

INFORMATION REQUESTED:

FIONA HYSLOP'S VISIT TO BRUSSELS ON 16 JANUARY 2017

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, hosted an event in Brussels on 16 January 2017 to discuss the document [Scotland's Place in Europe](#), a set of proposals designed to mitigate the risks for Scotland of being taken out of the EU. The document was published by the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, on 20 December. While in Brussels, Ms Hyslop also met with Belgian Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Didier Reynders and the UK's Permanent Representative to the EU, Sir Tim Barrow. She also attended a roundtable discussion on Brexit hosted by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS).

Correspondence which is held relating to the visit is attached.

Minutes of the meeting with Didier Reynders are attached.

No minutes of the meeting with Sir Tim Barrow are held.

No record of the roundtable discussion hosted by CEPS is held.

FIONA HYSLOP'S VISIT TO BRUSSELS ON 30 JANUARY 2017

On 30 January, Fiona Hyslop appeared before the European Parliament's Constitutional Affairs Committee. She set out the Scottish Government's position following the EU Referendum and the proposals in [Scotland's Place in Europe](#) and responded to a Q&A session. The meeting was live streamed on the European Parliament's website. Prior to the parliamentary hearing, Ms Hyslop met a delegation from the Government of Gibraltar, including the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for European Affairs, The Hon. Dr. Joseph Garcia MP.

Correspondence which is held relating to the visit is attached.

No minutes of the meeting with Dr Joseph Garcia MP are held.

A video recording of the Constitutional Affairs Committee hearing is at:
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/events-other.html?id=20170202EOT00421>

[View this email in a browser](#)



Scottish Government EU Office

Event: Scotland's Place in Europe



Monday 16 January

Scotland House - Rond Point Schuman 6, 1040 Brussels

Scotland's Place in Europe

Monday 16 January 2017

18:00 in Scotland House - Rond Point Schuman 6, 1040 Brussels

On 20 December 2016, the First Minister of Scotland Nicola Sturgeon published a document entitled "Scotland's Place in Europe", a set of proposals designed to mitigate the risks for Scotland of being taken out of the EU. The Scottish Government EU Office will be organising an event at Scotland House, hosted by Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, Fiona Hyslop, to discuss this publication.

The publication can be accessed [here](#).

If you would like to attend this event, please contact BrusselsEvents@gov.scot indicating 'Scotland's Place in Europe' in the subject line.

Scotland's Place in Europe

We would be delighted if you could join us for this event. As limited spaces are available, please RSVP by Thursday 12 January to:

BrusselsEvents@gov.scot

From: [redacted] **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs

Sent: 09 January 2017 17:50

To: [redacted]

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs; [redacted]

Subject: Scotland's Place in Europe - Fiona Hyslop in Brussels on 16 January 2017

Dear All,

I plan to visit Brussels on Monday 16 January to fulfil a commitment that we made previously to present 'Scotland's Place in Europe' to stakeholders and offer them an opportunity to ask any questions they may have about the paper. I appreciate that the event will take place at a time when MEPs will not be in Brussels but I am unable to visit Strasbourg later in the week due to commitments in the Scottish Parliament.

However, I would be more than happy to meet you before I go to Brussels or if that is not possible when you next return to Scotland. Alternatively, I will be back in Brussels at the end of January and could schedule a meeting with you then. Please get in touch with my Private Secretary, [redacted], if you would like to take this forward.

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 13 January 2017 11:19

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: RE: Proposition de RDV 16 Janvier avec Madame Hyslop et Monsieur Reynders

Chère [redacted]

Est-ce possible d'avoir les plaques d'immatriculation assez rapidement ?

Merci d'avance,

Bien à vous,



[redacted]

**Cabinet de Didier REYNDERS, Vice-Premier Ministre,
Ministre des Affaires étrangères et européennes**
Rue des Petits Carmes, 15
BE - 1000 Bruxelles

**Kabinet van Didier REYNDERS, Vice-Eerste Minister,
Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken en Europese Zaken**
Karmelietenstraat, 15
BE - 1000 Brussel

De : [redacted]

Envoyé : jeudi 12 janvier 2017 12:12

À : [redacted]

Cc : [redacted]

Objet : RE: Proposition de RDV 16 Janvier avec Madame Hyslop et Monsieur Reynders

Chère [redacted]

Ceci est parfait, merci!

Ministre Hyslop sera accompagner de monsieur Mike Neilson, [redacted] et [redacted].

Je vous transmettrais les numéros de plaques d'immatriculation et les marques des voitures quand j'aurais reçu confirmation des chauffeurs.

Bien à vous,

[redacted]

[redacted]



From: [redacted]

Sent: 12 January 2017 09:26

To: [redacted]

Subject: RE: Proposition de RDV 16 Janvier avec Madame Hyslop et Monsieur Reynders

Chère [redacted],

Le Ministre Reynders peut recevoir la Ministre Hyslop lundi 16 janvier à 8h30 au Palais d'Egmont.
Est-ce que cet horaire vous convient ?

Si oui, pouvez-vous me donner la liste des participants à l'entretien ainsi que les numéros de plaques d'immatriculation et les marques des voitures.

Merci d'avance,

Bien à vous,



[redacted]

**Cabinet de Didier REYNDERS, Vice-Premier Ministre,
Ministre des Affaires étrangères et européennes**

Rue des Petits Carmes, 15
BE - 1000 Bruxelles

**Kabinet van Didier REYNDERS, Vice-Eerste Minister,
Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken en Europese Zaken**

Karmelietenstraat, 15
BE - 1000 Brussel

De : [redacted]

Envoyé : mardi 10 janvier 2017 16:22

A : [redacted]

Cc : [redacted]

Objet : Proposition de RDV 16 Janvier avec Madame Hyslop et Monsieur Reynders

Chère [redacted]

Suite à notre conversation cet après-midi, je serais très reconnaissante si vous pouvez mettre ma collègue [redacted] en copie à votre réponse concernant la possibilité d'une réunion très tôt le 16 janvier entre monsieur Reynders et madame Hyslop, car je ne travaille pas le mercredi.

Merci.

Bien à vous.

[redacted]

[redacted]



From: [redacted]

Sent: 29 November 2016 16:22

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: RE: RDV avec madame Hyslop et monsieur Reynders

Chère [redacted]

Merci pour votre confirmation.
Le Ministre aurait été de toute façon très difficilement disponible.

En espérant trouver une autre date plus facilement dans le futur,

Bien à vous,



[redacted]

De : [redacted]
Envoyé : mardi 29 novembre 2016 16:20
À : [redacted]
Cc : [redacted]
Objet : RDV avec madame Hyslop et monsieur Reynders

Bonjour [redacted]

Malheureusement je viens de recevoir confirmation que madame Fiona Hyslop, Ministre pour les Affaires Etrangères n'a pas reçu la permission de se libérer de ses obligations parlementaires le 30 novembre et donc ne pourra pas être présente pour un rendez-vous bilatéral avec monsieur Reynders.

Nous reviendrons vers vous pour essayer de trouver une autre date prochainement.

Bien à vous.

[redacted]

[redacted]

EU ENGAGEMENT REPORT	
<i>This Report Should Be Submitted To Ministers And Relevant Officials Within <u>3 Working Days</u> Of Engagement</i>	
Minister (or Senior official)	Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs
Type of engagement	Breakfast meeting in Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egmont Palace, Brussels
Date	16 January 2017
Who	Didier Reynders, Belgian Vice PM and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs Assisted by: [Redacted]
Key Points	<p>Meeting between Fiona Hyslop MSP (FH), Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs and Didier Reynders (DR), Belgian Vice PM and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs</p> <p>FH presented the key proposals from Scotland's Place in Europe, highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the importance of the EU single market membership and Scotland's preference that the UK as a whole remains within both the single market and the EU customs union;• a differentiated solution for Scotland to remain in the EU single market if the UK Government decides to leave – potentially through the EEA - acknowledging and welcoming that this means continuing to apply the four freedoms within Scotland;• that there are precedents for a special relationship with the EU (for example the Channel Islands) and also a clear need for the UK Government to take account of the particular circumstances of Northern Ireland and Gibraltar and also the City of London which voted to remain and has a clear interest in continued freedom of movement of EU nationals;• the fact that the Scottish Government's proposals

	<p>represent a compromise on the part of Scotland; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scotland being well placed to manage a differentiated solution, having significant devolved powers, a distinct legal system and having implemented EU legislation for decades. <p>[Redacted]</p>
Actions	
Attending Official(s)	[Redacted]
Copy List	<p><i>Copy List:</i></p> <p>[Redacted]</p>



Committee on Constitutional Affairs
The Chair

Ref.: D(2016) 53856

Ms. Nicola Sturgeon
First Minister,
The Scottish Government,
St Andrew's House, Regent Road,
Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
United Kingdom

D 321352 08.12.2016

Subject: Invitation to address the AFCO Committee on the constitutional relationship of the United Kingdom with the European Union: the consequences of the referendum of 23 June 2016

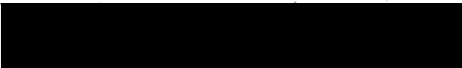
Dear First Minister,

On behalf of the European Parliament's Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO), I have the pleasure of inviting you to participate as a speaker at our committee meeting in the afternoon of 30 January 2017.

During this meeting, AFCO will be holding an exchange of views on the constitutional relationship of the United Kingdom with the European Union, following the referendum of 23 June 2016. On this occasion, the Committee would like to hear from representatives of the devolved territories and overseas territories where the majority of voters voted to remain a part of the European Union.

The European Parliament will take an active role in the withdrawal process and in the negotiation of the future relationship between the EU and the United Kingdom, both through the formal consent procedure on the agreements concluded in that context, and through the exercise of its functions of legislative and political control. In this context, Parliament will exercise its rights to information and recommendation regarding the progress of the negotiations at all stages, in line with the Treaty and with the applicable case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

As regards the AFCO Committee in particular, we will deal directly with the consent procedure after the triggering of Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), as Committee responsible for the institutional consequences of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union and for the consent procedure. Our Committee will therefore be closely associated to all stages of the process in the European Parliament regarding the withdrawal of the United Kingdom.

Committee Secretariat: 

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 January 2017 14:20
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Thanks a lot , [redacted]! So, I presume that [redacted] who was listed with an asterisk in [redacted]'s mail, will not need a badge. Is that correct?

Many thanks in advance!
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 January 2017 14:17
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Hi [redacted]

The two last names for accreditation are the following:

Name	DoB	Passport Number	Valid from	Valid Until
Fiona Hyslop	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Thank you so much for your help!

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 January 2017 13:58
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Many thanks, [redacted] ! We take note.

My colleague [redacted], in copy, will deal with the accreditation, but I think we cannot do anything without the passport numbers.

As soon as accreditation is cleared, [redacted] will come back to you with details on the place and time for meeting with her or with another colleague before entering the building.

All the best,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 January 2017 13:43

To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Sorry [redacted]

One additional name and passport details is:

[redacted]

Regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 January 2017 13:39
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

[redacted]

The Delegation will be:

At the main table

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs*
Mike Neilson, Scottish Government Director Brussels

Supporting Officials – all Scottish Government

[redacted]

We are still obtaining passport details for those with an *, but all others have a pass which allows them access to the Parliament. We will aim to get these to you today or first thing tomorrow.

[redacted]



From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 January 2017 13:10
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

I don't want to put pressure on you but we really need the information regarding your delegation for the accreditation, otherwise it will get too tight time-wise, as tomorrow is a "short Friday" in Parliament.

Many thanks in advance and kind regards,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 24 January 2017 20:16
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

That is extremely helpful and clear. At the moment I expect either 4 or 5 officials to accompany the Minister in addition to the one sitting next to her. I will aim to provide names no later than Thursday.

Many thanks.

[redacted]

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 24 January 2017 19:54
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

The session is indeed joint, in the sense that there is one point in the agenda for the discussion on Brexit. This single point in the agenda will include an exchange of views with both Scotland's and Gibraltar's governments. Scotland will be the first to make a presentation. Following this presentation, there will be

a debate with the MEPs on the presentation of Scotland only. After the conclusion of the debate with Scotland, Gibraltar will make its presentation, which will be followed by a debate on the presentation of Gibraltar only. So, the presentations and the Q&A sessions that follow will be in fact separate. As soon as we have the draft agenda cleared by the Chair, I will send it to you, so that you can see how it is formulated.

Ms. Hyslop will be seated next to the Chair, and can be accompanied by one person only, as the number of seats at the podium is limited. The remaining members of your delegation will be seated in the audience, where MEPs, the other EU institutions and the secretariat are also seated. That is why I really would need to know as soon as possible how many people are coming, so that we can reserve the seats for you.

Please do contact me if there is anything unclear or for any question you may have.

My mobile number is [redacted], in case you have any urgent question ahead of the meeting of next week.

All the best,
[redacted]

Sent from my iPad

On 24 Jan 2017, at 17:18, [redacted] wrote:

Dear [redacted]

We will provide you with names and passport details for those attending who do not have a Council pass which allows them access to the Parliament. It would be good if you could confirm how many places will be available for officials to sit beside Ms Hyslop during the session.

One other point to clarify is that you expect Ms Hyslop's session to take place before the Chief Minister of Gibraltar is called i.e. she will have her opening remarks and question and answers session completed. I only ask as [redacted] in the Gibraltar office thought the sessions would be joint and this was not what I had understood from our earlier discussion.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 23 January 2017 11:48
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

In view of preparing the meeting of next week, I would like to ask you for the details of your delegation, for accreditation purposes. We would need the names and passport numbers of the people coming to the EP.

Many thanks in advance and kind regards,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 12 January 2017 17:23
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

[redacted]

Could we say 1015 in the Mickey Mouse bar?

Regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 11 January 2017 08:19
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

Great news! I will inform the hierarchy.

Friday morning is perfect for me. Where would you like to meet?

All the best!
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 January 2017 18:14
To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

Happy New Year to you as well. It is almost certainly going to be Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs who will be attending. I think we are best to work on that basis and if the First Minister can attend she will – I know she was keen to but her diary is making it difficult.

Might you have time to meet on Friday morning or afternoon of this week?

Best wishes,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 09 January 2017 15:00
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

Happy New Year, first of all! All my best wishes!

Many thanks for your mail and my apologies for this very late reply!

We will send your document to all Members of AFCO, for information.

We could indeed meet towards the end of this week, if that is feasible for you. Next week I will not be in Strasbourg.

Do you have any news on who is representing Scotland in the AFCO meeting at the end of the month?

All the best,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 20 December 2016 16:16
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Scotland Update

Dear [redacted]

Following our meeting in Strasbourg last week I just wanted to make you aware that the publication 'Scotland's Place in Europe' is available on line via this link [Scotland's Place in Europe](#) Hopefully this will inform the AFCO Committee members as part of the work they are undertaking on Brexit and in advance of the evidence session on 30 January.

By way of background these proposals have been developed in close consultation with stakeholders, in Scotland and abroad, including Brussels, and have benefitted from the expert views of the First Minister's Standing Council on Europe.

As the paper sets out, the Scottish Government considers that the UK as a whole should remain within the European Single Market, through membership of the European Economic Area, and the Customs Union, and active cooperation in other areas. However, if the UK Government opts to leave, the paper also sets out a differentiated approach which would allow Scotland to retain Single Market membership, as part of the UK. The paper goes on to consider the implications for Scotland's devolution settlement, including the additional powers that would need to be devolved under this differentiated option.

These proposals, of course, do not confer the full benefits of EU membership on the people of Scotland. Given the result of the referendum, this is a significant compromise on the part of the Scottish Government and we expect the UK Government to demonstrate similar flexibility.

The Scottish Government is extremely mindful of the fact that the EU institutions and the 27 Member States will be conducting Article 50 negotiations with the UK Government as the Member State and that this engagement will not begin before official notification of the UK's intention to leave the European Union. However, Mike and I are keen to ensure that you have a good understanding of the Scottish Government's perspective and our proposals to protect the interests and democratic will of the people of Scotland. It would be good to have a meeting early in the New Year, but in the meantime if you have any questions do give me a call.

Kind regards,

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I hope you had a good weekend.

I have just received a call from the Chief Minister's private secretary to inform me that there is a chance that Chief Minister might not, unfortunately, be able to attend the lunch meeting later today. He has asked me to inform you of this already just in case. The rest of the delegation including the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for European Affairs will be attending.

I will try and give you a further update later on this morning.

Please accept my apologies for this.

Best wishes,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 27 January 2017 11:56
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Lunch at Scotland House

Thanks [redacted], that is really helpful.

Please note that the Chief Minister has a meeting at the Berlaymont which has now been delayed to start at 11.30am. It should not be a long meeting but there is therefore a chance that we may arrive slightly after noon. I hope that is ok.

Best wishes,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 27 January 2017 11:24
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Lunch at Scotland House

Dear [redacted]

Just to confirm who will be present at the lunch meeting in Scotland House on Monday:

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs
[redacted], special adviser to Ms Hyslop
Mike Neilson, Director – Brussels, Scottish Government
[redacted] Scottish Government
[redacted] Scottish Government
[redacted] Private Secretary to Ms Hyslop

We look forward to seeing you on Monday and have taken note of your Chief Minister's dietary requirements.

Best wishes

[redacted]

[Scotland 2017 - Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology](#)

