

## 1. FIRST MINISTER'S MEETING WITH TESCO CEO – TUESDAY 25 APRIL

Location: Scotland House London

Time: 08.30-09.15

### Attendees:

- Jason Tarry (JT), CEO, Tesco UK and ROI
  - Tony McElroy (TM), Tesco Head of Comms & Devolved Government Relations
  - Mark Hallan (MH), Global Investment Director, SDI
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- FM opened the meeting, noting the work that Tesco do across communities in Scotland– in the FM's constituency and more widely.
  - Tesco expressed their gratitude for the FM's time and the opportunity to meet so early in his tenure [**Redacted** - Section 30(b) free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views]. JT outlined Tesco's core mission as a business, focussing on its service to customers, workforce and the planet. Tesco has a presence in almost all communities in Scotland, including rural and island, and is a top Scottish and UK employer as a result. JT underlined Tesco's commitment to achieving net zero by 2035.
  - [**Redacted** – 3 paragraphs - Section 30(b) free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views; Section 29(1)(a) formulation or development of government policy]
  - **On cost crisis:**
    - FM noted the work that Tesco does throughout communities in Scotland, including the Tesco Food Collection.
    - JT highlighted Tesco's position as biggest private sector employee in UK and in Scotland and the work the company has done to mitigate impact of the cost crisis on their workforce, including by ensuring above living wage pay rises.
    - [**Redacted** – one bullet - Section 30(b) free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views]
    - JT highlighted increased costs of doing business as well as the cost of living crisis, its impact on customers and how this impacts Tesco's business. JT set out the challenges posed by Non Domestic Business Rates and a desire that policies better reflect the split of online/physical business.
    - FM outlined related elements of his policy prospectus, noting in particular the desire to create a "new deal" with business, adding that Cab Sec Wellbeing Economy will co-chair a review group with business.
    - FM noted that energy costs were discussed in his meeting with the PM.
  - [**Redacted** – 6 paragraphs - Section 33(1)(b) – Substantial prejudice to commercial interests]

**Actions:**

- **[Redacted]** – 1 bullet - Section 33(1)(b) – Substantial prejudice to commercial interests]
- **[Redacted]** – 2 bullets - Section 29(1)(a) formulation or development of government policy]

**[Redacted]** - Section 38(1)(b) – Personal data of a third party]

Deputy Head, Economic Diplomacy

Scotland House London