



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

CULTURE, TOURISM, EUROPE AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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21 December 2017

Dear Convener,

EU Engagement and Scrutiny of the Committees of the Scottish Parliament

I am writing to you in relation to the annual reporting process on EU engagement and scrutiny of the committees of the Scottish Parliament.

In December 2010, the Scottish Parliament debated and agreed to introduce a Parliament-wide strategy for EU engagement and scrutiny. The strategy sets out the role for the committees of the Parliament ‘to scrutinise the Scottish Government and its EU engagement’. To fulfil this scrutiny function, the Parliament agreed to develop an early engagement approach; to mainstream the scrutiny of draft EU legislation in subject committees; and to mainstream the monitoring of the transposition and implementation of legislation in subject committees. In Session 4, the committees reported annually to the European and External Relations Committee on EU engagement and scrutiny in the previous year, as well as planned EU engagement and scrutiny in the coming year.

Given the ongoing Brexit negotiations and the development of common frameworks in the UK “to establish common approaches in some areas that are currently governed by EU law”, the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee would like to invite you to report on any work that your Committee has conducted in relation to common frameworks and Brexit as well as the European Commission’s work programme.

I would be grateful therefore if you could report on any work that you have undertaken in the following areas—

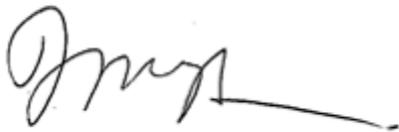
- consideration of any EU policy developments over the last year, and any policy areas contained in the [European Commission work programme 2018](#) that you intend to scrutinise over the coming year;
- any work that you have conducted on Brexit in the last year and any work you intend to conduct on Brexit in 2018;
- any work that you have conducted or intend to conduct in relation to the development of common frameworks as defined in the Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations) [Communique of 16 October 2017](#).

Under the EU strategy, the committees report back to the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee, and we will issue a report which compiles the individual responses. I would like to invite you to report back to the Committee by 16 February 2017.

In addition, some EU reporters have expressed an interest in holding a meeting on Brexit and the work being undertaken by individual committees, so I will aim to convene a meeting on this once the EU strategy report has been published.

Please do not hesitate to contact the clerks to my Committee if you have any questions about the EU strategy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joan McAlpine', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joan McAlpine
Convener