 4 July 2024:

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Culture and Historic Environment
4 July 2024

FIRST MINISTER

Priority and Purpose

1. **Urgent** – the timing is in order to make arrangements for the FM's Bute House reception (para 7), if he is minded to host the event.

Recommendation

2. That the First Minister provide his views on the recommendations for engagement with the major Edinburgh Festivals:
 - a) [out of scope]
 - b) Accept - Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Salute-Taker (14 Aug)
 - c) [out of scope]
 - d) [out of scope]

Context and Issues

3. It is customary for the First Minister to engage with the key August Festivals, in particular hosting the All Festivals Reception in Bute House, key engagements with high profile international visitors, as well as performing the role of Salute-Taker at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

[out of scope]

Recommendations

The below invitations represent those that officials and Special Advisers are aware of at this time, and further suggestions for engagements that the First Minister may wish to attend will be provided as they emerge over the summer festival season.

Accepts

[out of scope]

4. **Wed 14 Aug – Salute Taker at Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle** – annual event which the First Minister attends and can invite a group of up to 20 guests. Last year, FFM invited family members and Ukrainian musicians.
 - a. [redacted – s.30(b)(i)]

[out of scope]

Contribution to the Government's Three Missions

5. The August season of the Edinburgh festivals impacts positively across the three missions. As well as contributing to Scotland's global brand, the August season also impacts on economic growth and enabling communities to thrive through engagement with creatives.

[out of scope]

Quality Assurance

6. This Submission has been approved by [redacted - s.38(1)(b)], Head of International Policy Team, and Special Advisers Emily Mackintosh and Davie Hutchison.

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Culture and Historic Environment
4 July 2024

Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers Copy List	For Action	For Information Portfolio interest	For Information Constituency interest	For Information General awareness
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic		X (as per Mr Robertson's constituency recusal)		
Cabinet Secretary CEAC		X		

Officials Copy List

Joe Griffin
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Visits and Events
Comms CEAC
David Hutchinson, SPAD
Emily Mackintosh, SPAD

Email exchange – 4 July 2024:

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 04 July 2024 12:41
To: First Minister; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Cc: David Hutchison; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic; Minister for Employment and Investment; Visits and Events; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Jack Middleton; DG Strategy and External Affairs; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Shona Riach; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Emily Mackintosh; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications
Subject: Urgent submission - Edinburgh Festivals - FM engagements
Attachments: First Minister - Edinburgh Festivals 2024 - Submission - 4 July 2024.docx

Importance: High

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Hope all's well. I have received clearance from Special Advisers to issue the submission for FM's August Festival engagements – please see attached an urgent submission for his consideration.

First Minister - Edinburgh Festivals 2024 - Submission - 4 July 2024 details - Objective ECM ([scotland.gov.uk](https://www.scotland.gov.uk))

Best wishes,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 4:12 PM
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>
Cc: David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>; Visits and Events <VisitsandEvents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted -

s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted -
s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Thanks [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]. Really helpful to have all this set out.

In order for us to get a steer from the FM, I would ask you to send us a formal submission with this all outlined (essentially what you have below, but set out in a format appropriate to go to the FM for decision). Please seek Spad clearance (Davie & Emily) prior to submission, which [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] can then send up to the FM for decision.

You can work on the basis that BH could be available should the FM decide to host the reception.

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 3:46 PM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>

Cc: David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>; Visits and Events <VisitsandEvents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Director of Culture and Major Events <Directorofcultureandmajorevents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Many thanks for checking in on this – I have taken [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] off as the amicable divorce between Culture and Major Events is now complete, and [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] is now back with Major Events. I have added colleagues in Culture to the copy ([redacted - s.38(1)(b)], as well as UK Relations/Constitution on the Book

festival event, and international colleagues with whom we work on August engagements.

Yes, you are correct that normally we would issue a list of engagements over August for First Minister to consider attending, usually via Emily M, however I am still awaiting the remaining festival programmes and invites coming until I have a comprehensive list. At this stage though, I do not believe there will be many more high priority engagements for FM over the August season that are not covered by the below, though of course we still have over a couple of months to go before the August starts so you never know.

On the invitations below, the recommendations are:

1. **Wed 14 Aug – Salute Taker at Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle** – annual event which FM attends and can invite a group of up to 20 guests. Last year, FFM invited some family members and some Ukrainian musicians. We haven't yet put this to the FM, but plan to do so asap as V&E need to confirm with organisers.

a. [redacted – s.30(b)(i)]

[out of scope]

Best wishes,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]<[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:19 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>

Cc: David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>; Visits and Events <VisitsandEvents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Copying in FM's diary secretary.

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]**On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:18 AM

To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>

Cc: David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>; Visits and Events <VisitsandEvents@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>

Subject: Edinburgh Festival - commission for advice

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Davie said you were the right people to get in touch with re: Edinburgh Festival.

We have a few invites on the cards for the FM, which we are yet to put to him, but it made me think it might be worth having some advice on coordination across SG on events and meetings we are proposing for ministers in and around the Festival. If this is all already in hand, wonderful! But if not, the below is what we have for the FM which it would be helpful to see worked into some comprehensive advice for FM, DFM and Cab Sec – so we can see the full picture and ensure no overlap.

My colleague @[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] covers the culture portfolio in FMPO, so can pick up anything when she returns from leave. I have also copied Spads and V&E who will have an interest in FM events.

- 7. Wed 14 Aug – Salute Taker at Tattoo, Edinburgh Castle** – annual event which FM attends and can invite a group of up to 20 guests. Last year, FFM invited some family members and some Ukrainian musicians. We haven't yet put this to the FM, but plan to do so asap as V&E need to confirm with organisers.

[out of scope]

I will leave you to tell me when a reasonable time to expect this advice is, as I'm not sure how progressed Festival plans are yet, but on the basis we are putting the Salute invite to the FM this week, it would be good if I could give him a window in which to expect the advice.

Thanks

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Senior Private Secretary to the First Minister

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

Email exchange – 7 July 2024:

From: John Swinney
Sent: 07 July 2024 20:04
To: First Minister
Subject: RE: Urgent submission - Edinburgh Festivals - FM engagements

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I am happy to accept the recommendations made. I would like the guest list for the Tattoo to focus on my work on eradicating Child Poverty. Could I have some suggestions about an invite list. It should be a list that incorporates some of the good work being undertaken.

Thanks

FM

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 3:00 PM
To: John Swinney <John.Swinney@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Urgent submission - Edinburgh Festivals - FM engagements
Importance: High

FM,

Please see attached submission on festival engagements that has been cleared by SpAds.

It recommends that you:

- a) [out of scope]
- b) Accept - Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Salute-Taker (14 Aug)
- c) [out of scope]
- d) [out of scope]

Please see below comments from diary perspective:

- a. [out of scope]
- b. Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Salute-Taker on 14 August – you already agreed that you will attend and it's confirmed in your diary. You will see in the submission that you can invite a group of up to 20 people [redacted – s.30(b)(i)]
- b.
- c. [out of scope]

Many thanks,

Hope all's well. I have received clearance from Special Advisers to issue the submission for FM's August Festival engagements – please see attached an urgent submission for his consideration.

First Minister - Edinburgh Festivals 2024 - Submission - 4 July 2024 details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

Best wishes,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Email exchange – 12 July 2024:

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] on behalf of First Minister
Sent: 12 July 2024 12:02
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Cc: First Minister; Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice 2024; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; DG Communities; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Director, Tackling Child Poverty and Social Justice; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications First Minister; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Visits and Events; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Subject: First Minister

Good afternoon [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

As discussed, the First Minister will be attending the Edinburgh Military Tattoo on Wednesday 14th August at 21:30pm.

[redacted – s.39(1)]

This year, the First Minister would like the guest list to focus on the First Ministers work on eradicating Child Poverty. Therefore, I would be grateful if some suggestions could be put together for the FMs consideration – this should be a list that incorporates some of the good work being undertaken. I would be grateful if this could be provided by **Friday 19th July 2024**.

For helpful background, the Former First Minister attended last year and invited family members and Ukrainian musicians to mark displaced Ukrainians coming to Scotland.

[redacted – s.39(1)]

Happy to also discuss further.

Many thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

Email exchange – 14 August 2024:

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 14 August 2024 13:51
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications First Minister; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture; Communications Education & Skills; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: For Policy View: Draft Social Media - FM at Tattoo

Thanks [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]. I'll put below to SpAds at 14:30. Grateful if other colleagues can comment before then if necessary.

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 12:40 PM
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]2@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Communications Education & Skills <CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: For Policy View: Draft Social Media - FM at Tattoo

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Thanks – this is fine with me, but I only work on arts/culture policy so happy to defer to veterans/defence colleagues – adding [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] in defence..

Best wishes,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 12:37 PM
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]2@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Communications Education & Skills <CommunicationsEducationandSkills@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: For Policy View: Draft Social Media - FM at Tattoo

Hi [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

As discussed, draft social media post below to mark FM's attendance at the Tattoo tonight on @ScotGovFM (post likely to issue tomorrow morning given timings).

Also adding [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] and veterans policy colleagues for possible views.

Grateful if colleagues can come back with views by 14:00 please.

Thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Media Manager | News - First Minister
The Scottish Government
m: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

Draft post for @ScotGovFM (275/280)

First Minister @JohnSwinney was honoured to be the Salute Taker at the @EdinburghTattoo, a world-class military event rooted in Scottish traditions.

@ScotGov wholeheartedly supports the Armed Forces and veterans, and recognises their contribution to communities in Scotland.

Email exchange – 15 August 2024:

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Sent: 15 August 2024 11:17
To: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; First Minister
Cc: Emily Mackintosh; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)];
Ross Ingebrigtsen; Jack Middleton; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)];
[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted -
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; Communications First
Minister; Communications Social Justice; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted -
s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: For FM awareness - Tattoo - Social

Good morning,

With thanks to [redacted - s.38(1)(b)], please find below links to the social media posts marking last night's Bute House reception and the First Minister's attendance at the Tattoo.

[out of scope]

Tattoo: <https://x.com/ScotGovFM/status/1824026424077852861>

Thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:08 PM
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]2@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted - s.38(1)(b)] <[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: For FM awareness - Tattoo - Social

First Minister, PO,

For your awareness please find below the comms handling and content to mark the pre Tattoo reception at Bute House and the Tattoo.

Many thanks,

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]
News | First Minister Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

[redacted - s.38(1)(b)]

www.gov.scot/news



COMMS HANDLING – Tattoo reception/Tattoo	
WHAT	First Minister will host young people at Bute house for a pre Tattoo reception before they accompany him to the Royal Edinburgh Tattoo.
WHEN	Wednesday 14 August
TIME	Reception 1915, Tattoo 2115
COMMS HANDLING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FM Comms will attend Bute House to capture stills and b-roll footage of FM• Tattoo comms will capture stills of FM at the Tattoo both on arrival and when seated during the event
SOCIAL MEDIA	[out of scope] Tattoo <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stills will be sent by Tattoo comms to FM Comms and posted on xScotGovFM on Thursday morning [out of scope]
COMMS SUPPORT	[redacted - s.38(1)(b)] for visual content

[out of scope]

Tattoo:

First Minister @JohnSwinney was honoured to be the Salute Taker at the @EdinburghTattoo, a world-class event rooted in Scottish traditions.

He was pleased to invite young people working with anti-poverty charities like @StreetSoccerSco to attend the Tattoo as his guests.

All documentation from John Swinney's meeting with Angela Rayner on August 15 including correspondence (internal as well), minutes/notes from the meetings, briefing notes prepared, policy and analysis, between July 1 and date of this FOI

[Item 1 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 4:35 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Cc: Communications First Minister

<CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot> [Redacted]; Julie Grant

<Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Donald Cameron

<Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Chief Planner

<Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG

Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; John Webster

<John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen

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

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

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

PS/FM,

Please find attached the briefing for FM's meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister tomorrow. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted] | W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 6:41 PM

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

<DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister

<Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]; Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro

<Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs

<DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>;

Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Joe Griffin

<Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily

Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton

<Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted] <Jen.Schofield@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Hi,

Apologies, just to confirm we are checking this for Thursday, not tomorrow afternoon.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic – Kate Forbes MSP

Leas-rùnaire Priobhaideach dhan Leas-Phrìomh Mhinistear is do Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson na h-Eaconamaidh is Gàidhlig – Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E: DFMCSEG@gov.scot

M:[Redacted]



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From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 4:53 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted]; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Hi folks,

We are checking if DFM can do tomorrow afternoon and will follow up asap.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic – Kate Forbes MSP

Leas-rùnaire Priobhaideach dhan Leas-Phrìomh Mhinistear is do Rùnaire a'

Chaibineit airson na h-Eaconamaidh is Gàidhlig – Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

E: DFMCSEG@gov.scot

M: [Redacted]



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

From: [Redacted] **Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 3:12 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Thanks [Redacted]

The meeting will be in person at Bute House – the time is still to be firmed up, dependant on DFM's diary. This was a very recent request from DPM's office, so details are still fairly thin on the ground.

Thanks,

[Redacted] Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 3:00 PM

To: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Thank you, Donald. Has the meeting been confirmed for in person at Bute House as indicated in FM's diary?

Adding media SPADs – I think given this is the first in person meeting between FM and DPM there would be merit in inviting media for establishment shots and issuing a short line. Grateful for a SPAD view.

We will also line up a photographer to get stills.

Thanks,

[Redacted] **News | First Minister's Communications Team Leader**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [Redacted] Portfolio Media inquiries: [Redacted]

www.gov.scot/news



From: Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 2:51 PM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster <John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>; Communications First Minister <CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant

<Julie.Grant@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FM meeting DPM

Thanks [Redacted], looping in other FM comms colleagues and to confirm that [Redacted] is leading on prep.

We'll confirm official support shortly.

Donald

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 11:55 AM

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister

<Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief

Planner <Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster

<John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic

<DFMCSEG@gov.scot>

Subject: FM meeting DPM

Hi all,

Thank you for your support for FM's call with DPM a couple of weeks ago. FM was content with the meeting note – I've attached, grateful if you could ensure this is uploaded to eRDM and share the link please.

The First Minister is now likely to meet with the Deputy Prime Minister again on Thursday afternoon – DFM may also be joining the call. I will confirm when this is firm in the diary.

I'd be grateful if you are able to prepare briefing for this meeting please, by **5pm tomorrow**.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Deputy Private Secretary | Office of the First Minister | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2024 6:27 PM

To: Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney

<Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Donald Cameron

<Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Chief Planner

<Chief.Planner@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; DG

Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted] John Webster

<John.Webster@gov.scot>; Christopher Mackie <Christopher.Mackie@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>

Subject: FM/DPM introductory call (31/07) - meeting record [draft]

All,

As you're aware, the First Minister met with the Deputy Prime Minister earlier this afternoon.

With thanks to [Redacted] for providing meeting support and the note itself, please find below a record of the discussion. Please note thought that the FM has not cleared this yet (Colin has reviewed though); I just wanted to give you early sight.

The key points I would highlight: the DPM echo'd the Prime Minister and Chancellor's sentiments/words regarding resetting the relationship between SG and UKG; the DPM stated that the Prime Minister will lead on IGR for UKG; and the DPM will travel to Scotland over the next few weeks.

[Redacted]

Actions:

1. SG Officials to share relevant information with UKG.
2. FMPO to liaise with DPMPO regarding an in-person meeting in Scotland between the FM and DPM.

I will confirm as/when the FM has considered/cleared the note. Please do share with colleagues accordingly, with the caveat that it's still in draft form.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the First Minister

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

[Redacted] | FirstMinister@gov.scot

[Attachment 1 to above email chain below]

What	Meeting with Angela Rayner, Deputy Prime Minister
Where	Bute House
When	16:00-16:45, Thursday 15 August 2024
Agenda	No formal agenda set, follow up to introductory call.
Who	Angela Rayner, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
Why	An in-person follow up to your introductory call on 31 July.

Supporting official	Dominic Munro, Director for Constitution
Briefing contents	Annex A: Community cohesion and recent disorder in Eng/NI Annex B: Winter Fuel Payments Annex C: Budget Annex D: Economic development and levelling up funding Annex E: Housing Programme Annex F: Eradicating child poverty Annex G: Overview of engagement (tonal shift)
Media handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to time pressures, broadcast press pool (one TV, one radio, 2x photographers for print and wires) set up for establishing shots; TV and radio clips afterwards • Proactive comment to issue from First Minister following meeting
Social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stills will be posted on xScotGov main channel accounts and reshared from ScotGovFM • Option for FM to record video PTC following meeting which would issue the following day on xScotGovFM

ANNEX A – Community Cohesion and Civil Disorder in England/Northern Ireland

[Redacted]

Background

After violent disturbances took place over several days in the previous two weeks in England,

there now appears to be more stability, with the risk of further disorder appearing to have dissipated with speedy and public convictions appearing to have had an effect. More sentences are expected to be handed down this week.

Protests and counter protests do however continue in Northern Ireland and Police Scotland have agreed to a request from the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to provide mutual aid by sending over 100 public order trained officers on Tuesday 13 August 2024.

Police Scotland have worked closely with faith leaders and their communities to provide reassurance. You supported their efforts with a visit to the Central Edinburgh Mosque last Monday and a meeting with representatives of faith and refugee groups last Wednesday.

While Police Scotland are remaining vigilant to the prospect of disorder, their focus is now on continued community reassurance, particularly with schools returning this week. The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills has worked with local authorities and Education Scotland to ensure that schools have the resources in place to and are prepared to support children and young people as they return to school.

Annex B – Winter Fuel Payments

[Redacted]

Background

The UK Government recently announced an intention to move away from a universal Winter Fuel Payment and to restrict entitlement to those in receipt of Pension Credit and other means-tested benefits from this winter.

Pension Age Winter Heating Payment (PAWHP) was due to replace Winter Fuel Payment in Scotland this winter as a universal benefit. [Redacted]

As a result, the Scottish Government has no choice but to replicate the decision made by the UK Government and restrict eligibility for Pension Age Winter Heating Payment to older people on relevant eligible benefits. This is a necessary decision when faced with such a deep cut to our funding and in the most challenging financial circumstances since devolution.

The Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice wrote to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on 14 August confirming the decision to follow the UKG's approach of means testing and asking DWP to proceed with their offer to make payments to eligible pensioners in Scotland equivalent to Winter Fuel Payments in England and Wales for this winter. Under these arrangements, delivery of Pension Age Winter Heating Payment in Scotland would be deferred until winter 2025.

Annex C – Budget

[Redacted]

Background

The medium-term outlook for Scotland's capital budget is extremely challenging, with an expected real terms reduction to our UK capital funding of 8.7% between 2023-24 and 2027-28 – a cumulative loss of over £1.3 billion. Alongside this, our 2024-25 FT allocation from the UK Government has dropped by £290 million – or 62% when compared to 2022-23, adding to the significant challenge we already face. This means that we cannot afford all our capital commitments and will need to make difficult decisions to ensure our capital programme is affordable and deliverable.

[Redacted]

Annex D – Economic development

[Redacted]

Background

The National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET) reiterated our commitment to work closely with regional partners to drive regional economic empowerment. The Regional Economic Policy Review sets out a refreshed and strengthened vision for regional economic development. Scottish Ministers have endorsed the reviews 11 recommendations. We continue to support two priority recommendations:

- Establishing a model of regional funding via the Regional Economic Partnerships;
- Establishing Regional Intelligence Hubs, like the Glasgow Model, to assess opportunities and provide an evidence-base for regional investment decisions.

Delivery of both prioritised recommendations has been limited to date due to resource constraints, but we recognise the need to drive this work forward. We will advance a regional funding model as part of our wider approach to public service reform, examining the future role of national and local government in delivering economic priorities.

Funding

Lines to take:

- SG would welcome a more collaborative approach to future funding from UKG.
- [Redacted]

Annex E – Housing Programme

[Redacted]

ANNEX F – Eradicating Child Poverty

The need to eradicate child poverty was discussed at your meeting with the PM on 7 July. At the meeting, the PM confirmed that they would set out a strategy on this soon but noted that ending the two-child cap would not be feasible until the fiscal situation changed.

[Redacted]

Background on SG action

Our tackling child poverty progress report, published in June, highlights that in 2023-24 we invested almost £2.9bn across a range of programmes targeted at low income households, with spend directly benefitting children rising to nearly £1.4bn. This includes awarding almost £430m to families through our Scottish Child Payment, now worth £26.70 per week, with more than 329,000 children benefitting from the payment as of 31 March 2024.

We have also continued to mitigate the likes of the Benefit Cap and ‘bedroom tax’ through Discretionary Housing Payments, with £83.7m made available to Local Authorities in 2023-24.

We continue to build on progress to date and have committed further key investment, including:

- A further £80 million for affordable housing over the next two years, building on the success of our National Acquisition Programme which invested more than £83 million in 2023-24 and delivered almost 1,500 affordable homes.
- £16 million over the next two years within six Early Adopter Community projects, including Glasgow, to expand access to childcare services while aligning with the Pathfinders to support parents and carers to enter or sustain employment.
- Establishing a one-off, emergency fund of £1.5m to support councils to help remove the impact of school meal debt on families.
- A further £4m for the Extra Time Programme, which in partnership with the Scottish Football Association, will provide access to vital before and after school and holiday clubs for around 3,000 families on low incomes.
- Announcing up to £500,000 for local projects to trial innovative ways of combating child poverty through the second round of our Child Poverty Practice Accelerator Fund.

ANNEX G – Overview of SG/UKG engagement

You have been clear that you see the election of a new government as an opportunity to reset the tone, and approach, of intergovernmental relations (a point also reflected in the Labour manifesto, and confirmed in your meeting with the Prime Minister). There have been positive introductory calls throughout the summer

between Scottish and UK Ministers reiterating this point and seeking to build a relationship of trust to help deliver shared ambitions in areas of shared responsibility.

[Redacted]

[Attachment 2 to above email]

[Redacted]

[Item 2 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 4:40 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

No, nothing else to add. And we can have a chat with [Redacted] and [Redacted] about Dominic's question re precedent of redacting material once we have gathered it.

[Redacted] | Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

From: Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 9:01 AM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

[Redacted]

You already have my note of the meeting (first link below).

[Redacted]

Thanks,

Dominic Munro

Director: Constitution

DG Strategy & External Affairs

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:33 AM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

Thank you [Redacted], that's correct. Apologies, perhaps that folder is restricted. Many thanks for coming back to me.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E [Redacted] | W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2024 3:31 PM

To: [Redacted] CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

Hi [Redacted], I am getting an error message when I try to open the middle attachment below, the briefing pack. I'm assuming this is where the briefing I provided on 14 August on WFP will appear (but attaching for completeness). I don't have anything further within scope for the FOI. Regards.

[Redacted] | Head of Social Security Strategy, Welfare Fund and Winter Benefits Social Security Policy Division | Social Security Directorate | Scottish Government
Mob: [Redacted]* [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 4:37 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

Hi all,

Grateful if you can confirm if you have anything additional. To note, [Redacted], I have now included your heads up email that added [Redacted] to the conversation and my initial commissioning email, as flagged by Dominic.

Many thanks

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted] | W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 1:33 PM

To: CUKR Unit Heads - Org - SG <CUKRUnitHeads-Org-SG@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: FOI - FM/DPM meeting specifically about Winter Fuel Payment

CUKR: Unit Heads

Dominic

[Redacted]

FOI – First Minister’s meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister, 15 August 2024

We have received an FOI from [Redacted], asking for all meeting agendas, notes and information referencing the Winter Fuel Payment from the meeting held between First Minister John Swinney and Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner on 15 August 2024 in Edinburgh.

I have set out below the documents that I have found that should be considered, I’d be grateful if you could please check if you have any further and send on to me. My understanding is that given the wording of the query, the briefing pack and the readout are within scope, as is the email chain discussing the comms statement as it makes explicit reference to the WFP.

Readout – Readout - First Minister meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister - Note approved by FM - 15 August 2024 details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)
Briefing pack – Briefing - FM & DPM Meeting - Thursday 15 August 2024 details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)
Comms statement – FW_ SpAd _ policy views ___ proactive comment - FM meeting DPM details - Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

If you have anything else that you believe to be within scope I’d be grateful if you could share with me by 10am Tuesday.

Many thanks
[Redacted]

[Redacted]
| Constitution and UK Relations Division | Constitution Directorate | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]
| W: www.gov.scot | Address: 2 West, St. Andrew’s House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG |

[Redacted]

[Item 3 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, September 2, 2024 2:38 PM

To: Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted]

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

Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Brian Dornan <Brian.Dornan@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

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

Subject: Review of w/c 26 August and forward look

Hi Joe,

Please see below update from last week and forward look. [Redacted] will pick up the update again from next week.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

27 August - FM to DPM follow-up Letter

FM also issued a letter to DPM following up on issues discussed in their meeting on 15 August (attached). The main issues followed up on were the recent civil disorder, the need for working-age migration to Scotland, and the financial transactions capital budget.

[Redacted]

[Item 4 – Email]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 3:48 PM

To: [Redacted] Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: Review of w/c 12 August and forward look

FM and Deputy Prime Minister meeting at Bute House (15 August)

Discussion included affordable housing and Financial Transactions funding; the impact of the Winter Fuel Payments decision on the SG budget and the concerns around how it was handled; the recent disorder in England and NI and Scottish Government's approach – including the guidance shared with schools ahead of term resuming; the holistic approach needed to tackle child poverty; immigration and gender recognition related issues. A letter from the FM to the DPM to follow up on the several matters discussed at the meeting is being drafted. A readout of the meeting – which is pending FM's approval - is attached.

[Redacted]

Head of Constitution Engagement

Directorate for Constitution

Scottish Government

Mob: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Item 5 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2024 11:40 AM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted] Ian Davidson <Ian.Davidson2@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Jennie Barugh <Jennie.Barugh@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Immediate - Commission for FM/DPM meeting

Hi [Redacted]

Please find contribution for above in respect of winter fuel payment. Copying to Exchequer colleagues for awareness and any comments. I also attach a copy of the letter issued from CSJ to SoS DWP this morning on the subject. Let me know if you require anything further.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Head of Social Security Strategy, Welfare Fund and Winter Benefits Social Security Policy Division | Social Security Directorate | Scottish Government
Mob [Redacted] * [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 2:23 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Immediate - Commission for FM/DPM meeting

Looping in [Redacted] for DGE too.

[Redacted] – you'll want to grab a quick chat with [Redacted] and [Redacted] (who are in Anne-Marie Martin's Division) as part of your coordination role.

Best,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Support, DG Economy | Scottish Government
Mob: [Redacted] | E-mail: [Redacted]

Responsibility for filing key documents and communications on the record, including those sent to DG Economy, rests with relevant policy and operational areas within Directorates. The DG Office Team does not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 12:06 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Immediate - Commission for FM/DPM meeting

Hi all,

To confirm that the meeting will definitely be going ahead on Thursday (exact timings TBC). With apologies for the tight deadline, **I'd therefore be grateful if you could send me a one-pager on the below topics by 10:30am Wednesday**. I'd also appreciate if suggested leads could please confirm that you have got this email and are able to respond by the deadline.

1. Housing programme [Redacted]
2. Community cohesion/recent disorder in England/NI [Redacted]
3. Budget [Redacted]
4. Economic development/levelling up funding [Redacted]
5. Winter fuel payments [Redacted]

Thanks so much

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Constitutional Projects Leader | Elections & Constitutional Projects Division | Constitution Directorate

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 11:44 AM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] **Cc:** [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Heads-up - FM/DPM meeting - Thursday 15 August

Just adding [Redacted]. As discussed on Teams, winter fuel payment may also be likely to feature on any agenda between FM/DFM and DPM at Thursday's meeting and you will keep us in the loop on any developments over the next few days in terms of SG Ministers deciding on next steps.

[Redacted] | Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 5:03 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Heads-up - FM/DPM meeting - Thursday 15 August

Copying in [Redacted] and [Redacted] for regional econ dev interests

Best,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Chief of Staff and Head of Strategic Support, DG Economy | Scottish Government

Mob: [Redacted]

Responsibility for filing key documents and communications on the record, including those sent to DG Economy, rests with relevant policy and operational areas within Directorates. The DG Office Team does not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

From: [Redacted] **Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2024 5:00 PM

To: [Redacted] Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>; Donald Cameron <Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

[Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Heads-up - FM/DPM meeting - Thursday 15 August

Hi all. Had a heads-up from FM's office that it's looking very likely that FM will be meeting with DPM this Thursday afternoon at Bute House, potentially with DFM in attendance. FM's office will send out official commission when confirmed, but letting us know now so we have early notice for official support and briefing.

No indication yet about what will be on the agenda but presumably looking to build on the introductory call so potentially covering housing ([Redacted]); community cohesion-recent disorder in England and NI ([Redacted]); budget ([Redacted]) and general economic development/levelling up funding to cover DFM interests ([Redacted]). Will follow up tomorrow when hopefully we know a bit more. (and if we don't have any feedback from DFM's meeting with Ian Murray by tomorrow, it may be worth following up with Joe's office in case there's anything relevant from that too)

[Redacted] | Head of UK Relations | Constitution & UK Relations Division | Scottish Government | E: [Redacted]

[Item 6 – Emails]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 5:22 PM

To: Jack Middleton <Jack.Middleton@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted] Communications First Minister

<CommunicationsFirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Julie Grant

<Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted] Donald Cameron

<Donald.Cameron@gov.scot>; Luke Mcbratney <Luke.Mcbratney@gov.scot>;

[Redacted] Dominic Munro <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: SpAd / policy views // proactive comment - FM meeting DPM

Jack

Thanks, to confirm this has issued.

First Minister John Swinney met Deputy First Minister Angela Rayner at Bute House today.

Following the meeting the First Minister said:

“I am committed to building a constructive and collaborative relationship with the UK Government that delivers for the people of Scotland.

“In that spirit of cooperation, I was pleased to welcome the Deputy Prime Minister to Bute House to discuss how our two governments can work together on shared priorities such as supporting strong public services and reaching net-zero.

“Following recent criminal disorder in England and Northern Ireland, both governments restated their duty to tackle hatred of any kind and agreed we have a responsibility to confront racism and religious prejudice wherever, and whenever, it appears – including on social media.

“I expressed concern at the UK Government’s decision to cut spending for the Winter Fuel Payment for pensioners without any consultation with the Scottish Government.

“Scotland faces the most challenging financial circumstances in the devolution era and has no alternative but to replicate this decision which will impact tens of thousands of pensioners in Scotland.

“As I have previously warned, we need an injection of investment in our public services to deal with rising pressures and the ongoing cost of austerity.

“I look forward to engaging with the UK Government in areas where we can work together.”

ENDS

Thanks,

[Redacted] **News | First Minister’s Communications Team Leader**

The Scottish Government, St Andrew’s House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [Redacted] | Portfolio Media inquiries: [Redacted]

www.gov.scot/news



[Redacted]