

**From:** Protocol and Honours Mailbox  
**Subject:** FW: Flags - media follow up queries

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 26 January 2018 14:42  
**To:** Lloyd E (Elizabeth); Booth J (John); [redacted]News Desk  
**Cc:** [redacted]; Corporate Communications; [redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted] Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox; [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Flags - media follow up queries

BBC Reporting Scotland included this as second item in today's lunchtime news.

It's also been reported in Huffington Post: [Daily Mail Apologises To Nicola Sturgeon For Claiming She Banned Union Flags For The Queen's Birthday](#)

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 26 January 2018 12:02  
**To:** Lloyd E (Elizabeth); Booth J (John); [redacted]; News Desk  
**Cc:** [redacted]; Corporate Communications; [redacted] Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox; [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Flags - media follow up queries

To update:

- BBC 5 Live are reporting on the Daily Mail apology
- STV online: [Daily Mail apologises to Sturgeon over Union flag story](#)
- Independent: [Daily Mail apologises for falsely claiming Nicola Sturgeon banned Union Flags on Queen's birthday](#)

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 26 January 2018 10:44  
**To:** Lloyd E (Elizabeth); Booth J (John); [redacted]News Desk  
**Cc:** [redacted]; Corporate Communications; [redacted]; Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox; [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Flags - media follow up queries

Liz,

I just called in and spoke to Glenn Campbell. He said it's an item on their news agenda today, as reflected by being covered on the website. They haven't taken editorial decision yet on whether it will feature in news programmes later in the day.

[redacted]

[redacted] Senior Media Manager | First Minister Communications | Scottish Government

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**From:** Lloyd E (Elizabeth)

**Sent:** 26 January 2018 10:32

**To:** [redacted] Booth J (John); Jays R (Ruth); News Desk

**Cc:** [redacted]; Corporate Communications; [redacted] Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted] Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox; [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Flags - media follow up queries

Thanks

Are the BBC running this on screen in the lunchtime and evening news bulletins

Liz

Elizabeth Lloyd

Chief of Staff to the First Minister

St Andrew's House

Regent Road

Edinburgh EH1 3DG

[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]

**Sent:** 26 January 2018 10:19

**To:** Booth J (John); [redacted] Lloyd E (Elizabeth); News Desk

**Cc:** [redacted] Corporate Communications; [redacted]; Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted] Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox; [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Flags - media follow up queries

Liz,

I've been in touch with all journalists who have approached us this week following Wednesday's headlines on flags.

Also to see, the Guardian are now running a story about the Mail's apology:

[https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jan/26/daily-mail-scottish-apologises-nicola-sturgeon-union-flag-claim?CMP=share\\_btn\\_tw](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/jan/26/daily-mail-scottish-apologises-nicola-sturgeon-union-flag-claim?CMP=share_btn_tw)

[redacted]

[redacted] Senior Media Manager | First Minister Communications | Scottish Government

[redacted]

**From:** [redacted]

**Sent:** 26 January 2018 09:28

**To:** Booth J (John); [redacted]Lloyd E (Elizabeth); News Desk

**Cc:** [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox; [redacted]

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It is running on BBC here: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-42830255>

I've chased up PA asking them to report on it.

I'm getting a list pulled together of all journalists who have asked about it this week, and will send them the Mail apology article shortly.

[redacted]

[redacted]Senior Media Manager | First Minister Communications | Scottish Government

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**From:** Booth J (John)

**Sent:** 26 January 2018 08:44

**To:** [redacted]Lloyd E (Elizabeth); News Desk

**Cc:** [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted]; Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox

**Subject:** RE: Flags - media follow up queries

Thanks [redacted]

John Booth  
Head of Communications  
Scottish Government

[redacted]

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**From:** [redacted]

**Sent:** 26 January 2018 08:35

**To:** Booth J (John); Lloyd E (Elizabeth); News Desk

**Cc:** [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox

**Subject:** Re: Flags - media follow up queries

John

Will do. To note that the BBC are already reporting this.

The team will get onto this as soon as possible.

Thanks

[redacted]



Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** Booth J (John)  
**Sent:** Friday, 26 January 2018 08:25  
**To:** Lloyd E (Elizabeth); News Desk  
**Cc:** [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted] Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted] Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox  
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Will do. [redacted]— could you or one of the team action please. I'll write to the Mail and IPSO. Please send me a copy of the Mail correction so I can share with IPSO.

FYI – IPSO and the Express acknowledged the complaint yesterday. Express said they will respond today. Nothing from Telegraph yet.

John

John Booth  
Head of Communications  
Scottish Government

[redacted]

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**From:** Lloyd E (Elizabeth)  
**Sent:** 26 January 2018 08:08  
**To:** Booth J (John); News Desk  
**Cc:** [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted]Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox  
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John

Can arrangements be made this morning for the correction as shown in the Mail to be sent to all those outlets who followed up on the story including the BBC (it was an [redacted]on camera report).

Can it be sent to PA asap asking that they report it.

Can that please be done first thing.

If your acceptance of the actions they have taken can go to the mail editor copied to IPSO

Liz

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** Lloyd E (Elizabeth)

**Sent:** Thursday, 25 January 2018 18:25

**To:** Booth J (John); News Desk

**Cc:** [redacted]Corporate Communications; [redacted]Allison B (Barbara); DG Constitution and External Affairs; [redacted] Permanent Secretary; First Minister; Director Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities; Rogers DA (David) (Strategy and Constitution Director); [redacted]Hynd JS (James); Nicolson S (Stuart) Special Adviser; Protocol and Honours Mailbox

**Subject:** RE: Flags - media follow up queries

All

I have today agreed a form of words for with the Daily Mail which should run on page 2 of the Scottish edition tomorrow morning.

In addition the online version of the article and the connecting link to it should be deleted from the Mail website.

The agreed form of words is below.

On the condition that all of this happens, we will accept their apology and not pursue the complaint any further.

John that will require an email from you to the Daily Mail acknowledging the apology and confirming we will not pursue the complaint with IPSO.

I'd be grateful if duty comms could keep an eye out this evening, if the weblink can be checked tomorrow and if the cutting of the apology can be circulated in the morning

Liz

**Elizabeth Lloyd**

Chief of Staff to the First Minister

St Andrew's House

Regent Road

Edinburgh EH1 3DG

[redacted]