

PS Minute

ADVICE FOR: DEREK MACKAY

MACCS Case Number:	2017	Respond by: 20/02/2017	
Correspondent/Organisation:	Tim Alderslade, the CEO of Airlines UK		
Date and time of Event:	Telephone meeting suggested before Mr Mackay gives evidence on the Air Departure Tax (ADT) Bill to the Finance and Constitution Committee on 1 March.		
Location of Event:	N/A – Telephone meeting proposed.		
Overview of invitation and audience profile:	<p>In January, Mr Mackay was invited to meet with Tim Alderslade to discuss ADT and other aviation issues. Due to diary commitments a meeting was unable to be arranged, but the Cabinet Secretary indicated that he was happy to meet/speak with Mr Alderslade at a later date.</p> <p>Mr Alderslade is now keen to have a conversation ahead of the Cabinet Secretary giving evidence on the ADT Bill to the Finance and Constitution Committee on 1 March.</p> <p>Airlines UK (formally known as BATA) is a trade body for 11 major UK-registered airlines that operate flights from Scottish airports. Airlines UK supports the Scottish Government's policy on reducing ADT by 50% by the end of the current Parliament and abolishing it when resources allow.</p> <p>Airlines UK responded to the Scottish Government's ADT consultation, is a member of the Scottish Government's ADT stakeholder forum and also gave oral evidence on the ADT Bill to the Committee on 1 February.</p> <p>Mr Mackay has previously met Mr Alderslade on 3 August 2016 (bilateral meeting with airlines) and 12 January 2017 (ADT stakeholder forum meeting).</p>		
Has the Minister been asked to attend on behalf of FM?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Don't Know <input type="checkbox"/>
RECOMMENDATION:	Accept		
	<p>Comments: Although Mr Mackay has met Mr Alderslade before, subject to a suitable time being available it would be beneficial for Mr Mackay to continue to engage with this key stakeholder (representing the major airlines) and [redacted]</p> <p>It is unclear why Mr Alderslade wishes to speak to Mr Mackay before he gives evidence to the Committee on 1 March, so officials would recommend scheduling the telephone conversation</p>		

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	<p>whenever the earliest available opportunity is (whether that is before or after 1 March) and we will follow up with Mr Alderslade to confirm the issues he wants to discuss in the call.</p> <p>If recommendation is to accept, has this advice been agreed with your Head of Division? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
Has another Minister been asked to attend:	If so, who and have they accepted? – N/A	
Main theme that the event supports:	The Scottish Government will use the Scottish Parliament's new powers over APD in Scotland to put in place new arrangements which better supports the Government's strategic objective (set out in Scotland's Economic Strategy) of boosting Scotland's international connectivity and delivering sustainable growth.	
Main purpose of attending: <i>(Tick as many as apply)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce or illustrate existing policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> • Improve relations with stakeholders <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 	
Main message to communicate:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We remain committed to delivering a 50% reduction in ADT by the end of this Parliament, and we will work across the Parliament to do so. • We will also abolish ADT in Scotland entirely when resources allow. • Introduction of the Bill is an important first step in progressing these plans. 	
Most appropriate type of Ministerial input:	Telephone conversation.	
Private Office view:	Diary should be checked as that may influence whether another Minister should be asked to take on the event	
	Private Office contact:	
Communications Office view:	Comments:	
	Communications Office contact:	[redacted]
Action Officer:	[redacted]	