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2 May 2017

Dear Mr Sim

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002 (FOISA)

Thank you for your request dated 31 March under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

Your request

You asked for a copy of the formal response from the UK Government's Department for Exiting the EU to the Scottish Government over the '*Scotland's Place in Europe*' paper. This took the form of a letter from David Davis, UK Secretary of State for Exiting the EU to Michael Russell, Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe on 29 March.

Response to your request

The information you requested is available from the Scottish Government website at the following address: <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-place-in-europe-correspondence-with-the-uk-government/>

This also includes Mr Russell's reply to Mr Davis sent on 12 April 2017.

Under section 25 (1) of the FOISA we do not have to give information which is already reasonably accessible to you. If, however, you do not have internet access to obtain this information from the website listed, then please contact me again and I will send you a paper copy.

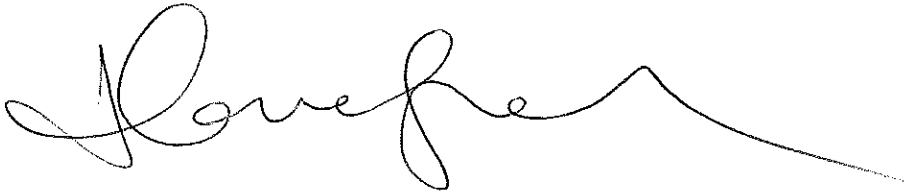
Your right to request a review

If you are unhappy with this response to your FOI request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response, by writing to Karen Watt, Director of External Affairs, Scottish Government, St Andrews House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG or by e-mailing

karen.watt@gov.scot. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with this response, and should be made within 40 working days from the date when you received this letter. We will complete the review and tell you the result, within 20 working days from the date when we receive your review request.

If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. More detailed information on your appeal rights is available on the Commissioner's website at:
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hannah Graham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

HANNAH GRAHAM
European Strategy Team
External Affairs Directorate
Scottish Government