

Permanent Secretary  
Leslie Evans

T: 0131-244 4026  
E: perm.sec@gov.scot



Ruth Davidson MSP  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

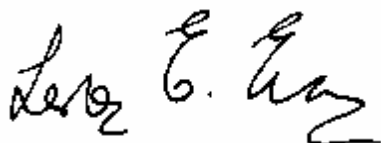
25 November 2015

Dear Ms Davidson

### **SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS, MAY 2016**

With effect from 1 December 2015, The First Minister has authorised me to conduct discussions with Opposition Party Leaders. These will be on the basis of the established pre-election arrangements and will enable us to discuss any questions you may have on the way we are currently organised and to obtain factual information to assist in the formation of policies. I cannot of course advise you on the policies themselves.

Perhaps we could have an initial discussion on how we should best approach this from your point of view.



**LESLIE EVANS**  
Permanent Secretary