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Dear Arlene

Congratulations on your appointment as First Minister.

It's heartening to see another female First Minister and I look forward to working with you and Martin McGuinness in the future.

In the spirit of joint-working and cooperation, we are looking forward to hosting the next British-Irish Council Summit in Glasgow. I want to make this a meaningful event which makes best use of our time and the unique opportunity provided by gathering so many heads of administration together. Your perspective will of course be of fundamental importance in this, so I am particularly keen that we discuss our plans with you and I can confirm that Fiona Hyslop, the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Europe and External Affairs will be in touch.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Joint Ministerial Committee Plenary.

NICOLA STURGEON