Dear Minister,

The Article 50 withdrawal negotiations

Following the Cabinet Secretary’s evidence to the Committee at its meeting on 29 June 2017, the Committee discussed the Article 50 negotiations and the JMC(EN) as two rounds of the negotiations will take place while the Scottish Parliament is in recess over the summer.

The Committee agreed to ask you if you could keep us updated on any involvement that the Scottish Government has in the negotiations, as well as in any JMC(EN) meetings or bilateral meetings with the UK Government.

In addition, the Committee agreed to ask you to indicate whether the Scottish Government intends to publish any of its own position papers on the key strands of the negotiations, notably—

- citizens’ rights;
- the Financial settlement;
- other separation issues;
- and the Ireland – Northern Ireland border.

Furthermore, could I also ask that if you publish any papers or make any statements on the Article 50 negotiations, or Brexit more broadly, that you keep the Committee informed given that it has launched an inquiry on the Article 50 negotiations?

Yours sincerely,
Joan McAlpine MSP
Convener
European and External Relations Committee