

FOI 0260-15: Visit of Mayor of London to Kurdistan

Digest of documents and emails

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Subject: quick ques

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and Mayor of London's office (MO)

Email 1 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 February 2015 12:08
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: quick ques

Hello Angus

Sorry to disturb. I wonder if you might be able to help with the query below in [REDACTED] absence. It's a little sensitive so I don't want to ask lots of people. Welcome any feedback when you get a chance.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 2 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 February 2015 11:39
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fyi - Political Scrapbook on Kurdistan

Dear [REDACTED]

Hope you don't mind me checking – is the alcohol bill still outstanding?

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 3 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2015 15:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fyi - Political Scrapbook on Kurdistan

Hello [REDACTED]

Thanks for flagging the bill. Please could you send any details to me directly, plus any instructions for payment.

[REDACTED]

Email 4 – BCG Erbil to FCO and MO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2015 14:38
To: [REDACTED] Angus Mckee
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fyi - Political Scrapbook on Kurdistan

Hi [REDACTED],

There are some costs relating to alcohol purchases at the [REDACTED] that we might have to charge to the Mayor's office. Clear instructions were giving to the party that purchases of alcoholic drinks must be paid in cash and not charged to rooms.

I am currently trying to get additional information from the hotel and I will forward the details in due course.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 5 – MO to BCG Erbil and FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2015 15:52
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: fyi - Political Scrapbook on Kurdistan

All

The Mayor's Press office have had an enquiry from [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] who wants to know if the whole Kurdistan trip, full costs ie accommodation flights and any other costs, was paid for by the Kurdistan government? We've gone back five minutes ago with the line below. If any questions/issues, please liaise with my colleague [REDACTED], copied, in the Mayor's Press office and myself.

A spokesperson for the Mayor of London said: "There was no cost to the Greater London Authority. Travel expenses were paid for by Kurdistan Regional Government and hotel accommodation was provided by the British consulate."

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: lines on the cost of the Mayor's visit

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Email 1 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2015 13:12
To: [REDACTED] Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: O: lines on the cost of the Mayor's visit

Thanks to all.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 2 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Sent: 02 February 2015 13:03
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: O: lines on the cost of the Mayor's visit

[REDACTED] – I'm happy with the draft below, as amended by Angus and minor amendments of mine – in red below. The square brackets indicate suggestion to delete the word. J

Email 3 – BCG Erbil to FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 02 February 2015 12:10
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: O: lines on the cost of the Mayor's visit

Some suggestions in blue. But I defer to [REDACTED] on final wording.

Email 4 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 02 February 2015 15:03

To: [REDACTED] ; Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]

(Sensitive)

Subject: O: lines on the cost of the Mayor's visit

[REDACTED], [REDACTED]

The Mayor of London's Office have requested a line RE the costs of the Mayor's visit to Erbil. We also have an FoI request on the same subject. I've drafted a line below. I'd be grateful for your comments by **1500 today GMT**.

BEGINS

The Mayor of London visited Erbil in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq from 21-23 January. The visit came in response to a formal invitation from the Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government and was an excellent opportunity to further strengthen the commercial and business links between the UK and the KRG and promote London as an investment destination in what is a rapidly growing regional economy.

Most costs of the visit were covered by the KRG (air travel, hospitality). The Mayor, two other members of the Mayor of London's Office, and Nadhim Zahawi MP, were brought under the FCO's duty of care whilst in [all] country. This included staying in Consulate General accommodation and being looked after by the Consulate General's security team. Both [our] accommodation and security costs for HMG's staff in Erbil are fixed, so the only additional costs for HMG were [peripheral]: breakfast, snacks, water, vehicle fuel. As the Mayor's visit contributed to the Consulate General's commercial objectives, the FCO covered these costs.

ENDS

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor visit

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), British Embassy in Baghdad (BE Baghdad) and Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to FCO and BE Baghdad

-----Original Message-----

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 27 January 2015 10:33
To: [REDACTED]; Frank Baker (Sensitive);
Cc: [RETRACTED]
Subject: Mayor visit

In case anyone gets alarmed by the attached article, while it is true that the Mayor got behind the wheel of a [REDACTED] in the showroom, drove out of the door & onto the driveway, quick action by his PPO and me ensured he did NOT drive off.

Angus

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
Tel. [RETRACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 2

----- Original Message -----

From: [RETRACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 10:27 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

[Redacted under Section 21] <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-2925110/BLACK-DOG-Racy-Boris-gives-gas.html>

Subject: Mayor visit – Follow up

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and Mayor of London's office (MO)

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to MO AND

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 27 January 2015 05:21
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Mayor visit - follow up

My mistake. Now highlighted. I suggest send soft copies direct to [REDACTED] who can pass them on.

Email 2 – MO to BCG Erbil and FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2015 16:28
To: Angus McKee [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor visit - follow up

Thanks Angus – unfortunately none of the highlighting came through, could you re-send?

Ahead of sending letters by FCO bag, could I send soft copies to you (or [REDACTED]) to pass on to the necessary KRG offices / other orgs?

[REDACTED]

Email 3 – BCG Erbil to MO and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 26 January 2015 16:19
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor visit - follow up

[REDACTED]

For those I've highlighted below, use Your/His Excellency. If you want to send by bag, pass the letters to [REDACTED]. But the bag service is tediously slow.

Regards
Angus

Email 4 – MO to BCG Erbil and FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 January 2015 18:32
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor visit - follow up

Thanks for the notes and the Diptel Angus, all helpful.

Can we send letters to you for hand delivery on the ground via FCO Diplomatic Bag service? Are there any prefixes or protocol / official terms to include with ref to job titles?

Will ensure you have copies once signed.

[REDACTED]

Email 5 – BCG Erbil to MO and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 26 January 2015 12:31
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor visit - follow up

[REDACTED]

The Mayor's party was a pleasure to host, and it was a successful visit. Your own work was key to this, and I'm sorry you didn't get to enjoy Erbil yourself.

The itinerary is as it was on the afternoon of Wed 21/1 with the sole addition being the impromptu visit to Baharka IDP camp. So I suggest you might want to consider thank you letters to:

- Prime Minister Nechirvan Barzani (for the original invitation and dinner)
- DPM Qubad Talabani (for hosting the Forum on Thursday afternoon, and showing the Mayor round the city centre)
- Erbil Governor Nawzad Hadi (for the warm welcome, even in the middle of the night, and showing the Mayor round the city centre)

And, if you deem it necessary:

- Talar Faiq, Erbil International Airport Director (for the airport tour)
- [REDACTED], British Business Group Kurdistan (for hosting afternoon tea)
- Dr Ali Sindi, Planning Minister (for accompanying the Mayor to Baharka camp)

I'll send you the Diptel but it is not for public release. Later today I will also send you/Sir Edward draft letters for [REDACTED].

I suggest for all enquiries on cost, deal with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Thanks
Angus

Email 6 – MO to BCG Erbil and FCO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 January 2015 13:02

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor visit - follow up

Angus, [REDACTED]

Hope you've had a chance for a breather since the Mayor left, many thanks again for all your support.

Per the Mayor's overseas visits, we work with our embassy/consulate to do thank you letters and liaise with the on any specific follow up. Could you send me the Mayor's final itinerary? If the Diptel is done could you send me a copy so I can get a sense of outcomes / what happens next. I'll be seeing Ed and [REDACTED] later today and will get their download then.

Just to flag we've had one FOI request about costs of and arrangements for the visit. Will let you know how we plan to respond.

Thanks very much

[REDACTED]

Subject: OFFICIAL VISIT OF MAYOR OF LONDON TO KURDISTAN REGION, 22-23 JANUARY

From: Diptel ERBIL (Sensitive)

Sent: 26 January 2015 13:40

To: Diptel FCO (Sensitive)

Subject: OFFICIAL VISIT OF MAYOR OF LONDON TO KURDISTAN REGION, 22-23 JANUARY [DIPTTEL 1500518]

Diptel ERBIL (Sensitive)

Foreign & Commonwealth Office Diplomatic Telegram

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Summary

Mayor of London visits Erbil at invitation of KRG PM. The visit showcased HMG and British business support to the Kurdistan Region, reinforcing our lead position here. He encouraged Ministers to initiate necessary, pro-business reforms; and British businesses to be bolder. The underlying mood was downbeat, as the KRG and Government of Iraq contemplate a period of low oil prices, but which itself reinforces the need for reformist measures.

DETAIL

1. The Mayor of London Boris Johnson visited Erbil at the invitation of Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) PM Nechirvan Barzani on 22-23 January. This visit, following the Mayor receiving Nechirvan in City Hall last May, gave further boost to our prosperity agenda. The Mayor was accompanied by the Deputy Mayor Sir Edward Lister and Nadhim Zahawi MP.
2. The visit allowed us to showcase our efforts to promote reforms and British businesses, with KRG ministers, business leaders and the media – London being the conduit for so much UK engagement with Kurdistan Region as well as Iraq more generally. The Mayor toured Erbil International Airport (designed by UK architects) and the historic Citadel (its UNESCO restoration plan drawn up by UK consultants). He addressed a high-level forum on the UK-Kurdistan Region partnership and the economic challenges (“Who needs Davos when you have Kurdistan?”, he quipped), lunched with all three Kurdistan Region Governors plus the Governor of Kirkuk, and had afternoon tea with local British businesses. Prime Minister Nechirvan hosted a dinner attended by his top ministerial team.
3. The Mayor’s visit advanced our efforts in three areas:
 - (a) Showcasing the UK contribution to date, and identifying what more can be done to stimulate local growth and raise UK exports. We drew attention to the breadth of UK activity – this fortnight alone, for example, KRG ministers were in London for the Education World Forum, a National School of Government International (NSGI) workshop is assisting the senior KRG ministers identify their priorities, and the KRG is close to concluding a \$1.1bn infrastructure contract with a UK company (on which the Mayor provided additional lobbying). As the KRG seeks to raise money through bonds, it is turning to London.
 - (b) Encouraging the KRG reformists to grip politically-risky but essential reforms, in both formal sessions and one-to-ones with the PM and DPM: learning from London’s success by diversifying the economic base, [REDACTED], improving rule of law, zero tolerance on corruption, opening up the banking sector, and exploring new methods of financing (PPP, export credit guarantees, etc). We also encouraged the provincial governors to be more open to public-private initiatives.
 - (c) Giving British businesses here a shot in the arm, at a time of economic downturn and growing foreign competition. He encouraged them to sharpen their game and reiterated that we are ready

to bat on their behalf (and are indeed doing so). He also undertook to talk up Kurdistan Region's opportunities on return to London

4. The Mayor left Erbil with a greater understanding of the local situation and the current anxiety about the economy, but an undiminished appreciation of the long-term opportunities here and enthusiasm for closer UK-Kurdistan Relations (while – briefed by us – acknowledging that all this should be framed within the wider Iraq context). On return, his office will enquire whether the launch of a direct London-Erbil air route can be accelerated, and whether City institutions can do more to remove the barriers to investment here.
5. While in Erbil, the Mayor also visited UK service personnel from our Building Partner Capacity Team (2nd Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment) who are training the Peshmerga in basic infantry skills, and – [REDACTED] – Baharka IDP camp, where DFID are funding health facilities.

COMMENT

6. The general pessimism of policymakers and businesses alike contrasted with the tentative optimism felt here only one month ago (Erbil Diptel 1410392). [REDACTED]. There is recognition that falling oil prices mean a tough year ahead. [REDACTED].
7. The visit coincided with a particularly intense interest in UK-Kurdistan Region relations, following publication of the Foreign Affairs Committee report, [REDACTED]. But the visit and high media interest allowed us to keep the focus on our activities here, and the leading role played by the UK, London included. It has thickened our relationship with leading figures. And with input from FCO, UKTI, MOD, DFID, NSGI and the local British business community, it was a real team effort.

MCKEE

Authorised

Angus McKee | Consul General | [REDACTED]

Contact

Angus McKee | Consul General | [REDACTED]

Action

[REDACTED]

Cc

[REDACTED]

Subject: Iraq/KRG: Mayor's visit

Email Exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), British Embassy Baghdad (BE Baghdad) and Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 26 January 2015 12:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Iraq/KRG: Mayor's visit

The Ambassador's thanks go to you two too.

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee
Sent: 26 January 2015 12:13
To: Frank Baker
Subject: RE: Iraq/KRG: Mayor's visit

Thanks. & we'll share the real anecdotes when you're up here!

Email 3 – BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil and FCO

From: Frank Baker
Sent: 26 January 2015 14:40
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: Edward Oakden (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Iraq/KRG: Mayor's visit

Angus,

Thanks. The visit was well handled by your team and yourself. Well done.

I saw the article which I thought was ok. There is clearly a Kurdish bias but that was to be expected. I don't expect any blowback from Baghdad. I understand from [REDACTED] that there were one or two unhelpful and incorrect interventions from elements of the UK business community at the reception on the Thursday night. That is very disappointing given the efforts you have put in there.

My guess is that with purdah starting in less than two months there will be limited appetite for further visits before the election.

Frank Baker

Email 4 - BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad and FCO, London

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 26 January 2015 13:58

To: Frank Baker [REDACTED]

Cc: Edward Oakden (Sensitive); [REDACTED];

Subject: Iraq/KRG: Mayor's visit

Frank, [REDACTED],

You will have seen our Diptel reporting Boris Johnson's visit. While the photos of Peshmerga training and the IDP camp inevitably got most coverage in the UK press, you will see that the majority of the visit was actually Prosperity-focused and, in that respect, a success.

[REDACTED]. His Telegraph piece today gives a good sense of where he is coming from.

With the Peshmerga and IDP serials of the visit, [REDACTED]

Angus

Subject: Mayor of London

Email exchange between officials at the British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 26 January 2015 05:08
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Mayor of London

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BCG Eril

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 25 January 2015 07:36
To: DL Iraq Erbil All Staff
Subject: Mayor of London

The whole of the Consulate team should be proud how we worked together on a hugely successful visit by the Mayor of London. The programme ran smoothly, every meeting cemented the Consulate's relationship with key stakeholders, the UK's public profile was raised, we showed the Mayor the best of what Erbil and British business had to offer, and we kept him safe! It was an excellent example of Consulate cross-team working, effective use of the media, and security team professionalism. I hope everyone enjoyed the experience, even those who were behind the scenes or stuck at the [REDACTED].

Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil, Department for International Development (DFID) and Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Email 1 –From DFID to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 January 2015 14:46
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: FW: Re: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp (reply needed by 9.00am)

[REDACTED]

Email 2 –From DFID to DFID

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 January 2015 15:03
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Re: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp (reply needed by 9.00am)

Well done chap!

Email 3 –From DFID to DFID

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 11:44 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Re: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp (reply needed by 9.00am)

All,
Just to let you know Boris' visit to the camp went off without incident [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], but his team was offered an IDP serial and turned it down, I only found out about this request this morning. However, he had a briefing this morning with the team on the situation and what we are doing about it – he was surprised it was so much. So I think we got all the key messages across.

[REDACTED] .

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email 3 –From DFID to DFID

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 08:41 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Re: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp (reply needed by 9.00am)

[REDACTED]

All

SofS aware and content. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Email 4 –From DFID to DFID

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 January 2015 08:12
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp (reply needed by 9.00am)

From a departmental perspective we just need to make sure they are properly briefed on our response as well as the problem. Missed opportunity he didnt decide this earlier. Spads need to advise on other handling considerations. Copying [REDACTED]and [REDACTED]to let SoS know asap

Sent from my blackberry
[REDACTED]

Email 5 –From DFID to DFID

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 07:48 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp (reply needed by 9.00am)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED],

I can't see how we could pull it even if we wanted to as he is on his way. [REDACTED] has alerted private office and comms (see below) and I left a message on [REDACTED] phone and have texted [REDACTED] so they are in the loop.

[REDACTED]

Email 6 –From BCG Erbil to DFID and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 23 January 2015 05:49
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit / visit to IDP camp (reply needed by 9.00am)
Importance: High

This request comes on the back of a discussion the Mayor had last night with the KRG PM and Planning/Interior Ministers on the humanitarian situation, during which they personally suggested he go.

Given this, the fact that there is a window in the programme which would otherwise be downtime, and our Security Manager is content. This is a camp location within Erbil city limits which we have visited many times before. I want us to work on the basis that this visit will proceed at 9.15-10.00gmt, provided that the Sun is background briefed on key points (scale of UK humanitarian commitment to date, efforts to strengthen KRG/UN response, importance of other donors matching the generosity of the UK. If DFID MENA or FCO MENAD do not want the visit to go ahead, we will pull it – but that will be overriding the Mayor's request to go and the KRG's specific invitation.

Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Email 7 –From DFID to DFID and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 January 2015 07:49
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee
Subject: URGENT: Boris Johnson Visit

All,

The Mayor of London has decided at last minute that he wants to visit an IDP camp in Erbil. I have no objection to this locally, however I know there has been some politics between No10, MOD and the Mayor's Office over what he can and can't do here. I think this needs two ticks 1) Private Office is happy and 2) coms is happy – he has the Sun's political editor with him. Grateful if both could get back to me ASAP as he wishes to do this visit today.

[REDACTED] – for ease we are back to Baharka I'm afraid. Could you warm up our usual contacts about a 30 min visit – see me for timings – with confirmation to follow subject to the above permissions.

Many thanks,
[REDACTED]

Subject: Out of area move / Mayor

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil, British Embassy Baghdad and Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Email 1 – From FCO to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 January 2015 10:03
To: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: FW: Out of area move / Mayor

[REDACTED], best if you speak to Edward when you see him at Lancaster House.

Angus - I think it's safe to say that Edward will indeed have zero appetite for this. Not for the Mayor, but it's probably also something we'd have to clear with No.10.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 2 – From BCG Erbil to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 22 January 2015 09:55
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Out of area move / Mayor

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

The visiting Mayor said he would like to visit the "front line". I explained that was not possible, we never went etc. He is not satisfied. Can you confirm that:

- there is no viable trip to the frontline in the proximity of Erbil ([REDACTED])
- Edward Oakden has zero appetite to sign off a TRA that gets the Mayor to the front ([REDACTED]/[REDACTED])

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Subject: Mayor's Visit

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil, British Embassy Baghdad (BE Baghdad) and UK Trade and Investment (UKTI)

Email 1 –From BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 20:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Mayor's Visit

Interesting. I didn't know that.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 2 –From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 07:12 PM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: Mayor's Visit

Spot on. Also, [REDACTED] is a contractor and has his own stake in the [REDACTED] deal, which is why he is dead against us developing it into a [REDACTED] (the [REDACTED] Director is dealing separately at the London end).

[REDACTED]

Email 3 –From BCG Erbil to UKTI and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 06:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor's Visit

[REDACTED]

Thanks. I am comfortable that the Mayor – properly briefed – will understand the importance of commercial confidence. Given that the contract is not yet signed, we will use the Mayor in his private meeting to raise [REDACTED] with PM Nechirvan – this will help us get the contract over the line. But, along with some other business opportunities, [REDACTED] and I will make clear in briefing that this is not to be raised in public.

Regards
Angus

Email 4 –From UKTI to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 20:45

To: Angus McKee

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor's Visit

Good evening Angus

[REDACTED] has asked me to write to you to ask for your assistance on a delicate matter.

[REDACTED] and I spoke at the beginning of the week regarding the Mayor's visit and we discussed the risk for some political contention. [REDACTED] may have already raised this with you but we just wanted to double-check.

Presuming the [REDACTED] project may come up in formal or informal conversation during the visit, this presents a risk that The Mayor of London could announce it in Kurdistan or on his return.

The consequences of that are:

- a. The contract is not yet signed and a premature announcement could jeopardise the deal
- b. HM Gov Ministers that have been involved in the project (mainly Lord Livingston or possibly No.10) may feel aggrieved if the Mayor takes the opportunity for announcing it as a major export win rather than himself.

As the Mayor has no elected mandate for trade or UKEF activities is it possible for you to contain any potential for leaking the story please.

We are currently working on a press plan around the deal that will ensure all involved parties get appropriate credit for their input and would obviously include yourself and [REDACTED] in this process.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

Subject: MoL visit programme version 4

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil, British Embassy Baghdad (BE Baghdad) and Department for International Development (DFID)

Email 1 – From BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad and DFID

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 21 January 2015 15:25

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: MoL visit programme version 4

All –

I attach what is (fingers crossed) the final version of the programme. I will distribute hard copies when I get back to the [REDACTED] at 7pm. There have been several changes to times, including most recently the below. So please can you all have a look at how you fit in to the programme (meetings, meals and transport moves). If anything doesn't add up, best to check with [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] in the morning (and if it's still incomprehensible, ask me).

This is a real chance to show what a great job we're doing, and raise the UK's profile even further. I am confident it will be successful.

One final thing which I know you'll get. Before/during/after the visit, no careless talk or indiscretions to the press. I hope this visit hits the headlines for the right reasons and showcases the Consulate, rather than something negative happening.

Thanks
Angus

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 21 January 2015 18:09

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: MoL visit programme version 4

I attach Version 4 of the visit programme. This includes a change to Thursday afternoon. We will now do:

13.00-14.00	Bnaslawwa [REDACTED]
14.00-14.30	To [REDACTED]
14.30-15.20	Downtime
15.20-15.30	To Saad Conference Centre
15.30-17.00	Business forum
17.00-17.15	To EIA
17.15-18.00	Tour of EIA
18.00-18.15	Back to [REDACTED]
18.15-19.45	Downtime
19.45	To PM's Residence, etc etc.

Protocol and EIA have been informed. [REDACTED] will notify [REDACTED].

Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil and Kurdistan Regional Government

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 21 January 2015 14:00

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme

[REDACTED]

Please see attached the programme with timings etc as agreed.

UK attendance at the dinner will be:

1. HMCG Angus McKee
2. [REDACTED]
3. NSGI Erbil Head [REDACTED]

Plus the Mayor's Party.

Thanks

Angus

Subject: Visit on Thurs/Fri

Email Exchange between officials at the British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 10:18
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Visit on Thurs/Fri

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

No problem.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:14 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit on Thurs/Fri

Angus,

Sorry, the DPMs office called many times for the list so I had to send it.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

Our working week is Sunday - Thursday and Iraq is currently 3hours ahead of the UK.

'Working for stronger, deeper, broader relations between the UK and Iraq.'

Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

Email 3 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 12:37
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Visit on Thurs/Fri

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Don't send it till I'm back, as we can take out the "NO"s.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Email 4 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 07:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Visit on Thurs/Fri

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Great. That's reassuring, sort of!

Could you SMS me before 11am with the number who've refused so far?

I know 2x [REDACTED] won't come. Nor [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. As they're all out of the country.

Thanks.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Email 5 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 08:06 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit on Thurs/Fri OFFICIAL

Hi Angus,

So far we have 9 confirmations and 8 apologies and the DPM would like to have the list. Should I send it?

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

Our working week is Sunday - Thursday and Iraq is currently 3hours ahead of the UK.

'Working for stronger, deeper, broader relations between the UK and Iraq.'
 Help save paper - do you need to print this email?

Email 6 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 06:57 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: Visit on Thurs/Fri

Angus,

I have already started writing down some refusals and we do have quite a percentage, But not a big number has confirmed yet. We will try to work out the VIPs and let you know.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 7 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 09:51
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: Visit on Thurs/Fri

[REDACTED]

Thanks. The DPM is a bit concerned there are too many people, so:

- do note any refusals (As you know we invited 100 expecting 60, so I'm hoping some say no...!!)
- can the team work on identifying the VIPs (ministers and CEOs) so that we seat people in a way that the most important people feel respected?
- [REDACTED]: when we meet Protocol this morning we will work out the format most suitable to keep this as an intimate event

Thanks
Angus

Email 8 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 08:38
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: Visit on Thurs/Fri

Morning Everyone,

I have opened a folder in shared area so we can all update one master copy.
[REDACTED]

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 9 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 20 January 2015 15:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Visit on Thurs/Fri

Thanks for all the hard work so far. Can we please meet 15.00-15.30 Wed in my office to finalise the plan together?

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Subject: Boris Request

Email exchange between Member of Public (MOP) and British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil)

Email 1 –BCG Erbil to MOP

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 21 January 2015 18:58

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Boris request OFFICIAL

He's been in touch with me. Because we're doing a separate event with Brits only on Friday, he'll be able to join that. I've told him so.

Angus McKee

UK Consul General, Erbil

Tel. [REDACTED]

Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 2 – MOP to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 06:52 PM

To: Angus McKee

Subject: Boris request

Angus

I am still fuming that I will not be there for Boris. I will be back at 9am Saturday morning, [REDACTED].

I know that the tickets are non-transferrable and that this is a cheeky request but ...

Is there any way that [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] can take my place. He is a Brit, very "active" in the business community as the Kurds would say and especially keen to go. Do you know [REDACTED]? If not, I will vouch that he won't cause a nuisance. Indeed, he is a very good guy.

No problem if not possible.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Subject: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme

Email exchanges between Mayor of London's Office (MO), British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), British Embassy in Baghdad (BE) and Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London (FCO)

Email 1 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 17:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme – [REDACTED]

Put your head by for a minute then.

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 20:11
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme – [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Yes. Can do. Just on way back fm airport and going to grab some supper. Can then chat if required?

Email 3 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 04:53 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

If possible, do you have 15 minutes in my room 11.00-11.15 Thurs to meet with the Mayor's Press Officer, Mo and I just to clarify the rules for Bnaslawawa?

Thanks
A

Email 4 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 16:53
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - OFFICIAL

Apologies if not clear. Photographer is welcome but there'll be certain rules – no names/faces of UK servicemen. We'll explain to [REDACTED] in the morning.
Angus

Email 5 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 19:46
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

Angus,

Noted in the programme that tomorrow's lunch with military is off camera. We're very keen to have pictures of training and lunch if possible please?

Aware MOD operate by strict guidelines but is there any way of making some pictures at the lunch possible?

Thanks

[REDACTED]
Follow the Mayor of London's Press Office on Twitter: @LDN_PressOffice

Email 6 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 21 January 2015 15:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

I'm heading back home to the hotel now. I think we've got as far as we can today. Phone me if anything urgent, and I check my emails regularly.

I look forward to seeing Will and the rest of the party at 5am!!

Angus

Email 7 MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 18:16
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

Thanks Angus, appreciate switching things around.

Email 8 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 14:32
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

FYI I'll alter the programme and notify Protocol

[REDACTED]: please can you notify Rudaw that Airport is now 17.15-18.00?

Thanks
A

Email 9 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 02:31 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

Sorted.

13.00-14.00 Peshmerga/military
Back to hotel; downtime
15.30-17.00 Business Forum
17.15-18.00 Airport
Back to hotel; downtime
19.45 Depart for dinner

ETC.

Email 10 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 17:24
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

Ok fair enough, I guessed it may be because of DPM availability. Will wait to hear from you.

[REDACTED]– to note potential move of the airport visit to later in the day.

Email 11 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 21 January 2015 14:19
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

I'm afraid the Deputy Prime Minister's availability changed that, so the business forum has to be 15.30-17.00.

We're looking to switch the Airport visit to 17.15-18.00, which frees up 14.30-15.20 at the [REDACTED] and everyone's happy. Will confirm shortly.

A

Email 12 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 17:10
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme - [REDACTED]

Angus

Thank you for sending and the Mayor, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are used to the 'last minute' culture of that part of the world.

The majority of updates look fine but the speech prep time that we wanted before the business roundtable has disappeared – is there a reason? He will need to have at least 30 mins by himself immediately before the event. Can this be woven in? Just tried to call you to ask about this.

It leaves two hours 40 mins of downtime after, which seems a bit much.

[REDACTED]

Email 13 – BCG Erbil to MO and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 21 January 2015 13:47
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: MoL visit to Erbil - final programme – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Final copy of the programme (caveat: nothing is final here until it happens).

We will provide the party with hard copies on arrival.

I will now update the briefings and get them to you asap.

Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Invitation to attend: From London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region

Email exchanges between a member of public, British Consulate General Erbil and British Embassy Baghdad

Email 1 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 21 January 2015 15:33

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Invitation to attend: From London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region

I've sorted this thanks

Email 2 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 15:49

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Subject: FW: Invitation to attend: From London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region

Hi Angus,

Can you see the below please?

Best Regards

[REDACTED] | British Consulate General - Erbil | [REDACTED]

Email 2 MOP to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 15:37

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Invitation to attend: From London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region

Thank you [REDACTED], I am aware that some invitees being unable to attend which is why I asked. I've just come from lunch with Angus so I'll email him to see if he can help.

[REDACTED]

Email 3 BCG Erbil to MOP

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 10:13

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Invitation to attend: From London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you very much for your e-mail.

Unfortunately, we have limited places and there is no extra room for this event, but we will be contacting you for a separate event on Friday.

Thanks for your understanding.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 4 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 21 January 2015 09:32

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Invitation to attend: From London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Thanks. Please apologise. Say there are limited places and no extra room. But tell him we will be in touch with him about a separate event on Friday.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Email 5 MOP to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 11:10

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Invitation to attend: From London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region

Hello [REDACTED],

Thank you for taking my telephone call earlier. As I said I am known to the Consulate and was enquiring if I could receive an invitation to the Boris Johnson event at the Saad Abdullah Conference Centre.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

Subject: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit

Email exchange between the Mayor of London's office (MO) and British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 21 January 2015 14:21

To: [REDACTED];

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

Sorry FCO Press Office didn't want me to add a quote. I suggest leave it as it is. My presence & behaviour throughout the visit will make clear how much value I put on the visit.

Angus

Email 2 MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 17:11

To: [REDACTED];

Cc: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED];

Subject: RE: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit

Thanks all, formatted as below. Tweaked 'high' for 'considerable' in the Mayor's quote.

[REDACTED] – would Angus wish to provide a quote for the release?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

GLA/2014

STRICTLY EMBARGOED ON A NO APPROACH BASIS UNTIL 1800 23 JANUARY 2015

Mayor heads to Kurdistan Region in bid to boost trade links with London

[REDACTED]

ENDS

[REDACTED]

Email 3 MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 13:35
To: [REDACTED]'; [REDACTED]
Cc: 'Angus Mckee'; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit

Looks fine

Email 4 BCG Erbil to MO

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 01:22 PM GMT Standard Time
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus Mckee ; [REDACTED];
Subject: FW: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit
[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

FCO said that they don't want to add a quote from the Foreign office. Please see the amendments highlighted below, if you need anything else please reply all as I will leave now and have cc'd my personal email.

DRAFT NEWS RELEASE

[REDACTED]

Subject: press for Mayor of London visit and updated programme

Email exchanges between British Consulate Erbil and Mayor of London's Office (MO)

Email 1 MO to Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 13:06

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit and updated programme

Many thanks Angus, really appreciate your help.

[REDACTED]

Email 2 Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive) ;

Sent: 21 January 2015 12:59

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit and updated programme

I'll send it within the hour (i.e. by 14.00), along with updated briefing. KRG have just made some major changes to the timings.

Angus

Email 3 MO to Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 15:04

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Cc:[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit and updated programme

Hi Angus – thanks for this. Do you have an ETA of when we'll get the programme? I need to get briefing packs done.

Thanks very much

[REDACTED]

Email 4 BCG to MO

From: Angus.Mckee[
Sent: 21 January 2015 06:39
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit and updated programme

[REDACTED]

We'll ensure the journalists get this access.

We're meeting the KRG Protocol again this morning, so I'll update the programme after that and then send on later today. We have extended the time at the citadel, moved the British business "tea" to the [REDACTED], and are working with the Deputy PM on an additional slot probably late afternoon before the flight takes off.

Angus

Email 5 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 19:30
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit and updated programme
Importance: High

Angus

So sorry to disturb, I know it's getting late at your end. Sorry also for chasing - do you have any advice on the request below? Similarly do you have an updated programme you can share? You mentioned this morning that the time in the citadel has been extended and perhaps something else...? I need to give the Private Office an updated programme today please.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 6 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 20 January 2015 08:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: press for Mayor of London visit [REDACTED]

OK. But just to stress this is still all subject to MOD approval.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 7 – BCG to BCG and MO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 07:58 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

[REDACTED],

Thank you for this email, I have CC'd [REDACTED] into this email to keep him in the loop.

Best
[REDACTED]

Email 8 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 10:55
To: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

Gents

I'd like to continue with original plan namely don't invite other uk media to the training base. No [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED]. I'd like the travelling reporter at the Sun to have exclusivity.

In addition [REDACTED] the photographer is freelance so although the Sun will use his pictures so will other papers including probably the [REDACTED].

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 9 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 10:48
To: [REDACTED]; Angus.Mckee
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

Angus/[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is keen [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are at everything please even if it's just for a few pics at the top of meetings and then they exit.

His plan would be for them to be at:

DAY ONE - Peshmerga, Airport tour, the business seminar and drinks reception

but not the meeting with the PM & Cabinet (really need pictures at the top)

DAY TWO – Citadel

but not in Governor's office, lunch with Governors, or British business group (again pics useful)

Thanks

[REDACTED]
Follow the Mayor of London's Press Office on Twitter: @LDN_PressOffice

Email 10 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 20 January 2015 09:58
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

[REDACTED] seems to have ignored the embargo on this report. FCO are working up lines.

Obviously the Mayor is not a member of central Government (and Nadhim Zahawi is on the FAC), so not bound by the lines. But, [REDACTED], I would encourage him to focus on the positives and emphasise what we are *already* doing, the visit included.

Angus

Email 11 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 10:40
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: press for Mayor of London visit

Morning Angus

I'll leave [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to come back on inviting media.

I've seen coverage on [REDACTED] online re: the FAC rept (link below). Welcome FCO lines when you have them.

<http://m.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-30884952>

[REDACTED]

Email 12 – BCG Erbil to MO and BCG Erbil

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 07:33 AM GMT Standard Time
To: Angus.Mckee ; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

Angus, [REDACTED], [REDACTED],

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have already been informed by [REDACTED] to clear their schedule on Thursday. If you don't want them to show up, we have to inform them ASAP.

Best
[REDACTED]

Email 13 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 23:04
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

Angus – thanks very much for sharing the lines to take and the heads up on the Committee Report, we'll keep an eye out for it.

I'll leave [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED] to come back on the media attendance.

[REDACTED]

Email 14 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus.Mckee
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2015 09:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

I attach the latest cross-Government lines on ISIL (do not pass outside of your office).

Please also be aware that on Wednesday, the Foreign Affairs Committee will release their report on UK policy towards Kurdistan Region. One of the Mayor's party, Nadhim Zahawi MP, is a member of the FAC. The report is likely to call for the UK to do more to engage with Kurdistan Region. I suggest that you pull it off the internet when it is published on Wednesday, to read on the plane. I will share FCO lines with you when it issues (though of course the Mayor is not FCO...).

On Bnaslawa, we suggest [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED] attendance as an option, but will be guided by you. Answer asap please so we can activate or stand down.

Angus

Email 15 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 20:11
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: Dharmina Shah
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

Thanks very much Angus. I've trying to get some time with [REDACTED] tomorrow to discuss the arrangements so will flag that.

Separately – [REDACTED] has sent onto me your latest briefing papers.

Noted on the visit to Bnaslawa training camp there is reference to reuters/guardian attendance? I think [REDACTED] preference on this trip was no UK media other than the correspondent and photographer travelling with us ([REDACTED] and [REDACTED]) – I just wanted to check please whether that remains the case?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Follow the Mayor of London's Press Office on Twitter: @LDN_PressOffice

Email 16 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 19 January 2015 14:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

[REDACTED]

Given the visit extends over 2 days, and given the [REDACTED], it will be practically impossible to impose a security embargo on the trip. However, I would insist that no details of the programme or particular locations are released in advance – the visit to the city centre (Citadel etc) is a particular security issue for us.

I think what's best is that we do our best to have as much press – MoL press release included – to issue on the Friday no earlier than 9.00am GMT while acknowledging that some news will get out on the Thursday.

Angus

Email 17 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 17:21
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: press for Mayor of London visit

Many thanks for the introduction Angus.

One question I have for you both is on embargoes. Would there be a security embargo in terms of when we can news release/media can cover or do you think we would be able to issue a news release on Thursday?

So you are aware - I've also had [REDACTED] press team in touch for basic details re the trip and particularly the visit to Peshmerga training.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Follow the Mayor of London's Press Office on Twitter: @LDN_PressOffice

Email 18 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee

Sent: 19 January 2015 12:03

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: press for Mayor of London visit

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

Introducing you to each other re the Mayor's visit. Areas where you might want to work together:

- [REDACTED]retweeting Mayor tweets on @UKinErbil
- [REDACTED]sending photographs of visit on to [REDACTED]
- Once Mayor of London press release issues, [REDACTED]forwarding to local news outlets here.
- [REDACTED]providing a summary of local press coverage, after the event.

Regards

Angus

Angus McKee

HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq

[REDACTED]

Subject: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit

Email exchange between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Mayor of London's Office

Email 1 – FCO to MO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 12:31

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit

[REDACTED]

Thanks very much for this. I've discussed with colleagues and we don't feel the need to contribute an FS quote on this occasion.

Best,

[REDACTED]

Email 2 – MO to FCO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 January 2015 12:22

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Draft news release - Kurdistan visit

[REDACTED],

As discussed – please find below the latest draft of our news release.

[REDACTED], our director of comms, will be with the Mayor on this visit and I believe has discussed with officials your side. I know he was hoping we might be able to obtain a quote from the Secretary of State for our release if possible please?

In terms of media – [REDACTED] from the Sun is travelling with the party and [REDACTED] providing images. They are the only UK media invited.

We currently intend to issue the news release early afternoon tomorrow.

While in Kurdistan the Mayor will be accompanied by the British Consul General throughout. He and his team also have the latest draft of the release as below.

Please let me know if you'd be able to provide a quote – and would obviously hugely appreciate it if you can keep this on a tight circulation please.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Follow the Mayor of London's Press Office on Twitter: @LDN_PressOffice

Subject: Visit of Mayor of London, Thursday 22 January

Email exchange between the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) and British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to KRG

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 21 January 2015 06:50
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: visit of Mayor of London, Thursday 22 January

Thanks. I talked this through with the DPM this morning. He is a bit concerned that there'll be too many in the room, but I'll work with Protocol to ensure the right format for a senior audience.
Angus

Email 2 – KRG to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2015 09:47
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: visit of Mayor of London, Thursday 22 January

Received
Thanks

Kurdistan Regional Government

Email 3 – BCG Erbil to KRG

On Tue, Jan 20, 2015 at 6:31 PM, <Angus Mckee> wrote:

[REDACTED],

Thank you for agreeing to host the forum with the Mayor of London in [REDACTED] on Thursday afternoon.

We have invited a select 100 Kurdish business leaders, British businesspeople and KRG decision-makers – obviously if your office think anyone is missing from the list we passed to DFR they are welcome to add to it. So I expect a select and therefore relatively intimate audience of around 60 people.

I envisage this to work best if:

- You, the Mayor, [REDACTED] and I are at the front.
- You introduce the Mayor
- He will then speak for 10 or so minutes on how London and the UK can support the development of Kurdistan Region
- You may wish to comment yourself, and then open it up to questions/comments from the audience
- Total: 45 minutes; after which we will have another 45 minutes for drinks and a chance for the Mayor to meet individual audience members before we depart to the PM's for dinner.

I hope that sounds good to you.

Yours sincerely,
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: emergency contact details

Email exchange between Foreign and Commonwealth Office, British Consulate General in Erbil and Mayor of London's Office

Email 1 – From MO to FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 17:21
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: emergency contact details
Importance: High

[REDACTED] – sorry to chase, can you provide out of hours contacts for FCO in London please? I'm assuming that's you?

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 2 – BCG to MO and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 19 January 2015 13:57
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: emergency contact details

[REDACTED]

Thanks. In the event of an incident here, we always check that all people on our platform are safe, and encourage them to contact friends/family at home directly to reassure them of that.

If that weren't to happen, I suggest you use the Deputy CG [REDACTED] as first point of contact:
[REDACTED]

And failing that the Iraq Desk in the FCO – [REDACTED] cc'd, and he can provide his office/out-of-hours contacts.

No need for passport information. The visiting party will be met at the VIP terminal of the airport on Thursday morning.

Thanks
Angus

Email 3 – MO to BCG

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 19 January 2015 14:19

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Subject: emergency contact details

Angus

As previously mentioned, Private Office would like to know what is the process (just in case) if any difficulties arise. Other than the steps you outlined previously – i.e. you/your team making contact with FCO colleagues in London who would then be in touch with people here - is there anything else for us to be aware of?

In tandem could you send over contact details for yourself and whomever else you think necessary?

Details for the Mayor's Private Office contacts are:

[REDACTED]– Private Secretary to the Mayor, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]- Private Secretary to the Mayor, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]– International Relations, Mayor's Office, [REDACTED]

Do you need passport info for the party travelling to Erbil?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Security Code

Email exchange between the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), British Consulate General in Erbil, Mayor of London's Office and Nadhim Zahawi's Office (NZO)

Email 1 –From MO to KRG, BCG Erbil and NZO

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 16:37
To: [REDACTED] Angus McKee
Subject: RE: Security Code

Dear [REDACTED]

Many thanks for your emails, very kind of you to send through the information. I have some questions on the arrangements, I hope you don't mind me asking:

- On arrival at Farnborough is there a particular entrance the passengers should aim for?
- Are all passengers required to present only their PPR number to security? Or do they need any other information?

Many thanks for your assistance,
[REDACTED]

Email 2 –From KRG to BCG Erbil, NZO and MO

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 16:19
To: Angus Mckee [REDACTED]
Subject: Security Code

Dear All,

Below is the security code :

Your PPR number for arrival 20 Jan and departure 21 Jan is [REDACTED]

Your PPR number for arrival 23 Jan and departure 24 Jan is [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: Greetings

Email exchange between Member of Public (MOP), Mayor or London's Office (MOL) and British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil)

Email 1 – From MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 15:52
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Greetings

Perfect! Thanks

Email 2 – From BCG Erbil to MO

-----Original Message-----

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 03:31 PM GMT Standard Time
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Greetings

Surely it's not coincidence this comes on the eve of your visit...!

The [REDACTED] is headed by the [REDACTED].

I don't want to add this to the programme. If you or anyone else in the Mayor's party wanted to meet them in the [REDACTED] Hotel during one of the periods of downtime, you're welcome to do so. [REDACTED].

Angus

Email 3 – From MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 16:19
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: FW: Greetings

Angus

Received this today.

Just wanted your take?

Best

[REDACTED]

Email 4 – From MOP to MO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 20 January 2015 13:11

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Greetings

Dear [REDACTED],

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to you to seek some advice and clarity of any future plans for Mr. Boris Johnson to develop any relations in Kurdistan. I am a British national who has returned to Kurdistan to help with the humanitarian crises with [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] is the first international Kurdish foundation, we aim to protect vulnerable people and provide opportunities to those that need it most. Last year alone we helped over 400,000 through various projects. We are currently building a refugee camp for 24,000 people (the first local organization to do this).

Since being here we have had close relations with European countries and as somewhere I consider home, I would love to build some relations with United Kingdom. Please let me know if there are any opportunities in developing such relations and an introduction meeting to see how this can be developed.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit briefing

Email exchanges between Mayor of London's Office (MO), British Embassy in Baghdad, British Consulate General in Erbil and Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Email 1 – BE Baghdad to MO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 20 January 2015 11:10

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have managed to get the trade figures for last year for Iraq (many thanks to [REDACTED]). See below, a decrease on 2013, which is not surprising given the ISIL advance. Attached is the MENA table which you may find useful to draw comparisons with the rest of the region.

UK TRADE IN GOODS WITH THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA 2014 - JAN-NOV TOTALS

Pounds Sterling

	2014 Jan-Nov <u>Total Exports</u>	2013 Jan-Nov <u>Total Exports</u>	<u>% change</u>
M EAST & N AFRICA	16,640,729,727	20,387,315,137	-18
IRAQ	339,192,363	376,091,559	-10

UK IMPORTS FROM MENA

	2014 Jan-Nov <u>Total Imports</u>	2013 Jan-Nov <u>Total Imports</u>	<u>% change</u>
M EAST & N AFRICA	14,085,312,031	16,967,557,959	-17
IRAQ	3,083,279	3,617,256	-15

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 2 – MO to BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 13:33
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing – [REDACTED]

Thanks very much [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], much appreciated. All looks good and I'll include in the Mayor's briefing pack.
[REDACTED]

Email 3 – BE Baghdad to BE Baghdad, London, and BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 08:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

Most grateful thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 4 – BE Baghdad to BE Baghdad, London and BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 11:09
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The most recent data I have is the following.

Trade in Goods:

The value of UK exports of goods to Iraq in 2013 was £407 million, an increase of 43% from 2012.

The value of UK imports of goods from Iraq in 2012 was £4 million, an increase of 39% from 2011.

The value of exports in goods in January 2014 was 25.7 million and increase of 67% compared to the same period in 2013.

The value of imports in goods in January 2014 was 0.6 million and increase of 6% compared to the same period in 2013.

I have asked [REDACTED] for more recent data.

Anything else anyone has to add?
[REDACTED]

Email 5 – BC Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 20 January 2015 09:57

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

We're inviting c.100 so yes, am confident that we'll get 60 or so (at least). DPM is confirmed.

Email 6 – MO to BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 20 January 2015 10:39

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Subject: Re: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

Format for business event is fine. We assumed invites had been sent. Are you confident that c.60 ppl will attend? The briefing says the DPM is tbc - is he not confirmed to host?

[REDACTED]

Email 7 – BE Baghdad to MO, London, BE Baghdad and BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 08:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]Angus.Mckee
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - OFFICIAL

[REDACTED],

Thanks, my colleague [REDACTED]has pulled together some latest trade stats for you (although briefings are normally done at the London end, not least UKTI International Unit):

UK exports of goods to Iraq in 2013 was £407 million, an increase of 43% from 2012.

UK imports of goods from Iraq in 2012 was £4 million, an increase of 39% from 2011.

Exports in goods in January 2014 was 25.7 million and increase of 67% compared to the same period in 2013.

Imports in goods in January 2014 was 0.6 million and increase of 6% compared to the same period in 2013.

We don't hold separate stats for levels of Kurdistan specific investments, not least because it's part of Federal Iraq.

In terms of our trade projections, aligned with HMG's Trillion Export Plan, our aspirational Iraq Business Plan "offer" to UKTI HQ from 2015-16 will be to:

increase our trade exports to Iraq from £0.4bn to c.£5bn by 2020.

expand our High Value Opportunity (HVO) portfolio from 1 to 4 programmes (to include Water/Environment, Aerospace, and Infrastructure).

increase our Business Win target twelvefold from £120m (this FY's target, which we have already smashed threefold at this stage of the FY) to c.£1.155bn by 2020.

Hope this helps.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | British Embassy Baghdad | [REDACTED]

Email 8 – BE Baghdad to BE Baghdad, London and BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 09:11
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], didn't you provide already a two side trade brief for this visit? Grateful you respond.

[REDACTED]

Email 9 – BC Erbil to MO

From: Angus.Mckee [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 05:26 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

I'll leave [REDACTED] to answer that. Quick question from me: Could you please confirm asap this morning if you're content with the outline plan for the business roundtable on Thursday afternoon? We can finalise the precise format later but we will need to issue invitations by the middle of the day (London time).

Thanks
A

Email 10 – MO to BC Erbil, BE Baghdad and London

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 02:03
To: Angus McKee [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

Thanks very much Angus, appreciate the quick turn around.

Tomorrow, I wonder if [REDACTED] or his team could help with sharing:

- value for UK/Iraq trade in the last year and perhaps one/two years previous;
- targets for growing bilateral trade (if they exist)? Appreciate this may not be so practical / relevant, given the situation on the ground, as per other markets.
- levels of investment from Kurdistan to UK / London. Might UKTI HQ colleagues be able to assist?

Regards
[REDACTED]

Email 11 – BC Erbil to MO, BE Baghdad and London

From: Angus.Mckee[REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 21:25
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It's midnight, so quick answers in red.

Angus

Email 12 – MO to BC Erbil, BE Baghdad and London

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 20:58
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

Angus and colleagues

Many thanks for the briefings, this is hugely helpful and appreciate all the info. Inevitably I have some questions / points of clarification:

- Could you phonetically spell out “Bnaslawā” just so people know how to spell it. “Ba-na-sla-wa”
- What is NSGI? Is it private / public sector? National School of Government International is a cross-cutting civil service unit under the Defence Academy which builds civil service capacity overseas.
- Are there subjects that UK / local businesses regularly ask about? Do you have preferred lines to take? e.g. Getting business / visitor visas for either country; UK tax policy; etc. Given that the Mayor will be accompanied by the CG/UKTI/etc at all times, it is best we field these questions at the time. We can also brief in the car on the way to appointments.
- Is it a ‘dry’ dinner? Roughly how many attendees from the KR side? Alcohol is likely to be served. I would expect c. 8-10 on the KRG side (TBC).
- I’m assuming lounge suits are ok for dinner? Yes.
- Do you have a couple of sentences about the roles of the Mayor and the Governors (i.e. explaining the difference)? Are they all appointed / any directly elected? Are there stats on the population, challenges and opportunities, recent policies of each Province? It would be useful for the Mayor to have some contextual information, as background, on each Province, if possible. I think this is best covered in the car on the way to the event.

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 13 – MO to BC Erbil, BE Baghdad and London

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 17:58
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

Angus and colleagues

Many thanks for the briefings, this is hugely helpful and appreciate all the info. Inevitably I have some questions / points of clarification:

- Could you phonetically spell out “Bnaslawā” just so people know how to spell it.
- What is NSGI? Is it private / public sector?
- Are there subjects that UK / local businesses regularly ask about? Do you have preferred lines to take? e.g. Getting business / visitor visas for either country; UK tax policy; etc.
- Is it a ‘dry’ dinner? Roughly how many attendees from the KR side?
- I’m assuming lounge suits are ok for dinner?
- Do you have a couple of sentences about the roles of the Mayor and the Governors (i.e. explaining the difference)? Are they all appointed / any directly elected? Are there stats on the population,

challenges and opportunities, recent policies of each Province? It would be useful for the Mayor to have some contextual information, as background, on each Province, if possible.

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 14 - BC Erbil to MO

From: Angus.Mckee[REDACTED]

Sent: 19 January 2015 13:53

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit briefing - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please find attached:

- A cover note
- A "clean" programme
- Briefing for each of the Mayor's meetings. N.B. final details are subject to change and we don't have all the participants lists yet. We can update and provide paper copies for the party's arrival. I had to remove the "MoL" logo as it was eating up computer memory.
- A draft "speaking points" for the business roundtable on Thursday afternoon. I've kept it rough, as I assume the Mayor's PS or speechwriter will want to make it more personal.

Thanks

Angus

Angus McKee

HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq

[REDACTED]

Subject: Erbil flights contact details

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), Nadhim Zahawi's Office (NZO) and the Mayor of London's Office (MO)

Email 1 –From MO to NZO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 08:56
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Erbil flights contact details

Thanks [REDACTED]. Just to clarify, is it proposed that the only event they attend is the business roundtable/reception on Thursday 22 evening?

Also, could you provide me job titles and organisation names for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I'd like to have a quick chat with our Private Office.

Appreciate the info re: Farnborough. Will you be sending the flight call and security code or should I expect that from [REDACTED] / [REDACTED]?

Angus – are you in touch with [REDACTED] re: departure details? E.g. when everyone needs to be at the airport etc?

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 2 –From NZO to MO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 08:50
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee
Subject: RE: Erbil flights contact details

I think Nadhim felt it might be useful for them to attend the business meeting part of the programme.

With regards to Farnborough, I have now received the following information on what to do on arrival tomorrow evening:

'Passengers will receive a flight call and a security code. This information should be given by the security guards at the gate to Farnborough airport. Then they will make their way to the passenger terminal.'

Flight time will be 2115 as requested and arrival at 2045 is sufficient time. Thank you for the update re passengers.

If you need anything else, please let me know.

[REDACTED]

Email 3 –From MO to NZO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 23:14
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee
Subject: RE: Erbil flights contact details

Thanks [REDACTED]. Apologies Angus, just realised I hadn't kept you copied to my last reply.

On [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] – do they think they are attending any part of the programme? Apologies if I'm coming across rude, not meant to, just checking for clarity so that we're all on the same page (so to speak).

Flight timings / arrangements at Farnborough – ok fine, will wait to hear from you tomorrow.

No, neither I nor [REDACTED] are now travelling. I think my update last week said that the only people from the Mayor's office are the Mayor, Edward and [REDACTED]. Apologies if this wasn't conveyed, I thought I wrote to Nadhim to this effect but I may well have forgotten to CC you.

Best
[REDACTED]

Email 4 –From NZO to MO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 16:41
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil flights contact details

I have not heard anything to say otherwise so I would assume yes.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are business associates of [REDACTED]. They will not be joining all of the Mayors programme.

Yes 2045 is fine. I am waiting on info from [REDACTED]with regards to arrival at Farnborough, I wouldn't have thought there would be anyone specific though but am just waiting on that confirmation.

Are you not travelling now?

Email 5 –From MO to NZO

From: [REDACTED]]
Sent: 19 January 2015 15:25
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil flights contact details

Thanks very much [REDACTED]. Is there any progress on confirming the return flight time?

Can I ask – who are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]? Is it assumed that they will be joining all of the Mayor's programme?

On arrival at Farnborough, is there anyone specific our team needs to ask for? I'd like to give details to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] today if possible. Just to confirm, I am telling them to be there for 2045 at the latest – yes?

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 6 –From NZO to MO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 15:08
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee
Subject: RE: Erbil flights contact details

Hi [REDACTED]

I have been liaising with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on the flights, contact details for both below:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

With regards to the delegation, there will also be [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] travelling under KRG arrangements.

If you need anything else, please let me know.

[REDACTED]

Email 7 –From MO to NZO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 10:48
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee
Subject: Erbil flights contact details

Hello [REDACTED]

Hope all well. Please could you share with Angus and I the contact details for whomever you're liaising with at the KRG re: flights. Angus is keen to check-in with them to understand the arrangements on arrival and departure.

Just to triple check, is there anyone other than [REDACTED] who is joining the visit? To my knowledge, the delegation is as below but just checking in case anyone else has been invited.

- FCO Duty of Care: Mayor Johnson, Edward Lister, [REDACTED], Nadhim Zahawi
- KRG arrangements: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Subject: draft briefings for Mayor of London (2nd tranche)

Email exchanges between FCO London and British Consulate General Erbil

Email 1 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 06:56
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: draft briefings for Mayor of London (2nd tranche)

Yep, invited and no response yet! I chase his office this morning for an answer ☹

Email 2 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 16:46
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: draft briefings for Mayor of London (2nd tranche)

Thanks. Did you invite [REDACTED] too?

Email 3 BCG Erbil to FCO, London, BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 16:00
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: draft briefings for Mayor of London (2nd tranche) - OFFICIAL

Angus,

We spoke, I was working with Dohuk gov's PA to convince the governor to attend and he promised so! Attached, you will find the full attendees names with a short bio of each.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Email 4: FCO, London to BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 10:04
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: draft briefings for Mayor of London (2nd tranche)

Angus,

Nothing from me.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email 5 BCG Erbil to FCO, London and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 06:35
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: draft briefings for Mayor of London (2nd tranche)

I attach draft briefings to cover the Friday calls for the Mayor – Citadel, Governors and BBGK.

Grateful for any comments by 11am today please. [REDACTED] – please can you add the names of the other governors and mayor?

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Visit programme

Email exchange between officials at British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to BCG Ebil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2015 06:52
To: [REDACTED] Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: visit programme update – [REDACTED]

Angus – ref length of stay at the citadel is no prob, I've spoken to the gov's PA and she said fine. Kirkuk gov is invited too but his attendance is still **TBC**.

[REDACTED] – extra security should be no probs and we can address this in tmrw's meeting with DFR/Protocol as the PM's security head will attend!

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Sent: 20 January 2015 09:12
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED];
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: visit programme update - OFFICIAL

Angus – No problem from my end on the additional venue and time at the citadel. The new venue for the British business meeting as stated has been used previously, and with the additional Kurdish security deployed as before this will present no further concerns.

Best Regards
[REDACTED]

Email 3 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 20 January 2015 08:53
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: visit programme update – [REDACTED]

NOT FOR FORWARDING OUTSIDE CONSULATE

Here is the latest visit programme. Still awaiting clearance on some points.

[REDACTED] – do not approach the press yet as we haven't had approval from the Mayor's office yet.

[REDACTED]/ [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED]:

There might be some tweaks to the Friday programme. The Mayor wants longer at the Citadel. I suggest that means we leave the [REDACTED] a little earlier (& all the other times stay the same) but could [REDACTED] get an idea of how long the Mayor would spend at the Citadel itself (e.g. can it be padded out with a short visit to the Textile Museum etc)?

Rather than have the British business meeting at the [REDACTED], [REDACTED] have offered their showroom for the event. I'd like to take it up, but [REDACTED] please can you consider. It was used for an event in December which HMA/I attended. At our request, the Asayish (?) put an increased security presence outside and we'd want to do the same. [REDACTED], please decide and then (i) I can get back to [REDACTED] at [REDACTED], and (ii) we can explain the change of plan to KRG Protocol tomorrow.

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Visit on Thurs/Fri – current and new action

Email exchange between officials at the British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 20 January 2015 05:44

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Visit on Thurs/Fri - current and new actions – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We might no longer need the [REDACTED]room for this event:

Friday 15.15-16.15: Club [REDACTED]or other meeting room for c.25 people – coffee/tea, cake

I'll let you know as soon as things are clearer.

Angus

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 19 January 2015 11:16

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Visit on Thurs/Fri - current and new actions – [REDACTED]

All

Thanks for all the hard work so far on this week's visit. As an overview, and with some new taskings, here are the main actions.

If you think I've forgotten something, please let me know.

Thanks

Angus

Overall programme, briefing and liaison with visitor's office (lead: CG)

Draft programme in place; briefing nearly complete

Follow-up meeting with KRG Protocol on Wednesday ([REDACTED] – what was the time for this?)

Need to inform UKB residents when cars are not available ([REDACTED])

Wed: need for final programme to be printed ready for visitors (CG)

Accommodation (lead: [REDACTED])

4 bedrooms required for visiting party, plus 1 for [REDACTED]

Visit to military (lead: [REDACTED])

In progress

Liaison with Peshmerga and [REDACTED] required

For media, see below

Visit to Erbil International Airport (lead: [REDACTED])

In progress

Email sent to [REDACTED]; no reply yet
[REDACTED] / [REDACTED] will need to do recce visit to Airport on Wednesday

Roundtable “from London to Erbil: the UK’s partnership with the Kurdistan Region” (lead: [REDACTED] / Angus)

KRG have offered [REDACTED] and will arrange all refreshments
Draft participant list completed – I’ll review and reply to [REDACTED]
Once done, need to (i) email UK invitees direct, and (ii) pass KRG Protocol list of KRG invitees
Need for relevant “XXXXXX is GREAT” banners plus backdrop to go behind speaker (a Powerpoint slide??)
and UKTI brochures ([REDACTED] / [REDACTED])
On afternoon, need for [REDACTED] / [REDACTED] to be in charge at venue

Visit to central Erbil (lead: [REDACTED] / [REDACTED])

Need to liaise with KRG and Governor’s Office
Restaurant reservation and invitees for lunch

BBGK meeting (lead: Angus)

Liaise with [REDACTED] (Angus)
[REDACTED] to provide Angus with list of invitees to December breakfast briefing ([REDACTED])
Once list finalised and room booked, invitations sent out ([REDACTED])

[REDACTED] room bookings (lead: [REDACTED])

Thursday 11.15-12.30: private dining room or [REDACTED] for light breakfast – 10 people: coffee/tea, orange juice, pastries
Friday 9.30-10.15: private dining room (for regular buffet breakfast)
Friday 15.15-16.15: [REDACTED] or other meeting room for c.25 people – coffee/tea, cake

Media (lead: [REDACTED])

Programme will include Media at Peshmerga, EIA, city centre ([REDACTED] to lead in liaison with KRG and [REDACTED], once it has been cleared)
[REDACTED] to accompany visit for Consulate photos (in private car or convoy?? – check with [REDACTED])
[REDACTED] to provide a few tweets on London/Kurdistan Region links

Angus McKee

HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Kurdistan itinerary

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil, Mayor of London's Office and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Email 1 – British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil) to Mayor of London's Office (MOL) and Foreign and Commonwealth Office

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 14:05
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan itinerary

[REDACTED]

On longer at the Citadel, it will be tricky – [REDACTED] I'll speak to the Security Manager and KRG – we might be able to start a bit earlier. We might also be able to fit in an additional touristy visit between the Governor's and lunch. But it will be difficult to do a lot more – don't overestimate the number of historical sites in the city, we have to work around Friday prayer time, [REDACTED].

Apologies, I thought you'd been told. HMA Baghdad is now required to be in London on Thursday for the Coalition conference, so sends his apologies.

Gifts – that sounds about right. There'll also be a Governor for Kirkuk at the lunch, and the Mayor might want to give something to the airport director. Not at the business event – there will be too many people there.

Angus

Email 2 – MO to BCG Erbil and FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 16:28
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan itinerary

Hi Angus

Thanks for making the amendment (don't worry, it's an easy oversight, I spend most of my time defining the two roles!) and for introducing [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], much appreciated.

I've been told that the Mayor is keen to spend more time in the Citadel. Could it be organised for him to spend more time there or other places of historical interest pre / after lunch? With that in mind it's most likely that they will keep to the later flight option.

Is HMA still joining throughout?

Gifts: I think he will need gifts for the PM, DPM, Gov Erbil, Gov Duhok, Gov Sulemani, Mayor of Erbil and probably a few other just in case. Is there anyone likely to be at the business event and / or dinner (or anywhere else for that matter) that he should be gifting?

Thanks again for your help

[REDACTED]

Email 3 BCG Erbil to MO and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 19 January 2015 12:01
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan itinerary

[REDACTED]

Thanks.

Kicking myself as I knew that. Senior moment. Do point it out if I make the mistake again! Edited version attached.

The London book would be great.

Attached programme is really for internal use, hence shorthand. Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

Shoes: We can provide tissues and water which should be sufficient. Extra pair of shoes is a useful fallback.

Business roundtable: DPM (or an alternative host) will also make remarks. Director UKTI Iraq and I will also be at the front, so can address questions if required.

Usually KRG issue a press release unilaterally, without us clearing. But it is always uncontroversial. I think easiest to let them get on with it, and whatever you want to say can go in any separate MoL press release you choose to put out (which we can re-forward here to local press. I'll introduce [REDACTED] to our press officer here.

Angus

Email 4 – MO to BCG Erbil and FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 14:04
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan itinerary

Thanks very much for your update Angus, looks good. Feedback on some of your questions is below, plus more questions from me (sorry)... I'm checking a few things on the other points and will be in touch.

- Boris is the Mayor of London, not the Lord Mayor. Would you mind amending the programme title please. It's a small thing but the two "Mayor" roles creates a lot of confusion. Description of his role (if needed) <http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/mayor>
- I'm sure the Mayor will be fine if your Deputy accompanies them to the airport (without stating the obvious, assuming he knows what needs to happen with immigration/security on departure).

- Yes, we can provide a London book with his signature. If I provide the book with them, can I leave with you to get it signed when they are in country? It's more likely to happen when they're with you (busy time before he leaves).
- Who or what is the PWRR?
- Thanks for highlighting that the ground at [REDACTED] might be muddy. This might sound pedantic but is there facility for the party to wash any mud off their shoes/trousers before they continue with the programme? If not I may need to recommend they take an extra pair of shoes.
- Who else is speaking at the business forum? I'm assuming the DPM will make some remarks?
- Press release for mtg with KRG PM and Cabinet: how does this work? For example, does your team work with the KRG PM office to agree the wording? Or do they issue whenever they are happy with the text? My colleague [REDACTED], copied, will be on hand to help with press releases, getting Mayoral quotes signed off (internally) and any other general assistance for specific media aspects.

Thanks again
[REDACTED]

Email 5 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 19 January 2015 10:54

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Angus McKee (Sensitive) [REDACTED]

Subject: OS: Boris Johnson Visit to Erbil

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

Press Office will want to be aware that Boris Johnson will be visiting Erbil on 22-23 January. The programme will have a strong commercial focus though the Mayor will likely visit UK military personnel.

[REDACTED], the political editor of the Sun, and [REDACTED], a photographer, will accompany. The draft programme is attached. You'll want to note the media slots.

The Mayor is visiting at the invitation of the KRG. No.10 are aware and content.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 6 – BCG Erbil to MO and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 19 January 2015 08:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan itinerary

[REDACTED]

Thanks for your email. I attach the draft programme, and by mid-morning will have sent you the briefings. I have also answered your questions below, and thrown in a few of my own.

Programme

Draft programme attached, though almost certainly there will be minor changes up to the day itself. On the back of it:

- Grateful for the contact details of the person in KRG who will know when the plane is due to land – who are you liaising with?
- In addition to the written briefings I will provide for each meeting, there will be adequate time on the Thursday morning (11.30am briefing session) and in the car to meetings to brief the Mayor and party.
- Military meeting (Thurs): Full details will be in briefing. Note that the ground might be a bit muddy if there has been rain beforehand. This will include lunch with the UK military trainers.
- Business event Thurs): We are billing this as a roundtable entitled “from London to Erbil: the UK’s partnership with the Kurdistan Region”. As the audience will include c.60 local business leaders, British business representatives, government decision-makers, this will be a real opportunity to showcase what the UK is doing and what London can offer. The event and the (soft) drinks reception that follows will be a chance to meet some of these movers/shakers. Consequently, I propose that the Mayor speaks for approx. 10 minutes (I have prepared some speaking notes which you/he are welcome to adapt) followed by Q&A/comments – I suggest the Head of UKTI Iraq and I plus the KRG Deputy PM are at the front. I hope you are content with that.
- Dinner with the PM (Thurs): the main opportunity to engage PM Nechirvan and his ministerial team.
- I think all of Friday’s programme will be quite self explanatory. It will end 16.00ish, which gives the party two hours downtime or the option of bringing departure forward (to e.g. 17.30).

Mayor’s Party

In addition to Boris Johnson, Sir Edward Lister, [REDACTED] and Nadhim Zahawi *under the Consulate duty of care*, I am aware of [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] hosted by the KRG. Anyone else?

Media

I spoke to [REDACTED] on Friday, and updated the media elements in the draft programme. These will be:

- Light UK (not Kurdish) media presence at military meeting (Thurs)
- Light Kurdish TV presence (one crew) at Airport visit (Thurs)
- KRG press release following meeting with PM (Thurs)
- Kurdish media press conference during city centre visit (Fri)

While we cannot suppress news of the visit until after departure, given it is a two-day visit, the programme will not be shared externally in advance. Please ensure this on your side too. Our Security Operations Manager is content with this.

Will you be tweeting during the visit? If so, we can replay locally via @UKinErbil and @UKinIraq. Again, tweets should only be sent once we have left a specific location.

FCO London are deliberating whether I can contribute to the Sun piece or press release. I should be able to brief the Sun on background plus, for both, confine myself to lines on the visit being useful for the UK prosperity agenda. Will confirm.

There is sufficient spare time in the programme for the Mayor to have a one-to-one with the Sun at a time of their choosing.

Your other questions

My email plus the briefing notes (to follow) should answer all your questions. US dollars are easily used here, and there is an ATM in the hotel foyer. Realistically, I cannot see the Mayor needing to spend anything.

You might have seen my other email before the weekend – unless you see this as crucial, I will bid the Mayor farewell from the airport so I can honour my commitment to be at the opening of the local Burns Supper (in kilt) and my Deputy CG will escort the Mayor's party to the airport and see them off. *If* the Mayor's Office was able to contribute a signed memento for the charity auction, that would be hugely appreciated.

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Visit Prog

Email exchange between officials at the British Consulate General in Erbil

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 20 January 2015 05:35

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: 20150119-Visit Prog [REDACTED]

[Redacted under Section 35 Formulation of Government Policy]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 19 January 2015 20:10

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Subject: 20150119-Visit Prog

Importance: High

Angus, I have had IPP and [REDACTED] asking for sight of the visit prog. I have sent the proposed mil element but do you have a version of the full programme that you would be happy to release at this time? Interestingly PJHQ J9 Media informed that their Colleagues in DDC contacted the Mayor's press office and they were not aware of the visit.

[REDACTED]

Subject: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil and British Embassy Baghdad

Email 1 – Between officials at BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 20 January 2015 05:34

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

Thanks for the work on this yesterday. I've also added to it further so we now have a very credible list. I might want to add a couple more extras later, but that's good for now.

We cannot issue invitations until the DPM's office has confirmed (and if DPM cannot do it we'll need a reserve). So grateful if [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED] could check asap today.

My draft invitation, which you'll need to clear with Protocol is below.

[REDACTED], can you also please confirm that you've sorted the GREAT banners. Could you provide a powerpoint slide entitled

"from London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region"

With the Consulate, UKTI, KRG logos. I'll also forward you the Mayor's logo.

[REDACTED]– I'm coming back to the idea that this is better done as theatre, but with only 70 seats.

Roundtable will make half the guests very distant. Do you think this is possible? Surely people can go 45 minutes without a glass of tea?!

Thanks

Angus

>>>>

PRIVATE INVITATION

You are cordially invited to a forum with the Mayor of London Mr Boris Johnson, hosted by His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister Mr Qubad Talabani

On

"from London to Erbil: the UK's partnership with the Kurdistan Region"

At the Saad Conference Centre, Erbil

17.30-19.30 Thursday 22 January, 2014

Guests to arrive promptly by 17.30

RSVP to xxxxxxxx

<<<<

Email 2 –BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 23:57
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: FW: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

Revised list.

Email 3 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 16:01
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

Angus,

Please let me know if you need any further amendment.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 4 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 15:47
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

[REDACTED]– the team are stars, thanks.

Angus

Email 5 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 15:39
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

Angus

For some family issues, [REDACTED] had to leave the office earlier and both [REDACTED] and I are taking care of the list of invitees and other pieces and bit on the program. You should have a unified copy of invitees list –[REDACTED] is working on it as I type- by COP today.

Ref protocol, the meeting is now confirmed for 1100 on Wed and the DPM will confirm hosting the event tmrw b4 noon time Inshalla

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 6 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 13:41
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

[REDACTED]

This still requires more work and I don't have time to look at this till later this afternoon, because of another meeting. In reality, we will not get the invitations out until first thing Tuesday morning. But in the interim, can you:

- Work with [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED] to ensure those coming from overseas have the details they need to make their travel plans now (as per my email to [REDACTED])
- Continue to find details for the CEOs of other leading Kurdish companies which I requested in my original list? [REDACTED], [REDACTED], etc etc.

I will put in what details I have when online later, but not necessarily before 5pm.

& [REDACTED], can you please check with Protocol whether DPM Qubad Talabani will be able to host this? Best we know by first thing tomorrow when we issue the invitation.

Thanks
Angus

Email 7 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 12:47
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

[REDACTED] – the team are stars, thanks.
Angus

Email 8 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 10:45
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

Sorry for that

Email 9 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 10:43
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

Thanks [REDACTED], though it wasn't attached – please resend, and I'll look at it by midday.

A

Email 10 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 10:34
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

Hi Angus,

Grateful for your comments/amendments on the attached first draft. So we can proceed.

Kind regards

Email 11 –From BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 17 January 2015 16:35
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: planning in advance of VIP visit Thurs/Fri

[REDACTED]

Unfortunately UKTI section is short-staffed this week, but grateful if you can work on the following as priority, drawing on back-up from [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED]and UKTI Baghdad as necessary.

1. Requirement for a quote for seminar for 60 people, followed by soft drinks reception. I've emailed [REDACTED]. Please follow up. Time TBC but possibly 16.30-18.00 Thursday 22 January.

2. Arranging xxxx is GREAT banners which showcase UK business, finance sector, even London. I am told we had a delivery of new GREAT banners last autumn. If required, [REDACTED] can bring up material from Baghdad on Wednesday.

3. Stocks of Iraq Business is GREAT brochures for the event.

4. Review the draft list (attached) and come up with contact details and additional names, by close Sunday. I want an audience of key business people and economic decision-makers. Get additional input from [REDACTED] team and UKTI Baghdad. All put into an Excel Spreadsheet (name/contact details/coming?). We will want to email an invitation out on Monday.

Many thanks,
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: VIP visit to Erbil

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil and the Department for International Development

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 19 January 2015 21:23

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: VIP visit to Erbil

Importance: High

[REDACTED]

Latest programme attached. Can I ask you to ensure your SoS's office is notified "for info" as soon as possible, explaining that during the visit (which is largely focused on prosperity objectives), the CG has requested that the DFID team provide a background briefing to the Mayor on the humanitarian situation, so he has a full appreciation of UK support and activity to date?

Thanks

Angus

HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq

[REDACTED]

Subject: visit of Mayor of London to Erbil 22-23 January / Erbil

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 19 January 2015 14:52

To: [REDACTED](Sensitive)

Subject: RE: visit of Mayor of London to Erbil 22-23 January / media

Fine, thanks. Happy with that.

Email 2 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED](Sensitive)

Sent: 19 January 2015 17:40

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: visit of Mayor of London to Erbil 22-23 January / media

Angus,

Apologies I missed that

- It should be background only and no additions to the MoL press release. If the sun really do push for an on the record line we can revisit but ideally it should be completely off record.
- Noted the walkabout on Friday not Thursday. Do let me know if you need any lines from us.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 3 BCG Erbil to FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 19 January 2015 13:59

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: visit of Mayor of London to Erbil 22-23 January / media

[REDACTED]

Thanks, helpful. A couple of points back to you:

- You agreed to a background briefing to the Sun but didn't say whether or not I could say anything on the record to the Sun or for the MoL press release. My 2nd bullet.
- 3rd bullet: the walkabout is the Friday (but the visit to the military on Thursday).

Angus

Email 4 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 15:58
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: visit of Mayor of London to Erbil 22-23 January / media

Angus,

Many thanks for your email. I have discussed with [REDACTED] and we are happy with your proposals as below. I have added a few comments in blue.

Grateful for any updates/changes as they come in. I will also need to flag to Number 10 Press Office, although you mentioned they were already aware. It would be useful to know who in Number 10 has seen?.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 5 – BCG Erbil to FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 16:05
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: visit of Mayor of London to Erbil 22-23 January / media

[REDACTED]

Good to speak. The programme has been sketched out below, all TBC. I've also put the probable press elements in, but I need to talk these through with [REDACTED].

As I see it the main media issues/curveballs are:

- Coverage of Mayor meeting UK troops – we will agree the parameters with PJHQ and want to limit this to a couple of international outlets only (not Kurdish). As you know, this coincides with the London Coalition meeting. Agree, would prefer limited coverage but ultimately PJHQ decision on whether this goes ahead. The Sun will of course cover.
- Mayor's office requests for HMA/CG contribution to (i) Sun coverage and (ii) Mayor of London press release. HMA will no longer be here for visit, just me. I suggest I do a background briefing to the Sun but anything on the record for the Sun or the press release is only (a) saying the visit being a boost for UK business, building on what we have achieved to date, (b) a general reference to this being alongside other UK support to Kurdistan Region and wider Iraq on the military, humanitarian, political fronts. But I go with your decision. Yes agree background briefing on Prosperity/UK Business.
- Anti-ISIL. As Mayor does walkabout, he might choose to express solidarity in fight against ISIL, given the Kurdish military effort plus car bomb here in November. I'll make sure his office has the lines. Yes agree, ideally we wouldn't want him to talk about it as the conference is on the same day but likely he will.

- Humanitarian. Possibility if the weather worsens in the next week, the plight of IDPs will be in the news. Or UK accused of prioritising prosperity over humanitarian. Will ensure his office has the lines, and he will also receive a background briefing from DFID. Our position is strong – already a significant donor. If required, we can say that our support to the Kurdistan Region economy underpins its stability at a difficult time. Yes agree.
- FAC report on Kurdistan Region. Would be useful to have early sight of the report, and get the lines to take asap (which I guess you'll have in advance of the 22/1 meeting anyway). I think any interest in that is more likely to be local (Kurdish) than wider. But be aware that FAC member/MP of Kurdish origin Nadhim Zahawi is in the Mayor's party and might say something himself, or encourage the Mayor to do so. I have sent over the embargo copy. [REDACTED] is working on lines and we will get them to you asap.

Thursday 22 January

- Visit to UK troops training Peshmerga [Subject to PJHQ approval, local-based international media e.g. Reuters but not Kurdish]
- Mayor of London talk with a select audience of businesspeople (Kurdish and UK), government advisors, young entrepreneurs followed by drinks reception. [Kurdish TV coverage, TBC]
- Meeting with the PM and selected Ministers [KRG has said they will not do a press conference, so just likely to be photos plus a KRG press release afterwards]
- Dinner with the PM

Friday 23 January

- Breakfast briefing on humanitarian situation by DFID team
- Call on Governor of Erbil and tour of Citadel [Kurdish TV coverage, TBC]
- Consul General-hosted lunch for Governors of Erbil/Sulemani/Duhok/Kirkuk and Mayor of Erbil [Consulate organising]
- Tour of Erbil International Airport [Kurdish TV doorstep, TBC]
- Depart

Participants

The Mayor of London's party will also include Sir Edward Lister (Deputy Mayor/Policy & Planning), [REDACTED] and Nadhim Zahawi MP.

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
 [REDACTED]

Subject: Boris' visit

Email exchange between, British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and British Embassy in Baghdad (BE Baghdad)

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 12:38
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boris' visit

I had a useful chat with [REDACTED] – see my email on the back of it. I need Press Office steer on a couple of things.
A

Email 2 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 15:27
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Boris' visit

Angus – many apologies, I was travelling with the Minister last week with very limited access to email. Trust you got everything you needed through [REDACTED] and others in my team

[REDACTED]

Email 3 FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 January 2015 14:55
To: Angus McKee
Subject: FW: Boris' visit

Angus,

I tried to call to discuss but think you might be away. Could you give me a call on [REDACTED] when you have a moment?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 4 – BCG Erbil to FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 14:02
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boris' visit

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

I really need a steer before your weekend, to assist with visit planning. I think one of you might have called earlier as I had a 'no number' missed call on my phone. When is a good time to speak?

Angus

Email 5 – BCG Erbil to FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 20:21
To: [REDACTED] ; [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee (Sensitive); Edward Oakden (Sensitive); Frank Baker (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Boris' visit

[REDACTED], [REDACTED] – To see the email below from our CG in Erbil and my highlight in the email beneath that re. the Mayor of London's forthcoming visit to Iraq. It might be best if you could touch base with Angus direct, though happy to facilitate if helpful.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

Email 6 - BCG Erbil to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 15 January 2015 17:16
To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Cc: Edward Oakden (Sensitive); Frank Baker (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Boris' visit

[REDACTED]

To see. Can you forward to Press Office, and I suggest I talk with them tomorrow? I can in due course talk [REDACTED] through the local (Kurdish) media issues, which are all manageable, but there are some significant questions below. As I've flagged up previously, the Mayor will view the UK trainers on 22 January (coinciding with the London meeting). In terms of local presence of international media, it should be limited at the moment as not many in town. Possibly not much more than [REDACTED] (print & TV), [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

Thanks
Angus

Email 7 - MOL to BE Baghdad, BCG Erbil and FCO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 15 January 2015 19:50

To: Frank Baker (Sensitive); Angus McKee (Sensitive); Edward Oakden (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]; Edward Lister

Subject: Boris' visit

Gentlemen

Just a quick note to say hi and thank you so much for facilitating everything around Boris' visit. He's very much looking forward to the opportunity to promote British business ties between London and the region, and to examine the work we are doing with the troops given the increasing threat to London.

I just wanted to ask a couple of questions if possible?

- I'm happy for Boris to engage with the local media, but can I get a flavour of who you want to invite and to which events? And as local media are being invited I assume there are no embargo issues around security as often employed previously on high profile visits elsewhere?
- As you know the Sun's political editor and former defence editor [REDACTED] is travelling with us, along with photographer [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] planning to file for both the Friday and Saturday paper and run a big interview the following Monday. I'd be delighted if either you Frank or Angus would bolster Boris' contribution – the Sun is very pro when it comes to British business and our involvement with troop training.
- [REDACTED]

Let me know what works.

Best as ever

[REDACTED]

Subject: visit to Erbil International Airport

Email exchanges between British Consulate General Erbil, British Embassy Baghdad and Erbil International Airport (EIA)

Email 1 – BE Baghdad to EIA

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 19 January 2015 12:51

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: visit to Erbil International Airport

Dear [REDACTED],

Further to the email below from Angus, I would like to introduce myself. May I take your number please? I look forward to meeting you on Wednesday.

Warm regards

[REDACTED]

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to EIA

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 19 January 2015 15:47

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: visit to Erbil International Airport

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for this positive reply! We are looking forward to the Mayor's visit as it will be important for encouraging interational business confidence in Kurdistan Region.

We met with KRG Protocol yesterday, and agreed – subject to your own approval – that we would visit the Airport 14.30-15.15 Thursday 22 January. We will arrive in several cars accompanied by KRG Protocol. The Mayor's party will include the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, and the Deputy Mayor Sir Edward Lister. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and I will accompany. There will be c.8 people.

I suggest that we meet at the front of the Terminal for a short tour of the airport (30 minutes max). The Mayor will enjoy hearing from you how the airport has expanded over the last few years, how it serves as the gateway to investment in KR, your plans for expansion, and (of course) how the UK has helped you become such a respected airport. Following that, KRG will arrange for [REDACTED] to be at the front of the airport for the Mayor to give a short interview.

If that sounds good in principle, I suggest that [REDACTED] and one of my security team visit you **10am Wednesday** to finalise the details. We also ask that there is no advance publicity of the Mayor's visit.

Many thanks – and looking forward to seeing you on Thursday!
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Email 3 EIA to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED [mailto:[REDACTED]]] **On Behalf Of** [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 15:28
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: visit to Erbil International Airport

Dear Mr Angus,

Thank you for the invitation last week, I had pleasure and honor to meet you closely. I would be more than happy to host the Mayer and take him for a tour around the airport.

Attached is a brief note on the airport and British involvement with us. If any additional information required please do not hesitate to ask me or our colleague [REDACTED], we will be ready to go through other details perhaps at later stage.

Please let me know if you need me to make airport security arrangement?

Best regards,
[REDACTED]

Email 4 BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 14:50
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: visit to Erbil International Airport

[REDACTED]: FYI at the moment. Assuming EIA say yes, I'll probably ask you to do the recce on Wednesday.

A

Email 5 – BCG Erbil to EIA

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 17:47
To: '[REDACTED]'
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: visit to Erbil International Airport

IN CONFIDENCE

Dear [REDACTED]

I enjoyed our lunchtime chat the other day. As I mentioned then, we have a delegation led by the Mayor of London visiting Erbil later this week. We would love the Mayor's party to be given a short tour of the airport to see the "gateway" to Kurdistan Region, hear about examples of British companies ([REDACTED], etc), and the potential for more business in years to come.

We anticipate this being a short tour of the main passenger terminal 14.30-15.10 Thursday 22 January. This would be followed by a short "doorstep" interview with the Mayor by [REDACTED] in front of the airport.

We have already discussed this with KRG Protocol ([REDACTED] and [REDACTED]) who are content with this. If you think this could work, I would appreciate:

- Confirmation ASAP that you are happy to host this, and give the mayor a short tour, and that you accept that there cannot be any advance publicity.
- A list of the leading UK companies who have served EIA to date, so that I can brief the Mayor in advance.
- We/DFR Protocol will contact [REDACTED] direct.

Nearer the time we will have a word with you or one of your colleagues to understand what the tour will involve (e.g. length of time; security including the question of our bodyguards), and give you a list of who will be attending.

Many thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: citadel

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil and a member of public (MOP)

Email 1 –BCG Erbil to MOP

From: Angus McKee
Sent: 19 January 2015 09:30
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: citadel

That's hugely useful, thanks. I think I asked before, but I assume you won't be in Erbil this week?

A

Email 2 – MOP to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 08:57
To: Angus McKee
Subject: RE: citadel

Dear Angus

Sorry you've had to chase me; I've been travelling. I hope that the attached doc is OK.

We are also interested in the big rehabilitation project in [REDACTED] for which the KRG has approved funds, but probably nothing much will happen there before Sinjar (and Mosul?) is taken from IS.

Thanks for your support; it is much appreciated.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

Email 3 –BCG Erbil to MOP

From: Angus Mckee
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: citadel
Date: Mon, 19 Jan 2015 05:15:06 +0000

[REDACTED]

I never heard back from you. However, if you could send me any background on your involvement in the Citadel to date, please do so today. We have a VIP visitor in town shortly and I want to be able to showcase past UK involvement (in the hope of encouraging more in future).

Thanks
Angus

Subject: Boris Johnson Visit

Email exchange between British Embassy Baghdad (BE Baghdad) and British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee
Sent: 19 January 2015 09:06
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boris Johnson visit

Sorry I couldn't reply yesterday. Overload!

There isn't a need for you to come up for the visit. With [REDACTED] here, we've enough cover. I said as much to Frank just now.

If you wanted to come up for political calls here before leaving post, there might be scope next week, if that would be useful?

Angus

Email 2 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 January 2015 11:36
To: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boris Johnson visit OFFICIAL

Many thanks [REDACTED].

Angus – grateful if you could just confirm either whether there is a need for me or not to accompany on the visit so I can sort things out as necessary.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

Email 3 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 January 2015 11:21
To: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Boris Johnson visit OFFICIAL

Hi,

With HMA not coming we do have availability without the need to booking an additional room.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 4 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 January 2015 11:13
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: Boris Johnson visit OFFICIAL

Thanks Angus.

I'm happy to be bumped off the Boris visit if there's no need for me to be there – the only thing is that CS had already booked the tickets. If you can confirm that you definitely don't need me for that so I can cancel the tickets.

I think coming up tomorrow – Weds will be tricky unfortunately, we're a bit light in political section with Frank, Belinda and [REDACTED] all out (or about to be out), and I'm having to do a lot of prep for the London conference. Is there anything I can do from this end to help?

[REDACTED]

Email 5 – From BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 11:05
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED];
Subject: Re: Boris Johnson visit

This would raise the costs as we need to book additional bedrooms on another floor. I'll need to check with [REDACTED].

But [REDACTED], while personally it would be great to see you here, in terms of the visit itself [REDACTED]/I could cover it. It'd be more useful if you could be up here tomorrow-Wed to assist with preparation, as [REDACTED] isn't back till Wed. Any chance of that?

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Email 6 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 07:56 AM

To: Angus McKee

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Boris Johnson visit

Angus,

Hope all is well with you.

We spoke briefly about this last week. HMA had asked me to go on the Boris Johnson visit as he was keen for someone from [REDACTED] to accompany. Just wanted to check whether this was alright?

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit

Email exchange between British Embassy in Baghdad (BE Baghdad) and Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil)

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 07:24
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Can you make it 11.10? There is a fire alarm test at 11 so I will be inaudible.

I'll be at my [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Email 2 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 05:20
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Thanks, I've made some calls:

- [REDACTED]: Spoke to [REDACTED] late last night. He's going to confirm the availability of him and the Chairman later today.
- [REDACTED]: Spoke to [REDACTED]. He'll aim to attend, but if he can't then the [REDACTED] will send a senior rep. He's expecting to receive the invitation in any case.
- [REDACTED]: Spoke to [REDACTED]. He's broken his foot and grounded in Dubai. But when he receives the invitation then he'll appoint a suitable company representative to attend in his place.
- [REDACTED]: Spoke to [REDACTED]. He's committed to being in Muscat on Thursday, but again will look to send a rep in his place once he receives an invitation.
- [REDACTED]: We should invite them, tried to call [REDACTED]but his cell is switched off. Send the invite to [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]: Tried calling [REDACTED], Partner, but couldn't connect. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email 3 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 21:34
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

I'll call at 11.00

F

Email 4 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 18:56
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

I'm working from [REDACTED] all morning tomorrow (to rest my voice; finish Mayor briefing; draft 2 speeches) so any time between 9.00 and 13.00 works. Give me a rough idea when, so I'm near the phone.

For best line, phone [REDACTED]:
[REDACTED]

Fallback, my mobile:
[REDACTED]

Email 5 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 18:14
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Angus,

Apologies I have a meeting now at 6.30 then a dinner at 7. Let's aim for tomorrow. What time would be best?

F

Email 6 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 17:57
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: Mayor of London visit

For best line, phone [REDACTED]:
[REDACTED]

Fallback, my mobile:
[REDACTED]

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
Tel. [REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 7 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 16:58
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Plus if you know anyone senior in [REDACTED]?

Email 8 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 January 2015 16:56
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]**Subject:** RE: Mayor of London visit

Thanks Angus.

I'll make the calls. In fact on [REDACTED] I thought that [REDACTED] had already moved on but he's staying until March, so I will call him too.

Fair point on the [REDACTED] is back we should analyse the UK value/market share of their O&G supply chains in Kurdistan and see whether we can increase them, as we're doing for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

Email 9 –BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 16:51
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Thanks for this.

Background for visit was KRG PM inviting MoL on the back of a meeting they had in London last May. I was unsighted until 3 weeks ago myself, it was cooked up by Nadhim Zahawi.

On the reception, exact time TBC but will be in central Erbil approx 17.30-19.00 Thurs 22/1. Mention it to [REDACTED], but you must insist that it is not shared further. Do explain that this will be a select event for c.50 Kurdish/UK business leaders, and having [REDACTED] (among others) in the room is a way of us showing that HMG is backing them.

Do similar with [REDACTED], and why not the [REDACTED]too? The event will offer about 45 minutes of mixing, and planned properly we should be doing some match-making in this time.

I'm including [REDACTED]on the basis that they are key buyers for UK goods and services.

Angus

Email 10 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 12:06
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Angus,

Many thanks, I've had a look at this. Although the visit has not been driven by UKTI (I'm unsighted on the background), there will be clear opportunities for the Lord Mayor to raise the profile of UK plc in the KR.

- **EIA:** ok, good showpiece.
- **London Seminar/drinks reception:** The draft list looks fine to me, but this is where it would have been handy to have [REDACTED] input if it wasn't for the fact that she's sick. Nevertheless, good to see [REDACTED]. Ditto [REDACTED], shame that [REDACTED]has moved on as he could have explained the work the bank is doing to help Iraq secure a sovereign credit rating to potentially borrow on the international markets. [REDACTED]: May I engage with [REDACTED] now to ensure that both he and the Chairman can make it? [REDACTED]: Would you like to me speak to [REDACTED] to ensure his attendance, as this is a key company. Incidentally, do we really want [REDACTED]on the guest list? In terms of the Lord Mayor's pitch, I agree with you, along the lines of what London has to offer not least in the Financial & Professional Services sector (in case you're not aware via [REDACTED], we both met the KRG London office last month to discuss the idea of delivering a KRG-UK Financial Services event in London in May through TheCityUK and the City of London).
- **PM/Cabinet dinner:** Agreed that [REDACTED] should be a major focus and other infrastructure ([REDACTED]) opportunities along with [REDACTED].
- **BBGK meeting:** Do we have a draft guest list in mind? The usual?

Should all come together nicely. Please let me know if there is anything my Baghdad team and do from this end in advance.

[REDACTED]

Email 11 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 09:46 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Will do. Can you let me have number please.

F

Email 12 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 10:51
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: Mayor of London visit

CLASSIFICATION:

Yes, my fault, after 10 mins I thought maybe I should call you & we overlapped. Best if we say 6.45 if that's ok.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
Tel. [REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 13 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 06:58 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Angus,

I tried you but you were busy. I have to do an all staff now. I suggest we aim to speak late afternoon at around 18.30 when you are at [REDACTED]?

Frank
[REDACTED]

Email 14 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 08:51
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: Mayor of London visit

Sure. I'm on [REDACTED], or I'll ring you. Any time before 10am when we have the Erbil staff meeting.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
Tel. [REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 15 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: Sunday, January 18, 2015 05:29 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Shall we do FTN after the morning meeting?

F

Email 16 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 07:45
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Frank.

I'm not in the [REDACTED] much today because of a protracted EU HOMs meeting, then meeting DFR re. the visit, then back to the [REDACTED]. I am available on FTN immediately before/after the morning VTC (9.00, or 9.45). Otherwise it will have to be on mobiles between 15.30 and 18.00.

Angus

Email 17 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: 17 January 2015 19:25
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Are you around for a quick chat?

F

Email 18 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 17 January 2015 18:11
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Thanks, Belinda told me. Pity, as you'd add extra punch, and a Boris visit will be fascinating anyhow... albeit me walking a political tightrope.

Angus

Email 19 –BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: 17 January 2015 16:59
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit

Angus,

I'll take a look but a heads up to say I'm not going to be able to make it. I have to go to London with Abadi for the meeting with the PM and the conference.

I'll call tomorrow to talk things through – I'm off to see Roche and then the electricity minister now.

Frank

Frank Baker | Ambassador | British Embassy Baghdad | International Zone | Iraq
[REDACTED]

Email 20 – BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 17 January 2015 16:49
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Subject: FW: Mayor of London visit

Frank

For you to see the latest programme. Tomorrow I will work on a narrative for the Mayor, particularly for the events below. I'll show you a draft, but if you had any early thoughts on how he should play the meeting/dinner with Nechirvan and KRG Ministers, especially on the Financial sector, do let me know.

We're a bit exposed locally as most of the UKTI are away, but am getting back-up from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Angus

Email 21 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 17 January 2015 16:46
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Mayor of London visit

[REDACTED]

I attach a draft programme, for you to get a sense of. Because, on both days, we will have to start earlier than anticipated (to fit in the training before midday, and to catch the Governor before prayer time) there is a bit of fat in the programme, but I cannot think of any additional events to include.

The showpiece sessions from a UKTI perspective are as follows, and I'd really appreciate some ideas from you on each, even if just in the form of bullet points. I'll need something by close Sunday so I can turn it into something fit for the Mayor's office on Monday.

Tour of Erbil International Airport, Thursday

This will give MoL a chance to hear about the airport as a gateway to Erbil, its history and expansion plans, and role of UK companies to date. I think I have enough material here to work on.

Talk to audience of leading businesspeople and economic policymakers, Thursday

Aiming for c. 60 people. Draft list attached. [REDACTED] will lead on this but will welcome any additional inputs. [REDACTED] will need to deliver quickly.

Would welcome your view on how Mayor should pitch this. I'm thinking along the lines of a talk on what London and wider UK offers, followed by Q&A. Followed by (soft) drinks reception to allow for mixing and networking. Beyond the MoL himself we will want to get British businesses access to senior decision-makers.

Meeting/dinner with KRG, Thursday

An opportunity to pitch specific UK proposals (e.g. [REDACTED]) with KRG. Plus what London offers KRG, majoring on financial sector.

Meeting with Governor of Erbil/lunch with governorate representatives, Friday

An opportunity to focus on infrastructure development, plus security.

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: MOL visit

Email exchange between officials at the British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 19 January 2015 06:43
To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: MoL visit – [REDACTED]

Sure

Email 2 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2015 09:38
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: MoL visit - [REDACTED]

Angus – Would it be courteous for me to forward this programme to the OSM just as a heads up? I have reviewed the timings and with the aid of protocol they are tight but achievable.

Best Regards
[REDACTED]

Email 3 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 18 January 2015 16:41
To: [REDACTED];
Subject: MoL visit - OFFICIAL

Not for forwarding outside HMG

Guys

I've updated the programme with timings. Do you mind having a look and seeing if it's workable?

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

Email exchanges between Mayor of London's Office (MO), FCO London and British Embassy Erbil

Email 1

From: Angus McKee
Sent: 18 January 2015 04:36
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

[REDACTED] is the only person coming up from Baghdad. Arriving on Wed morning (Embassy Air).
Departure TBC.

Email 2

From: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 17:04
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

HMA will definitely be going to London next week, not/not Erbil.

[REDACTED]

Email 3

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 13:06
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Mayor of London visit 22-23

FYI

Email 4

From: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 13:49
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Angus McKee (Sensitive); (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

[REDACTED],

I saw HMA over brunch and it now looks like he'll be travelling to London, not Erbil. [REDACTED] will confirm when tickets are booked but it looks unlikely he'll be heading north next week.

[REDACTED]

Email 5

From: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 11:46
To: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED] (Sensitive); Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

Belinda

Totally agree, [REDACTED]. If the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email 6

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 08:51
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];
Subject: FW: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – [REDACTED]’s looking to clear this, so will have a word with you.

Email 7

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 08:32
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January - [REDACTED]

We spoke. On current plans, HMA and PPO will come on Wednesday, but PPO will leave later the same day. [REDACTED].

Possible plan B: check with [REDACTED] how a 15th person could be accommodated, get [REDACTED]’s [REDACTED] and then – if you/[REDACTED]/[REDACTED] think it worthwhile, send an email to Edward Oakden cc’d to ESD.

Email 8

From: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive)
Sent: 15 January 2015 19:42
To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive); [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED] Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

Appreciate I’m a little behind the curve on this, but would it be easier for me to ask [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

Email 9

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 15 January 2015 16:34
To: [REDACTED];
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January – [REDACTED]

HMA (& PPO) will arrive on Embassy Air on Wed 21 Jan. On current plans, PPO will leave the same day.

HMA will depart on Iraqi Airways flight on Saturday 24 January. Flight IA908 departing at 19:00. [REDACTED]. Grateful if this can be arranged or an alternative plan devised with [REDACTED]'s consent, and within the headcount.

Thanks
Angus

Email 10

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 14:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

[REDACTED]

Please note you will have to send one of your guys down with HMA on this flight. He can return on either on Monday via Embassy Air or Iraqi Airways on Sunday.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 11

From: [REDACTED] (London)
Sent: 15 January 2015 13:59
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

Angus,

HMA is booked on an Iraqi Airways flight on Saturday 24 January. Flight IA908 departing at 19:00.

[REDACTED]

Email 12

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 15 January 2015 12:31
To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Cc: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit 22-23

[REDACTED] – OK, we'll see how we can make it work.
[REDACTED] – when and how does HMA plan to leave Erbil on Saturday?

Email 13 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 12:28
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January

Angus

[REDACTED]. I'm happy for [REDACTED] (his [REDACTED]) to fly to Erbil and return same day but a member of your [REDACTED] would have to cover his return to Baghdad journey. Just in case of diversion or incident.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 14

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2015 09:01 AM
To: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Mayor of London visit 22-23 January – [REDACTED]

Belinda, [REDACTED],

The Mayor of London will visit Erbil from morning of 22 Jan to morning of 24 Jan. The Mayor's party will be 4 people and HMA/[REDACTED] /PPO (=3) plan to come from Baghdad. However this takes us one above our platform cap of 14.

Is it possible for the PPO either not to come, or to come with HMA on Wed 21/1 but then leave the same day, [REDACTED] Director/MENA suggested, if necessary, that [REDACTED] doesn't come but given the prosperity focus he is integral to the visit.

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Kurdistan itinerary

Email exchanges between Mayor of London's Office (MO), FCO London and British Consulate Erbil

Email 1 MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 18 January 2015 09:13

To: Angus McKee

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kurdistan itinerary

Hello Angus,

Hope you're well [REDACTED]. Thank you again for all the briefing help last week.

Per our conversation earlier this week, please see attached a draft itinerary for this week's visit and a draft briefing template. He will need a briefing per appointment. We try to keep them to two sides, where possible (some are necessarily longer). Can you / your team prepare the briefings or will you be sending info to me?

Some more questions / things to note:

- Would it be possible for you / colleagues to share an update on the itinerary by tomorrow morning? Happy to do a call tomorrow morning if that helps.
- Meeting British troops: could you / MoD colleagues provide an overview of how the visit will work by tomorrow (who will he meet, what will he do, where will it happen, etc)? it's just so people here can be aware and come back if any questions.
- Briefing for Peshmerga visit: he will need an idea of the numbers of British troops/support staff involved in Erbil, who they are, how long they are there, aims and objectives, who are they training, what is the working relationship, what other support is MoD / HMG providing for Peshmerga, and some details on the air operation (perhaps a few sentences and more info in person?). Is this possible?
- Could you confirm how long the Mayor is asked to speak for on Thursday evening? I'm assuming it's brief remarks (3-4 mins) and not a 10 minute speech.
- Thursday pm downtime: I've put this in as a placeholder. If the dinner flows straight after the reception it would be good to give him that time so as to freshen up and get his remarks sorted. If there is time between the reception and dinner, it would still be good to give him 30 mins to work on his remarks.
- Is the British business group involved? I think yes but I wanted to check as either during/after the visit, we will want to be able to say (publicly) that the Mayor met the Head of the BBG (or whomever most senior).
- Will the citadel tour be guided? By who? Same at the airport, who will he be meeting?
- What currency is best for our team to carry with (just in case)? US dollars?

Thanks and happy to speak tomorrow
[REDACTED]

Email 2 BCG Erbil to MO and FCO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 13 January 2015 08:31
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan

[REDACTED]

Let's have a chat later. All of this can be worked through easily, and the earlier arrival on Thursday helps us even more.

I'm most easily available between 12.00 and 14.30.

Angus

Email 3 MO to Erbil

Good evening Angus – thanks very much for the note below, and all the ideas.

I'm copying this to [REDACTED], who will be joining the Mayor and in case he would like to comment on the media aspects.

Programme: in principle we're happy with the ideas below and look forward to it all coming together, thank you for trying to get this to reflect discussions to date, much appreciated. However, we have some questions and requests to rejig things a little. If it would help I'd be happy to do a call tomorrow or once you've had a chance to digest.

- Given the practicalities of flights and the Mayor's diary, the KRG have very kindly offered a private plan which Nadhim is sorting with them. It leaves at 1030 from Farnborough and would get to Erbil approx. 0300 on Thursday 22nd. The delegation would all leave on Saturday morning, perhaps 0900 (tbc).
- With this in mind, could the programme on Thursday start at 12noon?
- It's important for the Mayor to see the training of the Peshmerga and we didn't realise that training doesn't happen on Fridays. Could the visit to observe them training happen on the Thursday? Perhaps the call at the airport could happen on the Friday? Is there anything we can provide you to enable access for [REDACTED] from The Sun and [REDACTED] (photographer)?
- Approximately how many media do you think might attend a press conference and what would be the key msgs?
- Roughly what time does it get dark at the moment / next week?
- Would it be possible to start slightly later on Friday, perhaps mid-morning (0930 / 1000) with the UK business reps?
- In general it's best to avoid more than 1 speech a day; so please don't add anymore on Thursday and I can't see the need for one on Friday. There will need to be down time before dinner on Thursday, at least an hour if not more. Or depending on timings, 60 mins for down time and speech prep before the talk to 50 business people and then dinner to follow immediately afterwards could work.

Briefing / practical arrangements

- I will need to give Private Office the Mayor's briefing pack by next Tuesday close. We are happy to be guided by you and your team on key msgs/is[REDACTED]s to raise in each appointment. If I share a template, could you start populating? Or send me the content directly?
- Specifically, a clear narrative on why Kurdistan / Iraq is important to London / UK business interests is essential. I have the two pager from UKTI in Baghdad (attached). Are there stats on the potential value of business that UK firms are pitching for in relation to the KRG "2020 Vision Plan"? Do you have a summary/copy of their Vision Plan?
- We will need a cultural do's and don'ts's brief – everything from whether to shake hands with women to any prickly is [REDACTED]s to avoid. Similarly, heads-up and lines to take on any visa or tax is[REDACTED]s that affect Kurds or Iraqis coming to do business or visit London are welcome.
- It would be best if Frank and/or you could brief him in the car on any particular is [REDACTED]s before each call; this worked well when we were in Kuwait.
- What is the weather like / do they need to bring particularly warm clothes?
- Gifts: [REDACTED] and I discussed having a stash of London books or toy models of the New Bus for London. Nearer the time I'll need your view on how many they should take.

Many thanks again and do feel free to come back with any questions / is [REDACTED]s,
[REDACTED]

Email 4 BCG Erbil to MOL and FCO

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 12 January 2015 14:17

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kurdistan

[REDACTED]

The FCO team in London will be replying to you/Sir Edward on the duty of care question and other practical is [REDACTED]s, I think later today.

On the programme side, I think Nadhim and I see eye-to-eye, and he agreed with what I've sketched out. Inevitably the final version will look a little different, but I propose something along the following lines, with possible media opportunities in **green**.

Thursday 22/1

Arrive Erbil 13.15; transfer to hotel; freshen up and short briefing with Ambassador/Consul General; programme starts from 14.30.

1. Meeting with PM Nechirvan & Cabinet – opportunity for good, practical discussion on how the City and UK Government/companies can assist KRG with reform plans
2. **TBC – press conference with PM Nechirvan**
3. Call on Erbil International Airport – showcasing British expertise (design by UK architects, various other UK companies have stake); **option of a TV "doorstep"**
4. Mayor hosted by DPM Qubad for a talk to a select audience of c.50 UK and Kurdish businesspeople, young entrepreneurs, KRG reformists, etc, followed by drinks reception, mix & meet – any suggestion for the theme – e.g. "What London can offer" **could be televised**
5. Dinner with PM Nechirvan

Friday 23/1

All day.

1. "Breakfast" meeting with UK businesses

2. Call on Governor of Erbil (cities/anti-ISIL message)
3. Walkabout: citadel, bazaar, tea-room; **option of TV "doorstep"**
4. Visit to UK troops doing training (though training itself not taking place on a Friday) **awaiting MOD steer on media coverage**
5. Lunch with Governors of Erbil, Sulemani, Duhok provinces, plus Mayor of Erbil – informal discussion on challenges of cities, infrastructure, security.
6. **Option of a print interview with Kurdish newspaper.**
7. Evening options, grateful for your steer ... complete downtime / private dinner with DPM (perhaps just Ambassador, Mayor, Deputy Mayor?) / attendance at Caledonian Society's Burns Supper / early night...

Saturday 24/1

04.30 Royal Jordanian flight to Amman/London.

More generally, on media: the Kurdish media is very energetic, with a number of TV stations, so any of the above opportunities will be taken up enthusiastically and serve us locally by raising UK profile here.

International media presence is very mixed – only [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have a permanent presence, with other UK print/TV coming in and out depending on the story. I think it unlikely that anyone from [REDACTED] will be in town next week, and it has hard to tell if any UK print journalists will be out at this time. I think [REDACTED] can do pooled TV interviews.

Beyond all this, it would be useful to have a steer on how the Mayor does visits – need for private time, dietary requirements, pet hates we should try to avoid, etc.

Thanks

Angus

Email 3 BGG Erbil to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 January 2015 13:27

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Angus McKee, [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Kurdistan

Importance: High

[REDACTED],

To see below, as I think you've got a meeting with [REDACTED] shortly.

[REDACTED]

Email 4 MO to Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 January 2015 16:21

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Hello Angus, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in writing, we've had a couple of curve balls that I've been trying to work through. Please see below an update and some questions (my apologies for the length of the note!).

1. Duty of Care

As mentioned the KRG is covering the costs for the visits, for the Mayor and the team, and are keen to provide protocol, logistical and security assistance. Is it possible for the FCO duty of care arrangements to work hand-in-glove with the KRG security arrangements? As I'm sure you can imagine we want to avoid any kind of appearance of a snub to the KRG, so it would be brilliant if the respective parties can coordinate accordingly. The Mayor is keen for this to happen, and Nadhim Zahawi suggested that this could be fixed per his conversation with the Ambassador (last week I think). Please could you advise so that we can then put the formal request to Edward Oakden.

Forgive my ignorance, does DoC mean travelling with armed escorts and armoured vehicles?

The Mayor is keen to see the citadel on the Friday and may well want to include some time in a bazaar / do some shopping, which may involve some flexibility and we hope can be accommodated.

Nadhim advised that the PM's office will want to host the group at the [REDACTED], which I believe is next door to the [REDACTED].

2. Programme

It's likely we will get to Erbil approx. 1315 on Thursday 22nd on the Royal Jordanian flight from Amman. On this basis Nadhim Zahawi has recommended a programme as below:

- Thursday: meetings with the PM (likely to be joined by other Ministers), President, roundtable / discussion with British business people ([REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were mentioned) in Erbil (under the British Business Group umbrella?), ending with an official dinner hosted by the PM.
- Friday: breakfast with the British teams training the Peshmerga, possibly some media time, and then rest of the afternoon to be sightseeing. He likes the idea of the citadel and staying in the city.
- Saturday: all to depart Erbil on 0430 Royal Jordanian flight to Amman and then on to London.

Nadhim indicated he would speak with Angus on this basis. Could you advise if this has happened please? If not I can chivvy him along.

When the Mayor met the PM of KRG in May the conversation focussed on London as a financial hub and how Erbil could take lessons from London's experiences. This is something that could be drawn out more. Welcome thoughts on how best to do this within the confines of Thursday and Friday?

I note the growing presence of UK business representation in Erbil. Would such an audience want to hear from the Mayor? Given the security and practical constraints, are drinks receptions the 'done thing' in Erbil? They can be

Similarly are there potential Kurdish investors who might be looking to London as an investment destination? If yes, would they want to hear from the Mayor and what might be the best format for this? For example, we've done an 'afternoon tea', evening receptions and or 1-to-1 calls in other markets – all of which the Mayor is comfortable with.

Who do I need to liaise with to arrange for the Mayor to visit those who are training the Peshmerga for the Friday morning? Welcome advice.

3. Delegation and visas

- Mayor's office: Mayor Boris Johnson, Sir Edward Lister (Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor, Policy and Planning), [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] (International Relations, Mayor's Office)
- HoC: Nadhim Zahawi, MP
- Press: [REDACTED] (photographer) and [REDACTED] (Political Editor, The Sun)

Total 8 people

4. Media

All will be travelling with British passports so I think this means we can get visas on arrival. With the journalists, are there any is[REDACTED]s if they accompany? I think they've both been to Iraq before. Do they need to pre-apply for specific visas? Submit equipment information in advance?

Do you know which other international media are likely to be in Erbil at the time? Similarly are there Kurdish media that would be worthwhile the Mayor speaking to? I can't guarantee anything but welcome ideas that Will could consider.

I hope this helps. Happy to discuss by phone if easier or to keep in touch by email.

Thanks very much

[REDACTED]

Email 5 BCG Erbil to FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 January 2015 09:50
To: [REDACTED] Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Thanks [REDACTED],

Our platform is able to host fourteen individuals under our Duty of Care. Anything above this would require an exemption to be signed off by Edward Oakden. On the dates in question we will have 8 UKB resident staff in Erbil. We are expecting 3 UKB (HMA, Head of UKTI, and a close protection officer) to travel up from Baghdad. Therefore the maximum delegation size we could accept under our duty of care would be 3 people. This is also the maximum amount of rooms available on the [REDACTED].

If we had to accept a larger delegation we might suggest that part of the delegation (e.g. these prospective journalists) would not be under our duty of care. This would mean that they would not stay [REDACTED] and be under our security team's protection (but they could still stay in the [REDACTED]). They would not travel in our vehicles but we anticipate that there would be plenty of room in accompanying KRG vehicles and the KRG would take responsibility for their protection. In the event of an emergency we would only be responsible for those under our DoC, including any need for evacuation.

[REDACTED] asked if those under our DoC would still need travel insurance. I don't know the answer to this, but I assume that those under our DoC would receive the [REDACTED] treatment as staff in an emergency i.e. we would take care of medical treatment and evacuation if necessary. Perhaps someone in MENA knows for sure? Having said that, I assume we should advise them to have travel insurance in any case, to cover things like personal belongings.

Email 6 – BCG Erbil to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 January 2015 09:50
To: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive);; Belinda Lewis (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

Thanks [REDACTED],

Our platform is able to host fourteen individuals under our Duty of Care. Anything above this would require an exemption to be signed off by Edward Oakden. On the dates in question we will have 8 UKB resident staff in Erbil. We are expecting 3 UKB (HMA, Head of UKTI, and a close protection officer) to travel up from Baghdad. Therefore the maximum delegation size we could accept under our duty of care would be 3 people. This is also the maximum amount of rooms available on the [REDACTED].

If we had to accept a larger delegation we might suggest that part of the delegation (e.g. these prospective journalists) would not be under our duty of care. This would mean that they would not stay [REDACTED] and be under our security team's protection (but they could still stay in the [REDACTED]). They would not travel in our vehicles but we anticipate that there would be plenty of room in accompanying KRG vehicles and the KRG would take responsibility for their protection. In the event of an emergency we would only be responsible for those under our DoC, including any need for evacuation.

Dharmina asked if those under our DoC would still need travel insurance. I don't know the answer to this, but I assume that those under our DoC would receive the same treatment as staff in an emergency i.e. we would take care of medical treatment and evacuation if necessary. Perhaps someone in MENA knows for

sure? Having said that, I assume we should advise them to have travel insurance in any case, to cover things like personal belongings.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email 7 – FCO to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 January 2015 11:55

To: Angus McKee ; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Angus, [REDACTED],

[REDACTED] has now spoken to No.10.

They're content for the visit to go ahead, though do have a number of caveats which we can discuss separately.

I'm meeting with the Mayor's Office later today to discuss:

1. Dates – we'd still like to push these back if possible. Worth noting it's Davos at that point so it may be that the Mayor or Nechirvan have to look at alternatives anyway.
2. SAFE – I will be looking to arrange a VIP briefing for the delegation though the Mayor's Office will have to fund this.
3. Duty of Care arrangements – I'm going to use this as a lever to try and get them to reduce the size of the delegation. Grateful if you can suggest a maximum by my meeting at 1500.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 8 – FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 January 2015 13:09

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Angus, [REDACTED],

For info, Edward wants us to clear this through No.10 before we go any further as he thinks it may get shut down for political reasons.

Hopefully we'll have a firm green or red light by tomorrow.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 9 – BCG Erbil to FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 05 January 2015 11:00

To: [REDACTED];

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Kurdistan OFFICIAL SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE [REDACTED],

To see (highlight) that the Mayor's office plans to write to Edward Oakden today/tomorrow. You'll need to drill down into who/how many are coming – the numbers seem to be creeping up, and include by the sound of it journalists. [REDACTED], I want us to think carefully about what we take on. A hybrid option – we have Mayor and one of his staff under our DoC, but not others – might be preferable.

[REDACTED] will lead on this at the Erbil end.

Angus

Email 10 – MO to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 January 2015 13:35

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Thanks very much [REDACTED].

Dear Angus, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] – good to meet you all and looking forward to working with you. Appreciate you're waiting to hear from us about Duty of Care and writing to Edward. In the meantime, I'd welcome advice on whether if we travel under FCO Duty of Care does FCO travel / medical insurance cover us or do we still need our own? Checking in case I need colleagues to speak to our provider. I am hoping Edward Lister can write to Edward Oakden today / tomorrow morning.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 11 – BCG Erbil to MO and BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee

Sent: 05 January 2015 09:11

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kurdistan

[REDACTED]

Good to hear from you. We're looking forward to this visit, albeit acknowledging we still need to resolve the duty of care question before we can get on with the programme – the sooner we can establish this the better. I understand that you will be submitting a request to Edward Oakden.

As [REDACTED] is now on his compulsory breather break, [REDACTED] is acting Deputy CG and will lead on this visit. I have copied him in, and he will get back to you on your questions.

Regards,

Angus

Angus McKee

HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq

British Consulate General, [REDACTED]

Email 12 – BE Baghdad to MO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2015 11:51
To: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive);
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Hi [REDACTED],
[REDACTED]'s on breather break at the moment so I've copied in Angus, CG, and [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
I asked for UKTI's briefing for today so I'll send that through shortly. I'll leave DoC and press for Angus and [REDACTED] to respond on.
[REDACTED]

Email 13 – MO to BE Baghdad and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2015 11:07
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Kurdistan
Morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for the advice about the programme. It's very good of the Ambassador to make himself available for this visit. We've got a call between some of the Mayor's senior Advisers and Nadhim Zahawi this afternoon to get our ducks in a row (so to speak) and will be in touch afterwards to update.

Quick ques: if we travel under FCO Duty of Care does FCO travel / medical insurance cover us or do we still need our own? Checking in case I need colleagues to speak to our provider.

Would it be via Edward Oakden's team that the off-site training is organised? Is it mandatory for everyone? There is potential that we have 1-2 journalists with us, hence asking (I assume yes but just checking).

Also it would be useful for UKTI colleagues to send their key priorities / trade strategy doc so we can start familiarising. Happy to discuss this with them further if that helps.

Similarly please could your media team share names / types of international media likely to be based in Erbil at the time of the visit. An estimate is fine.

Thanks again
[REDACTED]

Email 14 – BE Baghdad to MOL and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 02, 2015 09:42 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Hi [REDACTED] and happy new year!

[REDACTED] may not be on blackberry (Friday's the weekend here). However, from my perspective, [REDACTED] liaising with the PM's office/MFA Protocol and Nadim sounds sensible. I don't think we should be entirely beholden to the KRG though if there are additional meetings the Mayor is keen to hold and can only be done on the Thursday.

Happy to touch base on Monday if useful, but unless there are any key logistical is[REDACTED]s it might be worth waiting until we've got a skeleton programme.

I spoke to the Ambassador on Weds night and he's very much looking forward to the visit. He'll travel to Erbil to accompany the Mayor.

All the best,
[REDACTED]

Email 15 – MO to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 02 January 2015 12:24

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Kurdistan

Hello and a happy new year to you both.

I trust this note finds you well. Thank you again for your advice on the call the other day.

The KRG is covering the costs of the flights at least and will want the Mayor to do particular meetings/events as part of his programme. In effect it may be that the Mayor needs to do the programme that they intend - at least for the Govt meetings / events on the Thurs. In our minds this means [REDACTED] / his team liaising closely with the PM's office (or whichever dept is leading). Plus we've already recommended Mr Zahawi speaks to [REDACTED] as soon as he can re: his ideas for the programme, so this should help with coordination.

Does this kind of arrangement work for you? Pls do advise if any potential pitfalls etc that might arise. I would be happy to do a quick call on Monday if easier to discuss.

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 16 – MO to BE Baghdad and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, December 29, 2014 10:32 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Kurdistan

Hi [REDACTED], [REDACTED],

The dial-in details for our call at 1pm UK-time are:

Number : [REDACTED]

Participants pass code: [REDACTED]

Let me know if you have any trouble dialling in, otherwise we look forward to speak to you all then.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Mayor's Office, London

Email 17 – BE Baghdad to MO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 December 2014 15:51
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan

[REDACTED],
[REDACTED] and I work together closely so we could both join the [REDACTED]e call. I have 1300 UK time in my diary for tomorrow – can we all go for that slot?
[REDACTED]

Email 18 – MO to BE Baghdad and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 December 2014 11:58
To: [REDACTED](Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (Sensitive); Edward Lister
Subject: Re: Kurdistan

[REDACTED]

Many thanks for your email and for agreeing to a call.

Could I suggest 11am UK-time tomorrow, Monday 29th? If that works, I'll setup a conference call facility and send you the dial in details tomorrow morning.

[REDACTED]

Email 19 – BCG Erbil to MO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, December 28, 2014 03:44 AM
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Edward Lister
Subject: RE: Kurdistan

[REDACTED], [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] has forwarded on to me the message from Sir Edward Lister regarding a possible visit by the Mayor to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) next month.
I am available for a call with you tomorrow (29th) to discuss the logistical, security and political elements of the proposed visit. If this would be convenient for you then grateful if you could propose a time (we are 3 hours ahead of London) and let me have dial-in details. I note from Sir Edward's message to HMA that one of the proposed objectives for the Mayor's visit is a morale boosting call on UK military personnel currently deployed to the KRI. Given this I would suggest that [REDACTED], also joins in the telecon.
I look forward to speaking with you tomorrow.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | British Consulate General Erbil

Email 20 – MO to BE Baghdad and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 December 2014 21:20
To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive); Edward Lister; [REDACTED] (Sensitive); [REDACTED](Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Kurdistan
Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks very much for forwarding the email on to further relevant people.

[REDACTED] and I are very happy to take part in a call to discuss if/how we could play a part in supporting London/UK business in the South.

I should flag now that the time we have available for this visit is limited so I don't think travelling beyond the Kurdistan region is feasible on this occasion, if that is what would be required.

However, we'd still very much welcome a call/briefing if you have availability, and are free pretty much all day on Monday 29th if that date works for you?

Best,
[REDACTED]

Email 21 BE Baghdad to MO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 26, 2014 05:54 PM
To: Edward Lister;
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Kurdistan

Dear Sir Edward,

I've copied in [REDACTED], Ag Consul General in Erbil, so he can contact [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to discuss this further.

I'd be keen to know if there's appetite to explore opportunities with the Government of Iraq as well as the KRG. There are some significant reconstruction programmes coming up in the south that could be worth briefing your team on too. I'd be grateful if [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] could advise me on this and we can fix up a call with Baghdad.

Best wishes,
[REDACTED]
Charge d'affaires / Deputy Head of Mission

Email 22 – MO to BE Baghdad

From: Edward Lister

Sent: Friday, December 26, 2014 02:46 PM

To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Kurdistan

Redirecting this email.

Ed

Email 23 – MO to BE Baghdad

From: Edward Lister

Sent: Friday, December 26, 2014 02:33 PM GMT Standard Time

To: 'frank.baker'

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: Kurdistan

Dear Frank,

The Mayor has been invited to Erbil by Prime Minister Nechirvan Barzani in order to develop relations between London, Erbil and the Kurdistan Regional Government. This follows a meeting they held in May this year, which involved discussion about how London can support the KRG, and at which the PM extended the invitation to the Mayor.

The Mayor is very keen to do this, and we are therefore looking to visit Erbil on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd January 2015. The visit would be used to promote London's expertise in the areas of urban development, developing a financial services hub and investment in infrastructure, as well as involve a morale boosting call on British troops.

Naturally, I am keen to seek your advice on logistics, security and the political situation at your earliest convenience. I am on leave until 9 Jan, but picking up emails and phone messages but I would be hugely grateful if your team could find time to speak to both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who are coordinating efforts within the Mayor's office. They are checking emails throughout the Christmas and New Year period and can do a call on Monday 29th December, if that day is convenient for you.

Best regards,

Sir Edward Lister

Subject: Bespoke VIP Safe Training

Email exchange between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Department for Transport and British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 – BCG to DFT and FCO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 18 January 2015 04:34

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Erbil International Airport

Dear [REDACTED]

I thought it worth updating you and DFT colleagues on the view from Erbil following the uncertainties of the last few months.

2015 is not going to be an easy year for Iraq, but all things considered, we and the Kurdistan Regional Government are entering it in a position unanticipated only 6 months ago. A new Iraqi government led by PM Abadi, with Kurdish participation, has been formed. An interim GoI/KRG deal has been reached on the budget/oil sales, which – if things go to plan – will be codified in the 2015 GoI Budget Law. [REDACTED].

Given all this, we are starting to see some signs of growing business confidence after the 2014 slump. This is contingent largely on economic recovery (which requires the deal with Baghdad to hold, and if not explicit at least implicit Baghdad acceptance of additional Kurdish oil exports) and the security situation (as above). Certainly at the Kurdistan Oil & Gas Conference in London in December, oil companies were glass-half-full. Personally, I see the low oil price as less critical to recovery – provided the above factors are favourable.

Consequently, I am keen that you consider DFT returning to complete the work at Erbil International Airport. [REDACTED] tell me, as they tell you direct, that they haven't changed their views on starting an operation to Erbil and are "keen to start as soon as we can", which I guess realistically means autumn 2015 or spring 2016. I'd welcome some insight into your 2015 plans, and how we can get these efforts back on track.

Yours sincerely,
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq

Subject: Mayor of London visit

Email from the British Consulate General in Erbil to British Embassy in Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 17 January 2015 13:46

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit

[REDACTED]

I attach a draft programme, for you to get a sense of. Because, on both days, we will have to start earlier than anticipated (to fit in the training before midday, and to catch the Governor before prayer time) there is a bit of fat in the programme, but I cannot think of any additional events to include.

The showpiece sessions from a UKTI perspective are as follows, and I'd really appreciate some ideas from you on each, even if just in the form of bullet points. I'll need something by close Sunday so I can turn it into something fit for the Mayor's office on Monday.

Tour of Erbil International Airport, Thursday

This will give MoL a chance to hear about the airport as a gateway to Erbil, its history and expansion plans, and role of UK companies to date. I think I have enough material here to work on.

Talk to audience of leading businesspeople and economic policymakers, Thursday

Aiming for c. 60 people. Draft list attached. [REDACTED] will lead on this but will welcome any additional inputs. [REDACTED] will need to deliver quickly.

Would welcome your view on how Mayor should pitch this. I'm thinking along the lines of a talk on what London and wider UK offers, followed by Q&A. Followed by (soft) drinks reception to allow for mixing and networking. Beyond the MoL himself we will want to get British businesses access to senior decision-makers.

Meeting/dinner with KRG, Thursday

An opportunity to pitch specific UK proposals (e.g. [REDACTED]) with KRG. Plus what London offers KRG, majoring on financial sector.

Meeting with Governor of Erbil/lunch with governorate representatives, Friday

An opportunity to focus on infrastructure development, plus security.

Thanks

Angus

Angus McKee

HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq

[REDACTED]

Subject: TRG serial for visit

Email exchange between officials at the British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

-----Original Message-----

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 17 January 2015 07:36

To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)

Subject: Re: Trg serial for visit

Sure, I'm around.

I don't think I can face going through last night all over again...

Angus McKee

UK Consul General, Erbil

[REDACTED]

Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 2 – BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, January 17, 2015 07:17 AM

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Subject: Trg serial for visit

Angus I will catch up with you later to discuss the training serial for the visit as having chatted with the team, details are different to those described by [REDACTED]. Also [REDACTED] didn't get away as flt was cancelled. Leaves tomorrow. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From BlackBerry

Subject: Churchill and Kurds

Email exchanges between Mayor of London's Office (MO), FCO London and British Consulate Erbil

Email 1 – BC Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 16 January 2015 17:36
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Churchill and Kurds

Sure

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Email 2 –MO to BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2015 04:42 PM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Churchill and Kurds

Angus could we do 545 ? Best [REDACTED]

Email 3 –MO to BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 January 2015 13:07
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Churchill and Kurds

Thanks Angus

Email 4 –BC Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee; [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 January 2015 08:40
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Churchill and Kurds

I've a busy day too, so I'll try to phone you about 5.30pm. By which time I hope to have some sort of steer from FCO Press Office too.

Angus

Email 5 –MO to BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 20:20
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Churchill and Kurds

Thanks – tight day tomorrow but happy to chat – free before 1030, 1245-1345, and after 5pm –
+[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email 6 –BC Erbil to MO

From: Angus McKee [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 17:18
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Churchill and Kurds

On your other email, I suggest we talk through tomorrow once FCO London have had time to reflect. The local media is OK to handle. We can also talk through how many parts of the programme should have a press element.

Angus

Email 7 –MO to BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 20:15
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Churchill and Kurds

Sound advice thanks Angus – we will run this past him

Email 8 –BC Erbil to MO

From: Angus.Mckee
Sent: 15 January 2015 17:11
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Churchill and Kurds

[REDACTED]

To see from one of our local members of staff. This confirms my view that:

- In one-to-one conversations with leading Kurds, there is a lot of admiration for Churchill's leadership and historic role.
- Speaking to audiences and with the media, we recommend Churchill is not mentioned.

Angus

Email 9 –BC Erbil to BC Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 15 January 2015 09:22
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Churchill and Kurds

That's perfect.

Email 10 – BC Erbil to BC Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 11:44
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Churchill and Kurds

How Winston Churchill is perceived amongst the Kurds:

There are few reports about Winston Churchill in the Kurdish medias, one of them about the use of the chemical weapons and another on the separation of Kurdistan as a try to take the land from Attaturk and link it to Iraq for getting its oil. See the two articles below, specially the highlighted areas:

Iraq, Kurdistan oil deal evokes Winston Churchill in Islamic State battle: Bloomberg.com republished by a Kurdish website on 09/01/2015.

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 21 - <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-01-08/iraq-oil-deal-evokes-churchill-in-islamic-state-battle>]

The second article –Opinion Article- was published on the 2nd of November 2014 on Rudaw named:

[REDACTED UNDER SECTION 21 - <http://rudaw.net/english/opinion/02112014>]

If you need more information, please let me know.

Best
[REDACTED]

Subject: erbil flights

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil, Nadhim Zahawi's Office and the Mayor of London's Office

Email 1 –From MOLto BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 16 January 2015 14:52

To: Angus McKee

Subject: RE: Erbil flights

No problem and understood. Sorry to have disturbed you at the weekend.
[REDACTED]

Email 2 from BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee

Sent: 16 January 2015 13:33

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Erbil flights

Thanks for CC-ing me. I won't alter any plans until it's confirmed, but to be honest that would be perfect for us. There was no big event planned for Friday evening so I would have to come up with a "filler".

Angus

Email 3 from MO to NZO and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 16 January 2015 16:07

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Angus McKee

Subject: Erbil flights

Importance: High

Hello [REDACTED]

Hope all is well. I'm assuming that departing at 2115 on Wednesday 21st is still good with the KRG folks?

Departure flight: the Mayor's just told us that he is very keen to be back in London on Friday evening. I'm so sorry that this is coming to you so late in the day but I've literally just been told. Please could you speak to the KRG team and request that a departure time of 1900 from Erbil on Friday 23rd can be organised for the Mayor, Ed, [REDACTED] and the two journalists (of course it's Nadhim and [REDACTED]'s call to stay longer if they would prefer to). On this basis and all being fine, I assume they can be back at Farnborough for 2000 (approx.) – is that correct?

Again, apologies for the short notice and please do be in touch if anything is problematic. I'm in the office for the majority of the afternoon.

Copying to Angus so he is aware for arrangements on the ground.

Thanks very much

[REDACTED]

Email 4 from NZO to MO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2015 17:11
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Hi [REDACTED]

That should be fine but will let you know if I hear differently. Thank you, really appreciate your prompt response to this.

[REDACTED]

Email 5 from MO to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2015 16:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Per the conversation with the private office, the plan is for the Mayor to be at Farnborough airport between 2030 and 2045, but we can confirm tomorrow as there may be a chance it could be 2100. If he is there by 2045 presumably the flight could leave by 2115?

Is this enough or do you need more clarity for this evening.

I'm now at my desk so feel free to call if easier to discuss: [REDACTED].

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 6 from MOL to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2015 16:49
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Erbil

Hi - just come out of a meeting and seen this. I've chased private office. Will be in touch.

[REDACTED]

Email 7 from NZO to MOL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 04:29 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for the delay in getting back to you.

Arriving 30 minutes before the flight is due to depart is absolutely fine. A little different to my email earlier but the KRG are needing to know what time you want the flight depart asap now.

Do you think you could get back to me with the asap? Sorry for the sudden urgency.

[REDACTED]

Email 8 from MOL to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2015 11:23
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the update. Forgive my ignorance, what time do passengers need to be at the airport if they're taking a private plane? For example, if the flight took off at 2130 do they need to be at the airport 30 mins in advance? 10 mins? I'm guessing that any passport / security checks are that much simpler to do (relative to a regular airport) but all the same, it would be useful to know how long in advance passengers need to be ready at the airport.

[REDACTED] has updated, overnight, that the plan is for him to be back in London on Wedn 21st early morning so he should be on the evening flight with the Mayor, Nadhim et al. This is all assuming that his flights in south Sudan work out on Monday and Tuesday, it's a little unpredictable due to the nature of the trip and [REDACTED] promises to keep us informed nearer the time. Does this help?

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 9 from NZO to MOL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2015 08:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Hi [REDACTED]

No, next week would be fine to let me know. One thing that has been flagged to me is Farnborough don't usually have flights depart after 10pm so if possible if it could happen earlier than 10.30pm it would make arrangements easier.

Have you had confirmation re [REDACTED] yet?

[REDACTED]

Email 10 from MOL to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 15:36
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Hi [REDACTED]

By when do we need to fix the departure time for the outbound flight? Does it need to happen before the weekend? Asking as Private Office are triple checking the Mayor's arrangements/diary for next Wednesday, and I can imagine for flight schedules and so forth there is a deadline by which we need to supply the info. Would you be able to advise please?

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 11 – NZO to MOL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 10:31
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Morning [REDACTED]

Sure no problem, I will wait to hear from you.

Also, as you will be travelling by private jet now, the plane can take off when it suits the Mayors agenda. Could you confirm what time you would like to leave Farnborough? Also, when and what time you would like to leave Erbil as we are able to make the arrangements to suit your timetable now.

I look forward to hearing from you.

[REDACTED]

Email 12 – from MOL to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 10:27
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Good morning [REDACTED]

I've just heard that it is more than likely [REDACTED] will be able to join on the private plane from London to Erbil on night of Wednesday 21st. He won't be able to confirm this until Monday though. In the meantime would it be possible to have a space for him on the outward journey?

Thank you
[REDACTED]

Email 13 – From MOL to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 January 2015 19:04
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Hello [REDACTED]

Many thanks for the confirmation, really helpful of you. Yes all will come back on the same flight.

I am just 100% checking [REDACTED] situation for the flights to Erbil – i.e. what flights he needs to get him to Erbil for a programme to start at approx. 12noon. Would you mind bearing with me on this please?

Thank you again. I feel I owe you a big drink or equivalent for all that we have tested your patience.

Best
[REDACTED]

Email 14 – From NZO to MOL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 January 2015 16:41
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Hi [REDACTED]

I can confirm the private plane is confirmed. I will ensure [REDACTED] has a flight from Amman to Erbil. It will depart from Farnborough at 10.30pm and as it will be a direct flight, you will arrive in Erbil within 4.5 hours which will mean everyone can get some sleep!

I am assuming everyone can travel back on the private plane?

[REDACTED]

Email 15 from MOL to NZO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 January 2015 14:31

To: ZAHAWI, Nadhim; [REDACTED]

Subject: Erbil

Nadhim, [REDACTED] – I hope you're well

Ed and I have just spoken. Can I check where arrangements have reached with regards to the private plane option? The team from London will be yourself, the Mayor, Ed, [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] (photographer) will need to travel from Amman to Erbil to get there for when the Mayor arrives. If the plane is no longer an option, are flights being held for all?

So you know, the Mayor will need to travel under FCO Duty of Care for insurance reasons. We've gone around the houses with this and it's the only way of making this work. Angus has just sent me thoughts on an outline programme, with the caveat that it will change, which I believe he has discussed with you also. I'll review shortly.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit logistics

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1 BCG Erbil to

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 15 January 2015 08:58

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit logistics - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

Visitors on platform

The Mayor London's party under our duty of care will comprise of:

1. Boris Johnson (Mayor)
2. Sir Edward Lister (Deputy Mayor)
3. [REDACTED]
4. Nadhim Zahawi MP

The visiting party will also include [REDACTED] (press), [REDACTED] (press) and [REDACTED] . These are not under duty of care, will stay separately (either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]) and need to be transported by the KRG throughout the programme.

We will also be joined by:

1. HM Ambassador Baghdad Frank Baker
2. [REDACTED]

I will write to BE Baghdad saying the Consulate platform is at capacity, and get their consent to not bring a PPO. If that is required, we need to bump someone HMG off the platform. I'll sort that with Baghdad.

Flights/overall timing

The party will arrive/depart by private flight. It leaves at 1030 from Farnborough and would get to Erbil approx. 0300 on Thursday 22nd. The delegation would all leave on Saturday morning, perhaps 0900 (tbc). On Thursday, the party would then arrive/have long lie-in allowing us to start the programme about noon.

Costs

[REDACTED] – we will cover the visiting party's platform costs, and I recognise that the maxed-out platform will require us to take a bedroom or 2 on [REDACTED] (assuming [REDACTED] cannot put anyone in the [REDACTED] overnight)? On other significant costs of the visit, they are likely to be: (i) room and drinks reception for 60 people; (ii) lunch for 16 people. While these costs are TBC-ed it would have confirmation that our budget can cover this.

Separate to that, could you give me an idea of our DSEF budget for rest of this FY (Jan/Feb/Mar) as we still have a few events coming up?

Thanks
Angus

Email 2

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 17:19
To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive); Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Who is in 22/23/24 Jan

If HMA PPO and [REDACTED] come then we only have 2 spare rooms with all CP doubled up. So we would have to book 2 additional rooms. As long as this is the only cost it should be OK. But our DEE is pushed to the limit so I hope we are not expected to pay for any large dinners.

The other option to save money is for myself and 2 CP guys to move to the [REDACTED] for 2 nights.

[REDACTED]

Email 3

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 17:08
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Who is in 22/23/24 Jan

I assumed so too, on the basis that we would aim to absorb them into the current platform. Hence our emphasis on limiting numbers in the letter. Obviously if we rent extra rooms this is an additional cost and there's a question of who pays. But I think we've definitely given the impression that those under our DoC will be covered for costs. They won't take kindly to the idea of paying given that the Kurds had offered to host them for free.

Email 4

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 13 January 2015 17:00
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Who is in 22/23/24 Jan

[REDACTED]: I assumed we were covering costs, as we would for a ministerial visit, but am I wrong?

Email 5

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 16:46
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Who is in 22/23/24 Jan

Angus,

We should be able to accommodate, but we can book some rooms on the [REDACTED] for a couple of the CP guys should this be necessary. I'm presuming the Mayor and his party will be paying for the rooms? Has anyone asked for their charging codes?

[REDACTED] hasn't confirmed anything yet so I can talk to [REDACTED] to make sure he doesn't arrive until after the time you state.

[REDACTED]

Email 6 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 13 January 2015 16:20
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Who is in 22/23/24 Jan

Thanks. The Mayor's party will be 4 people, from Thursday morning to Sunday morning. I assume HMA will come with a PPO.

Assuming that with 14 staff/guests we can accommodate everyone from a bedroom perspective, this will work if:

- [REDACTED] arrives after 9.00am Saturday 24/1 or does not come (unless another one of DFID goes off-platform)
- AND HMA chooses between [REDACTED] or PPO.

Any other thoughts?

On the transport side, [REDACTED], for Thurs 22/Fri 23 we'll need enough vehicles for a VIP convoy of up to 10 people:

Core group: Mayor's Party (4); HMA; CG; [REDACTED];

Some calls: DCG, [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Please bear that in mind when taking other requests, and let me know if it will be an issue.

Thanks
Angus

Email 7 BCG Erbil to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 12:27
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: Who is in 22/23/24 Jan

Angus,

The following UK officers will be in Erbil:

22 nd	23 rd	24 th
CG	CG	CG
DCG	DCG	DCG
VC	VC	VC
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] (departs on Austrian Airways at 17.00 TBC)
		[REDACTED] (possible for hand-over day)
with [REDACTED]TBC and can be put off)		
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
HMA Frank Baker(TBC)	HMA Frank Baker (TBC)	HMA Frank Baker (TBC)
[REDACTED] (TBC)	[REDACTED] (TBC)	[REDACTED] (TBC)

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Visit of Mayor of London 22-23 January

Email exchange between Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), British Consulate in Erbil and British Embassy Baghdad

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to KRG

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 15 January 2015 08:32

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: visit of Mayor of London 22-23 January

[REDACTED]

Thank you. But the Mayor of London's office has also given me a clear instruction on what he wants out of the visit, which is reflected in our draft programme, and I particularly need to make plans now on:

- (i) Speech on "what London offers" to a selected audience on Thurs, followed by drinks reception. We envisage this as being to c. 50 or so business leaders (Kurdish and British), KRG representatives, young entrepreneurs. This could be as a self-organised event, or hosted by a think-tank (e.g. MERI). I have already asked the DPM if he wished to host this. We need to know now whether we should be looking for a venue, and we are considering who we wish to invite.
- (ii) I wish to invite the Governors of Erbil, Duhok and Sulemani for a lunch hosted by our Ambassador on Friday 23. We envisage this being a small event which would allow for effective conversations c.15 people max.

I need to update the Mayor's office before the weekend, so if your views on these or other elements of the programme we need to know now, not Sunday. We can then discuss and finalise the more practical arrangements on Sunday.

Thanks

Angus

Email 2 KRG to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 15 January 2015 11:17

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED] **Subject:** Re: FW: visit of Mayor of London 22-23 January

Dear Angus,

I hope you are doing well. Thank you for your email. I and the Chief of Protocol of Prime Minister [REDACTED] are working on the program. We would like to handle all the detail of the visit as you know that the prime minister is taken special care about this visit.

I already spoke to [REDACTED] that the Prime Minister will host dinner on 22/1 and different ministers will be at the dinner.

As you said we will discuss the more detail about the visit on Sunday 18/1 at 14:00.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

Email 3 – BCG to KRG

On Thu, Jan 15, 2015 at 11:08 AM, <Angus Mckee> wrote:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We haven't started actioning any of this yet, as we wanted to confirm the meetings with the PM first. Would it help for you and I to have a word today to clarify division of labour? And then, separately, we will meet on Sunday afternoon for a more systematic look at the programme.

Thanks,

Angus

Email 4 – BCG to KRG

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 15 January 2015 07:33

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: visit of Mayor of London 22-23 January

Dear [REDACTED]

It was good to see you at lunch on Tuesday.

We are in direct contact with [REDACTED] in DFR about the Mayor's programme, and I know that KRG Protocol will be as professional and cooperative as they always are. Given the Prime Minister's personal enthusiasm about the visit, I thought it worth setting out how I envisage the programme. If you have any additional thoughts do let me know.

Thursday 22 January

- Meeting with the PM and selected Ministers
- Visit to UK troops training Peshmerga (not with KRG Ministers) [Consulate organising]
- Mayor of London talk with a select audience of businesspeople (Kurdish and UK), government advisors, young entrepreneurs followed by drinks reception. I am in contact with the DPM to see if he would host this. [Consulate organising]
- Dinner with the PM

Friday 23 January

- Meeting with British Business Group Kurdistan [Consulate organising]
- Call on Governor of Erbil and tour of Citadel [Consulate organising]
- Consul General-hosted lunch for Governors of Erbil/Sulemani/Duhok/Kirkuk and Mayor of Erbil [Consulate organising]
- Tour of Erbil International Airport [Consulate organising]
- Evening TBC

Saturday 24 January

- Depart

Participants

The Mayor of London's party will also include Sir Edward Lister (Deputy Mayor/Policy & Planning), [REDACTED] and Nadhim Zahawi MP.

Yours sincerely,
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: UK support to KRG & Mayor's visit

Email exchanges between British Embassy Erbil and Kurdistan Regional Government

Email 1

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 14 January 2015 16:13

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: UK support to KRG & Mayor's visit

[REDACTED] –

My email sent to the DPM yesterday.

It would be good to get a view on the PPP seminar soon, as the visa process takes a few weeks.

More immediately though, could you or one of the team ask for the DPM to respond to my question on the event in the margins of the Mayor of London's visit, so that I can finalise the plans?

Many thanks

Angus

Email 2

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 18 January 2015 04:36

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: UK support to KRG & Mayor's visit

[REDACTED] –

To see that I have passed on details of the PPP seminar to the DPM's office. I suggest we don't press them for an answer this week, as we have to focus on the visit. But in the following week (25 Jan) can you please follow up with [REDACTED] (details below) so that we get names in good time to apply for visas etc:

[REDACTED]
Political Advisor
Deputy Prime Minister- KRG

Mobile : [REDACTED]
Email : [REDACTED]

Thanks

Angus

Email 3

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 13 January 2015 17:45
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: '[REDACTED]'; [REDACTED]
Subject: UK support to KRG & Mayor's visit

Dear [REDACTED],

Gen. [REDACTED] was hugely appreciative of the practical and frank discussions today, as well as the warm hospitality extended by you and the PM. I think it is a marker of the extent of UK support to the Kurdistan Regional Government that there was not time to cover everything I had hoped to, so this email follows up with a quick overview of some of our current initiatives, plus the Mayor of London's visit.

Support to KRG

National School of Government International are now back in Erbil, temporarily working out of the Consulate to satisfy their management's security concerns. Owen Clifford is already in touch with your teams with regard to the planned ministerial workshop, as well as looking ahead to the next (UK) Financial Year.

I am very pleased that the KRG Ministers of **Education and Higher Education** are visiting the Education World Forum in London next week. This event is specifically targeted at ministers and their teams. Your ministers will also be hosted at the British Council, and the Minister of Education might get a bilateral meeting with our Secretary of State for Education. My Consulate and the British Council here can then follow up on their return, including on the British Council bid for new EU funding on a programme raising school standards, following the previous EU-funded project (2009-2014).

We wish to invite 5 KRG representatives to a bespoke seminar on **Private Public Partnerships**, in London in March 2015 (draft programme attached), alongside a similar number from the Government in Baghdad. This will set out the key principles and rationale of PPP projects, as well as lessons learned from our own experiences. We will cover travel (economy) and accommodation expenses, as well as the seminar itself. The seminar is probably most suitable for advisor/expert level, and might benefit from representatives from your office as well as the Ministries of Finance and Planning, but you and your team is best-placed to decide who should go.

Beyond this we remain open to **other suggestions** for supporting your Government's efforts, in what I guess is *jihad al-bina* alongside our security and humanitarian support. When the Mayor comes next week we can discuss the financial sector, for example. And I am aware of a consortium of mostly UK companies – B-Plan – in discussion with the Ministry of Finance on cash-card/ATM payments of salaries and pensions. This is very welcome.

Mayor of London visit, 22-23 January

We are already in touch with DFR about Boris Johnson's visit, which looks set to include a meeting with the PM, you and selected ministers as well as a dinner hosted by the PM. In addition to that, I would like to arrange an event in which the Mayor gives a talk on how he's made London a city open for business – to a select audience of 50 or so Kurdish and British business leaders, economic leads in the KRG, young entrepreneurs etc – followed by a short drinks reception. Possibly in partnership with [REDACTED]'s MERI. Would you be up for joining that, either as a chairman or co-speaker (and Londoner)? I'd envisage that being at the end of the afternoon on Thursday 22 January.

As well as working with DFR on the formalities of the visit, I will run our draft programme past [REDACTED].

Best wishes,
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Kurdistan

Email exchanges between Mayor of London's Office (MO) and British Embassy Erbil

Email 1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 12:11
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

Hello Angus – yes, now is good. Landline is best: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email 2

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 13 January 2015 12:07
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Just seen. Does now work for me to call you?

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
Tel. [REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 3

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 09:56 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

Apologies Angus. I assumed the timings you gave were local to Erbil. How about 1300 London time? Hopefully better.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 4

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: 15 January 2015 11:05
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

Hello Angus

Yes the best arrangements seem to be for the Mayor and team to depart Wednesday 21st before 2200 which means arriving very early morning on Thursday 22nd. It's not ideal for your team (or those collecting them from the airport) but at least they are all in Erbil with enough down time to be energised for the rest of the Thursday.

Is it very problematic for early morning arrival on Thursday?

[REDACTED]

Email 5

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 13 January 2015 09:50
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Sorry, can't. As having lunch with the KRG PM. But any time after 12.00 Uk time except 15.00-16.00.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
Tel. [REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 6

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 15 January 2015 08:47
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On: Given the practicalities of flights and the Mayor's diary, the KRG have very kindly offered a private plan which Nadhim is sorting with them. It leaves at 1030 from Farnborough and **would get to Erbil approx. 0300 on Thursday 22nd**. The delegation would all leave on Saturday morning, perhaps 0900 (tbc).

...can you just confirm that means arriving **03.00am** Thursday 22/1?

Thanks

A

Email 7

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 12:16
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

Thanks Angus, sounds good. Perhaps we could go with a call at 1030 London time, which I think is 1330 Erbil time?

[REDACTED]

Email 8

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 13 January 2015 08:31
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Let's have a chat later. All of this can be worked through easily, and the earlier arrival on Thursday helps us even more.

I'm most easily available between 12.00 and 14.30.

Angus

Email 9

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: 12 January 2015 20:06
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

Good evening Angus – thanks very much for the note below, and all the ideas.

I'm copying this to [REDACTED], who will be joining the Mayor and in case he would like to comment on the media aspects.

Programme: in principle we're happy with the ideas below and look forward to it all coming together, thank you for trying to get this to reflect discussions to date, much appreciated. However, we have some questions and requests to rejig things a little. If it would help I'd be happy to do a call [REDACTED]orrow or once you've had a chance to digest.

Given the practicalities of flights and the Mayor's diary, the KRG have very kindly offered a private plan which Nadhim is sorting with them. It leaves at 1030 from Farnborough and would get to Erbil approx. 0300 on Thursday 22nd. The delegation would all leave on Saturday morning, perhaps 0900 (tbc).

With this in mind, could the programme on Thursday start at 12noon?

It's important for the Mayor to see the training of the Peshmerga and we didn't realise that training doesn't happen on Fridays. Could the visit to observe them training happen on the Thursday? Perhaps the call at the airport could happen on the Friday? Is there anything we can provide you to enable access for [REDACTED] from The Sun and [REDACTED] (photographer)?

Approximately how many media do you think might attend a press conference and what would be the key msgs?

Roughly what time does it get dark at the moment / next week?

- Would it be possible to start slightly later on Friday, perhaps mid-morning (0930 / 1000) with the UK business reps?
- In general it's best to avoid more than 1 speech a day; so please don't add anymore on Thursday and I can't see the need for one on Friday. There will need to be down time before dinner on Thursday, at least an hour if not more. Or depending on timings, 60 mins for down time and speech prep before the talk to 50 business people and then dinner to follow immediately afterwards could work.

Briefing / practical arrangements

- I will need to give Private Office the Mayor's briefing pack by next Tuesday close. We are happy to be guided by you and your team on key msgs/is[REDACTED]s to raise in each appointment. If I share a template, could you start populating? Or send me the content directly?
- Specifically, a clear narrative on why Kurdistan / Iraq is important to London / UK business interests is essential. I have the two pager from UKTI in Baghdad (attached). Are there stats on the potential value of business that UK firms are pitching for in relation to the KRG "2020 Vision Plan"? Do you have a summary/copy of their Vision Plan?
- We will need a cultural do's and don'ts's brief – everything from whether to shake hands with women to any prickly is[REDACTED]s to avoid. Similarly, heads-up and lines to take on any visa or tax is[REDACTED]s that affect Kurds or Iraqis coming to do business or visit London are welcome.
- It would be best if Frank and/or you could brief him in the car on any particular is[REDACTED]s before each call; this worked well when we were in Kuwait.
- What is the weather like / do they need to bring particularly warm clothes?
- Gifts: [REDACTED] and I discussed having a stash of London books or toy models of the New Bus for London. Nearer the time I'll need your view on how many they should take.

Many thanks again and do feel free to come back with any questions / issues,
[REDACTED]

Email 10

From: Angus Mckee [[REDACTED]]
Sent: 12 January 2015 14:17
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The FCO team in London will be replying to you/Sir Edward on the duty of care question and other practical issues, I think later today.

On the programme side, I think Nadhim and I see eye-to-eye, and he agreed with what I've sketched out. Inevitably the final version will look a little different, but I propose something along the following lines, with possible media opportunities in **green**.

Thursday 22/1

Arrive Erbil 13.15; transfer to hotel; freshen up and short briefing with Ambassador/Consul General; programme starts from 14.30.

1. Meeting with PM Nechirvan & Cabinet – *opportunity for good, practical discussion on how the City and UK Government/companies can assist KRG with reform plans*
2. **TBC – press conference with PM Nechirvan**
3. Call on Erbil International Airport – showcasing British expertise (design by UK architects, various other UK companies have stake); **option of a TV “doorstep”**
4. Mayor hosted by DPM Qubad for a talk to a select audience of c.50 UK and Kurdish businesspeople, young entrepreneurs, KRG reformists, etc, followed by drinks reception, mix & meet – *any suggestion for the theme – e.g. “What London can offer”* **could be televised**
5. Dinner with PM Nechirvan

Friday 23/1

All day.

1. “Breakfast” meeting with UK businesses
2. Call on Governor of Erbil (cities/anti-ISIL message)
3. Walkabout: citadel, bazaar, tea-room; **option of TV “doorstep”**
4. Visit to UK troops doing training (though training itself not taking place on a Friday) **awaiting MOD steer on media coverage**
5. Lunch with Governors of Erbil, Sulemani, Duhok provinces, plus Mayor of Erbil – informal discussion on challenges of cities, infrastructure, security.
6. **Option of a print interview with Kurdish newspaper.**
7. Evening options, grateful for your steer ... complete downtime / private dinner with DPM (perhaps just Ambassador, Mayor, Deputy Mayor?) / attendance at Caledonian Society's Burns Supper / early night...

Saturday 24/1

04.30 Royal Jordanian flight to Amman/London.

More generally, on media: the Kurdish media is very energetic, with a number of TV stations, so any of the above opportunities will be taken up enthusiastically and serve us locally by raising UK profile here. International media presence is very mixed – only [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have a permanent presence, with other UK print/TV coming in and out depending on the story. I think it unlikely that anyone from [REDACTED] will be in town next week, and it has hard to tell if any UK print journalists will be out at this time. I think [REDACTED] can do pooled TV interviews.

Beyond all this, it would be useful to have a steer on how the Mayor does visits – need for private time, dietary requirements, pet hates we should try to avoid, etc.

Thanks
Angus

Email 11

From: [REDACTED] [[REDACTED]]
Sent: 07 January 2015 16:21
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Kurdistan [REDACTED]
Importance: High

Hello Angus, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in writing, we've had a couple of curve balls that I've been trying to work through. Please see below an update and some questions (my apologies for the length of the note!).

1. Duty of Care

As mentioned the KRG is covering the costs for the visits, for the Mayor and the team, and are keen to provide protocol, logistical and security assistance. Is it possible for the FCO duty of care arrangements to work hand-in-glove with the KRG security arrangements? As I'm sure you can imagine we want to avoid any kind of appearance of a snub to the KRG, so it would be brilliant if the respective parties can coordinate accordingly. The Mayor is keen for this to happen, and Nadhim Zahawi suggested that this could be fixed per his conversation with the Ambassador (last week I think). Please could you advise so that we can then put the formal request to Edward Oakden.

Forgive my ignorance, does DoC mean travelling with armed escorts and armoured vehicles?

The Mayor is keen to see the citadel on the Friday and may well want to include some time in a bazaar / do some shopping, which may involve some flexibility and we hope can be accommodated.

Nadhim advised that the PM's office will want to host the group at the [REDACTED] hotel, which I believe is next door to the [REDACTED].

2. Programme

It's likely we will get to Erbil approx. 1315 on Thursday 22nd on the Royal Jordanian flight from Amman. On this basis Nadhim Zahawi has recommended a programme as below:

- Thursday: meetings with the PM (likely to be joined by other Ministers), President, roundtable / discussion with British business people (Standard Chartered and JLR were mentioned) in Erbil (under the British Business Group umbrella?), ending with an official dinner hosted by the PM.
- Friday: breakfast with the British teams training the Peshmerga, possibly some media time, and then rest of the afternoon to be sightseeing. He likes the idea of the citadel and staying in the city.
- Saturday: all to dept Erbil on 0430 Royal Jordanian flight to Amman and then on to London.

Nadhim indicated he would speak with Angus on this basis. Could you advise if this has happened please? If not I can chivvy him along.

When the Mayor met the PM of KRG in May the conversation focussed on London as a financial hub and how Erbil could take lessons from London's experiences. This is something that could be drawn out more. Welcome thoughts on how best to do this within the confines of Thursday and Friday?

I note the growing presence of UK business representation in Erbil. Would such an audience want to hear from the Mayor? Given the security and practical constraints, are drinks receptions the 'done thing' in Erbil? They can be

Similarly are there potential Kurdish investors who might be looking to London as an investment destination? If yes, would they want to hear from the Mayor and what might be the best format for this? For example, we've done an 'afternoon tea', evening receptions and or 1-to-1 calls in other markets – all of which the Mayor is comfortable with.

Who do I need to liaise with to arrange for the Mayor to visit those who are training the Peshmerga for the Friday morning? Welcome advice.

3. Delegation and visas

- Mayor's office: Mayor Boris Johnson, Sir Edward Lister (Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor, Policy and Planning), [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED]
- HoC: Nadhim Zahawi, MP
- Press: [REDACTED](photographer) and [REDACTED] (Political Editor, The Sun)

Total 8 people

4. Media

All will be travelling with British passports so I think this means we can get visas on arrival. With the journalists, are there any is[REDACTED]s if they accompany? I think they've both been to Iraq before. Do they need to pre-apply for specific visas? Submit equipment information in advance?

Do you know which other international media are likely to be in Erbil at the time? Similarly are there Kurdish media that would be worthwhile the Mayor speaking to? I can't guarantee anything but welcome ideas that Will could consider.

I hope this helps. Happy to discuss by phone if easier or to keep in touch by email.

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London draft programme

Email exchange between officials at British Consulate General in Erbil

Email 1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 11:19
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London draft programme

Inviting Erbil Mayer makes perfect sense...

Protocol has confirmed to me that the PM is happy for the meeting and dinner, no press conf.
Let's discuss details once you are around

[REDACTED]

Email 2

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 13 January 2015 11:38
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London draft programme

Great. I'll mention it to the PM and DPM when I see them now. As long as we get them in place, the rest will fit in.

I suggest I host the lunch in a restaurant with Governor Nawzad, the Govs of Sulai and Duhok, and – I guess – the Mayor of Erbil. Does that work OK in protocol terms (me hosting, and the Mayor being invited too)?

Tomorrow or Thurs we can pull together what we've got and have a planning meeting.

Angus

Email 3

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2015 08:59
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London draft programme

Angus,

Both parties requested, I am waiting for DFR for the PM's leg but the governor is going to be in Erbil on that date for sure, the 3 gov's lunch is TBC once we check with [REDACTED].

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 4

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 12 January 2015 09:28
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Mayor of London draft programme

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

We discussed yesterday.

We're still clearing some things in London. But could you please:

- Request a meeting with the PM on the afternoon of **Thurs 22 Jan** (PM and DPM plus relevant ministers)
- Ask if the PM would want to hold a press conference
- Ask if the PM is willing to host a dinner for the Mayor of London on the evening of Thurs 22 Jan
- Separately, approach the Governor of Erbil's office and, *in confidence*, ask if the Governor would be available on **Fri 23 Jan** and meet the Mayor of London.
- Emphasise to the KRG that at this stage we do not want any publicity or notification of the media
- [REDACTED], review what GREAT banners we have and see if we can make any "London is GREAT" ones, or "XXXX is GREAT" with London pictures.

Thanks
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Erbil

Email exchanges between Mayor of London's Office (MO), FCO London, British Consulate General in Erbil and Nadhim Zahawi's Office (NZO)

Email 1 – Parliament to BC Erbil, MO and FCO London

From: ZAHAWI, Nadhim [REDACTED]

Sent: 15 January 2015 05:48

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Erbil

Yes I will.

Sent from my iPhone

Email 2 – BC Erbil to Parliament

On 15 Jan 2015, at 03:37, "Angus.Mckee [REDACTED]" wrote:

Thanks Nadhim. Just to make sure I understand accurately, you will be with the Mayor's core team under our duty of care?

A

Email 3 – MO to NZO, BC Erbil and FCO London

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 January 2015 18:04

To: 'ZAHAWI, Nadhim '; Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Erbil

Hello Angus and Nadhim

Thanks for your msgs, great that you are coordinating and do let me know if/where I can help (feel free to tell me to keep my nose out too, I don't want to get in the way).

For completeness, I agree with Angus's summary on which members of the group are under Duty of Care and who are not. Hoping [REDACTED] / Nadhim can connect the specific individuals at KRG and Angus.

Thank you all again

[REDACTED]

Email 3 – Parliament to BC Erbil, MO and FCO London

From: ZAHAWI, Nadhim [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2015 16:27
To: Angus.Mckee[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Erbil

Ok let's go with FCO duty of care for core team. The rest we (my office) will book into [REDACTED] NOT under duty of care. That way we do not offend our hosts. We will ask them to only provide transport.

[REDACTED] my pa (copied) is dealing with them.

Warm regards

Nadhim
Sent from my iPhone

Email 4 – BC Erbil to NZO, MO, FCO London

On 14 Jan 2015, at 16:05, " Angus Mckee > wrote:

Nadhim

Messages are crossing over, so I will clarify, CC-ing [REDACTED].

The FCO has agreed with the Mayor's Office that it would have the "core party" of the Mayor, Sir Edward Lister, [RESTRICTED] and (if you consent) you under our Duty of Care (hotel, transport etc) but not additional people – i.e. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. So in any case [REDACTED] / [REDACTED] / [REDACTED] will require KRG accommodation and transport. You have the option of coming with the Mayor's party and us (as the UK PM specifically said we should offer this to you), or electing to accept the KRG hospitality. You can choose either way.

I have confirmed to [REDACTED] that those not under the FCO duty of care would still be included in the programme, and we would liaise with the KRG to coordination on transport so that you are in the same motorcade, simply not in the FCO Armoured Vehicles with our [RESTRICTED] security teams.

Do let me know which option you go for. Can you or [REDACTED] also confirm that you are in touch with the KRG regarding the accommodation requirements of those staying in the [RESTRICTED]? &, out of interest, which KRG contact are you in touch with, just so I can ensure no crossed wires here?

Angus

Email 5 – NZO to BC Erbil

From: ZAHAWI, Nadhim [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2015 10:49
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: Erbil

Angus

That is really positive news. I guess we might as well all go under your platform. I will let our Kurdish hosts know.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Nadhim

Sent from my iPhone

Email 6 – BC Erbil to Parliament

On 14 Jan 2015, at 05:43, "Angus McKee wrote:

Dear Nadhim

As you know we're now full steam ahead on the visit. The PM has wanted the Mayor's party including you on our platform – I know you personally don't want that, I'm leaving the London end to sort that out.

I am now working on a programme along the lines I ran past you. Whitehall is now content with a visit to UK troops training Peshmerga. I saw Nechirvan and Qubad today, both of whom are looking forward to it. You'll appreciate that we don't want advance publicity for the visit.

I'll probably touch base with you at the weekend/start of next week.

Regards
Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Subject: Visit to Erbil

Email exchanges between British Embassy Baghdad, British Consulate Erbil, Foreign Office and Mayor of London's Office

Email 1 – From FCO to BCG Erbil

From: Edward Oakden (Sensitive)
Sent: 12 January 2015 19:43
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Visit to Erbil

[REDACTED] ,

On SAFE training, what did we do for the FS and Defence Sec, ie Cabinet Ministers?

On the briefing, we should be able to top and tail off the shelf.

Could you pl take forward; and let me know if I need to revert to Ed Lister on any of this? I haven't ack'ed meanwhile.

Many thanks,

Edward

Email 2 – From MO to FCO, BCG Erbil, BE Baghdad

From: Edward Lister
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 06:43 PM
To: Edward Oakden; [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil

Edward

Firstly happy New Year and all the best for 2015.

Many thanks for your email and all your help which the Mayor very much appreciates.

Thank you also for agreeing to put the Mayor under the FCO duty of care and our party will be the Mayor, [REDACTED], Nadiyah Zahawi and myself. I think Nadiyah has already had the training. Given times scales it will be difficult if not impossible to get the Mayor into the training programme but Will and I are straightforward. I have asked [REDACTED] to contact your office to sort it out. We agree to the £1,500 for the training.

[REDACTED] is in touch with Angus on the programme and we would like to take up your offer of the political and business briefing document and grateful for that as soon as possible as we have to do an internal justification paper.

Ed

Email 3 – From FCO to BCG Erbil and BE Baghdad

From: Edward Oakden (Sensitive)
Sent: 12 January 2015 18:16
To: Angus McKee; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil

[REDACTED], Angus,

Many thanks for all the work which went into the preparation of this; and which will go into laying on the visit over the next 10 days.

Just to be clear, where my email below differs on substance from your draft - specifically on including a military element and on including Nadhim Zahawi under our DoC, as a senior MP - these have the specific agreement of the Prime Minister. If that means one less in the accompanying Embassy team, I am afraid we will have to manage that.

Edward

Email 4 – From FCO, BCG Erbil, BE Baghdad

From: Edward Oakden
Sent: 12 January 2015 18:01
To: [REDACTED];
Cc: Angus McKee, [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil

Dear Ed,

How nice to be back in touch! I had of course heard about the Mayor's projected visit, so thank you very much for your note below.

The Foreign Secretary warmly welcomes the Mayor's visit. It will be an important opportunity further to develop the UK's important and rapidly burgeoning relationship with the fast-growing Kurdistan Region of Iraq, especially on the commercial, business and investment fronts.

We would of course be glad to bring the Mayor under the FCO's Duty of Care (DoC), particularly given his national profile and the current security situation. On this basis, and given the constraints discussed with your team, the best approach would be to bring the Mayor and his official party – i.e. you, [REDACTED] and Nadhim Zahawi MP – under our DoC. This would mean their staying at the [REDACTED] hotel and being transported and looked after by our security team. We would work closely with KRG colleagues as they make arrangements for the accompanying journalists, who would not fall under our DoC; the [REDACTED] hotel is located no more than ten minutes from the [REDACTED], where the journalists are likely to be accommodated. We have a very close working relationship with the KRG and will ensure all meetings and movements are properly coordinated. The KRG will understand this arrangement, which is exactly what we would do for a visiting UK Minister or other official delegation.

The programme you suggest is very much in line with our own thinking. The Consul General will be in touch with your team to discuss it further; and will then coordinate the practical arrangements with the KRG. The nature and tone of the visit to the UK troops will of course need to reflect that they are operationally deployed.

The Iraq Team here will liaise with your office to discuss dates and arrangements for the compulsory but compressed security training which all those travelling under HMG's DoC need to complete. The cost of this training is approximately £1500, which we will look to the Mayor's Office to cover. We would of course be happy to provide any wider political and economic briefing that would be useful. If it would be helpful for me to come and brief the Mayor, Nadhim and you before you travel, to set the wider political and economic context in a way which might be harder to cover in written briefing, I would of course be delighted to do so.

Similarly, please do let me know if you'd like to discuss any of the above in more detail.

Warmest wishes for the New Year,

Edward

Edward Oakden, Director, Middle East, [REDACTED]

Email 5

From: [REDACTED][mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: 15 January 2015 11:02
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

Thanks very much Angus and [REDACTED]— sorry to add to workload but it's just so I can get this justification paper sorted as quick as possible.
Looking forward to hearing from you later today.
[REDACTED]

Email 6

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: 15 January 2015 09:48
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] it has taken me a little longer to put something together than I'd originally suggested, but by the end of today I will provide you with some additional general briefing on our activities here/visit objectives, which – as promised – will be followed by more bespoke briefing reflecting the programme with you by close Thursday.

In advance of this, I attach the Consulate visitor guide.

Regards
Angus

Email 7

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 15 January 2015 09:43
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]:

See that the Mayor's office is requesting:
Any note able UKTI 'wins' or potential HVOS will help.

It would be helpful to consider what more if any info we can add to your last pack – e.g. companies currently negotiating contracts ([REDACTED], [REDACTED] etc). I told the Mayor's office I would be giving them more detailed briefing at the weekend so you can inject it then, but grateful if you can start working on ideas – scribbled into an email is sufficient.

Angus

Email 8

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2015 12:34
To: '[REDACTED]'
Cc: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: Visit to Erbil OFFICIAL

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

[REDACTED],

Sincere apologies, [REDACTED].

I understand, however, that Angus is in the process of pulling something together and will share with you in due course.

Many thanks

Email 9

From: [REDACTED][mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2015 08:00 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]- [REDACTED], and appreciate the heads up.

The info below sounds ideal. Welcome sight of it this morning if you can. Any note able UKTI 'wins' or potential HVOS will help.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 10

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2015 08:58 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],

Unfortunately [REDACTED] out of the office.

I'm hoping to be able to get you some documents by close tomorrow. I apologise for the delay.

I'll aim to provide:

- 1) A short steering brief
- 2) A UKTI commercial brief
- 3) A pack of DipTels

Do let me know if you'd like anything more.

Best regards

Email 11

From: [REDACTED][mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 06:02 PM
To: Edward Oakden (Sensitive); Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: Edward Lister [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil

Angus and Edward

Thank you for your support.

I've been in touch with Mr Zahawi and he has confirmed that he would prefer not to travel under FCO Duty of Care. The accompanying two journalists and Mr Zahawi will travel under KRG protocol and hospitality (hotels, vehicles etc). Nadhim mentioned that [REDACTED] [REDACTED]– will also be in Erbil for the visit; [REDACTED] attended the Mayor's meeting with PM Barzani in London in May and will be able to contribute to discussions about Erbil as an emerging financial centre.

Looking forward to receiving briefing documents as soon as possible please.

Thanks and do be in touch if any questions,
[REDACTED]

Email 12

From: Edward Lister
Sent: 12 January 2015 18:44
To: 'Edward.Oakden[REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus.Mckee[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil

Edward

Firstly happy New Year and all the best for 2015.

Many thanks for your email and all your help which the Mayor very much appreciates.

Thank you also for agreeing to put the Mayor under the FCO duty of care and our party will be the Mayor, [REDACTED], Nadhiam Zahawi and myself. I think Nadhiam has already had the training. Given times scales it will be difficult if not impossible to get the Mayor into the training programme but Will and I are straightforward. I have asked [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] is in touch with Angus on the programme and we would like to take up your offer of the political and business briefing document and grateful for that as soon as possible as we have to do an internal justification paper.

Ed

Email 13

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 13:52
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has helpfully just pointed out a rather key typo:

You and the Mayor will want to be aware that it is looking highly likely that we will be able to build a visit to UK troops into the programme. I appreciate that this may come as a disappointment but am in doubt that the Mayor will find the final programme highly rewarding none the less.

Should be "unlikely"

Thanks

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Email 14

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 14:17
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

Couple of tweaks. Just stylistic suggestions really so not wedded to them.

[REDACTED]

Email 15

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 16:55
To: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: [[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

Thanks [REDACTED].

One more typo. I hope you are in “no doubt” about the rewarding nature of the programme ☐. You might also want to say that the rest of the programme elements he suggests look both possible and very much in line with our thoughts, in order to soften the blow on the troop visit.

It may also be worth noting that we will cover the costs and arrangements of security and accommodation for those in our DoC, as this was something [REDACTED] questioned earlier.

Angus may have other thoughts

Email 16

From: Edward.Oakden
Sent: 12 January 2015 18:01
To: Edward Lister; [REDACTED]
Cc: Angus.Mckee [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil

Dear Ed,

How nice to be back in touch! I had of course heard about the Mayor’s projected visit, so thank you very much for your note below.

The Foreign Secretary warmly welcomes the Mayor’s visit. It will be an important opportunity further to develop the UK’s important and rapidly burgeoning relationship with the fast-growing Kurdistan Region of Iraq, especially on the commercial, business and investment fronts.

We would of course be glad to bring the Mayor under the FCO’s Duty of Care (DoC), particularly given his national profile and the current security situation. On this basis, and given the constraints discussed with your team, the best approach would be to bring the Mayor and his official party – i.e. you, [REDACTED] and Nadhim Zahawi MP– under our DoC. This would mean their staying at the [REDACTED] and being transported and looked after by our security team. We would work closely with KRG colleagues as they make arrangements for the accompanying journalists, who would not fall under our DoC; the [REDACTED]

is located no more than ten minutes from the [REDACTED], where the journalists are likely to be accommodated. We have a very close working relationship with the KRG and will ensure all meetings and movements are properly coordinated. The KRG will understand this arrangement, which is exactly what we would do for a visiting UK Minister or other official delegation.

The programme you suggest is very much in line with our own thinking. The Consul General will be in touch with your team to discuss it further; and will then coordinate the practical arrangements with the KRG. The nature and tone of the visit to the UK troops will of course need to reflect that they are operationally deployed.

The Iraq Team here will liaise with your office to discuss dates and arrangements for the compulsory but compressed security training which all those travelling under HMG's DoC need to complete. [REDACTED], which we will look to the Mayor's Office to cover. We would of course be happy to provide any wider political and economic briefing that would be useful. If it would be helpful for me to come and brief the Mayor, Nadhim and you before you travel, to set the wider political and economic context in a way which might be harder to cover in written briefing, I would of course be delighted to do so.

Similarly, please do let me know if you'd like to discuss any of the above in more detail.

Warmest wishes for the New Year,

Edward
[REDACTED]

Email 17

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 January 2015 18:25
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Visit to Erbil OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

TBA,

Edward followed up with No.10 today, who are going to discuss with the PM over the weekend:

1. Whether Boris can see the troops. Their position seems to have softened from "no" to "as long as it's done in an appropriately sombre manner".
2. Whether Nadhim Zahawi should be included in our DoC. If No.10 decide yes (and we have to accommodate 3 instead of 4) then Edward suggests that Stuart is asked to stay south.

We'll hopefully get answers to both first thing Monday, at which point Edward will respond to Sir Edward.

I'm in Baghdad next week so will be following this but Jon is going to lead from London.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 18

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 08 January 2015 13:55
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] –
My comments highlighted, will leave you to have a look too and reply to [REDACTED].
Angus

Email 19

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 16:23
To: Edward Oakden (Sensitive); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

Edward,

This morning Sir Edward Lister, Chief of Staff to the Mayor of London, emailed you to discuss Boris Johnson's forthcoming visit to Erbil.

The full email is available further down this chain as is Angus' advice on how to handle some of the issues raised.

Please find below a proposed response from you to Sir Edward. Do let me know if you'd like to discuss this in more detail.

Best regards

Begins

Sir Edward,

Thank you for your email.

I warmly welcome the Mayor's visit as an opportunity to deepen the UK's important relationship with the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, especially on the commercial, business and investment fronts.

We would be delighted to bring the Mayor under our duty of care (DoC) given his profile and the current security situation in Iraq. On this basis, and given the constraints already discussed with your team, the best approach would be to bring the Mayor and his immediate team – i.e. yourself and [REDACTED] – under our DoC. This would mean staying at the [REDACTED] and being transported and looked after by our security team. We would work closely with KRG colleagues as they make arrangements for the remaining members of the delegation, who would not fall under our DoC; the [REDACTED] is located no more than ten minutes from the [REDACTED], where you suggest the other delegates are likely to be accommodated. We have a very close working relationship with the KRG and will ensure all meetings and movements are properly coordinated. The KRG will be understanding of this arrangement, as this is exactly the same as we would do for a visiting UK Minister or other official delegation.

You should be aware that it's highly unlikely that we'll be able to build a visit to UK troops into the programme. I appreciate that this may come as a disappointment but am in no doubt that the Mayor will find the final programme highly rewarding none the less. The programme you suggest is very much in line with our own thinking. The Consul General will be in touch to discuss this further and then coordinate the practical arrangements directly with the KRG.

I have asked the Iraq Team here to liaise with your office to discuss dates and arrangements for the compulsory security training that the Mayor and those members of the delegation under HMG DoC will need to complete. The cost of this training is approximately £1500, which we will look to the Mayor's Office to cover. I would be happy to make myself available to provide a wider political and economic briefing to set some context immediately before or after the session to ensure the Mayor gets the maximum value from the training.

Please do let me know if you'd like to discuss any of the above in more detail.

Best regards

Edward Oakden

Ends

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Iraq Team [REDACTED]

Email 20

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 08 January 2015 16:43

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

Angus, [REDACTED],

I plan to suggest Edward replies to Sir Edward with the following. Can you please review and suggest amendments by your COP today. Apologies for the tight timeframe.

Thanks

Begins

Sir Edward,

Thank you for your email.

Firstly, I would very much like to welcome this initiative. We see the Mayor's visit as a valuable opportunity to deepen the already important relationship the UK has with the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, especially when it comes to commercial, business and investment links.

We would of course be delighted to bring the Mayor under our duty of care (DoC). This is only right given the Mayor's importance and profile and the current security situation in Iraq. On this basis, and given the constraints that have been discussed with your team, I would suggest that the Mayor and his immediate

team – i.e. yourself and [REDACTED] - are brought under our DoC. This would mean staying at the [REDACTED] and being transported and looked after by our security team. We would then coordinate closely with our KRG colleagues as they make arrangements for the remaining members of the delegation, who would not fall under our DoC. [REDACTED].

Please be in no doubt that the end result will be a single, seamless visit programme. We have a very close and cordial working relationship with the KRG and will be able to ensure that all meetings and movements are properly coordinated, as we have done for numerous Ministerial visits in the past. Ninety percent of the time the delegates will move [REDACTED] vehicles, for example. Likewise, the [REDACTED] is located no more than ten minutes from the [REDACTED], where you suggest the other delegates are likely to be accommodated.

You and the Mayor will want to be aware that it is looking highly unlikely that we will be able to build a visit to UK troops into the programme. I appreciate that this may come as a disappointment but am in doubt that the Mayor will find the final programme highly rewarding none the less. The Consul General will be in touch with you about a draft programme, and then coordinate the practical arrangements direct with the KRG.

I have asked the Iraq Team here to liaise with your office to discuss dates and arrangements for the security training that the Mayor and those members of the delegation under HMG DoC will need to complete. The cost of this training is approximately £1200, which we will look to the Mayor's Office to cover. While I appreciate that there is unlikely to be much flexibility in the Mayor's diary, this training is, unfortunately, compulsory. To ensure that the Mayor gets the maximum value out of the training session, I would be happy to make myself available to provide a wider political and economic briefing either immediately before or after the session.

Please do let me know if you'd like to discuss any of the above in more detail.

Best regards

Edward Oakden

Ends

[REDACTED]

Email 21

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 08 January 2015 10:57
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I spoke to [REDACTED] and spelt out clearly what our Duty of Care offers and pros/cons (just as you did yesterday). I said there was a very strong argument for the Mayor and his immediate office to be under our Duty of Care, and it would not get in the way of a successful visit. I said there were both practical (platform size) and political (question of using public funds) questions marks over including Zahawi/journalists on our platform, but the [REDACTED] did have security, and those additional

participants would be hosted by KRG and part of the programme – just not protected by [REDACTED] if something went wrong. [REDACTED] got that and agreed the compelling argument for the Mayor and immediate party being under our DoC.

As [REDACTED] calculated earlier, on 22-23 Jan we only have capacity for 3 visitors additional to HMA/PPO/[REDACTED]. I see that Edward Lister's email has already "shaved" the party down by a couple, to the Mayor, Sir Edward Lister, [REDACTED] plus Nadhim Zahawi and two journalists. My suggestion is for the practical/political reasons above, that we offer to bring the Mayor's Office party (3 pax) under our DoC but not the other 3. Were they to come and stay at the [REDACTED], they would still be effective participants in the programme, as I know the KRG would provide them with transport etc. You will of course want to discuss this further in the FCO before coming to a decision.

On the programme itself, Edward Oakden's reply can reassure Edward Lister that we will work with the KRG to have a full, seamless programme – just as we do when we coordinate with the KRG on ministerial visits. As you know we will not be giving access to the UK military and it would be helpful if that is trailed in Edward's reply; certainly the Mayor's Office will see that when we share an early draft programme at the beginning of next week. And the President is not in town. But the business activities and touring of Erbil will happen. I'll leave you to answer [REDACTED]'s other questions on costs/insurance.

Thanks
Angus

Email 22

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 09:31
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: Edward Oakden (Sensitive); Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Visit to Erbil [REDACTED]

[REDACTED],

Edward has received an email from Sir Edward Lister (see below) regarding the forthcoming visit of the Mayor of London to Erbil.

We're in the process of resolving a few programme issues with the Mayor's office and would therefore be grateful if Edward could refrain from replying until this is done.

Please do let me know if Edward would like to discuss in more detail at this stage.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Email 23

From: [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** Edward Lister
Sent: 08 January 2015 07:40
To: Edward Oakden (Sensitive)
Cc: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Subject: Visit to Erbil

Dear Edward

I hope this email finds you well. As I'm sure you know the Mayor has been invited to Erbil by Prime Minister Nechirvan Barzani in order to develop relations between London, Erbil and KRG. The invitation was given when they met last May and discussed how London can support the KRG. It is ideal for the Mayor to travel from 21 to 24 January and he would like to focus on London's expertise in urban planning, developing a financial services hub, investment in infrastructure, plus visiting British troops who are training the Peshmerga. Our friend Nadhim Zahawi is giving lots of insights and FCO colleagues in Erbil and Baghdad have equally been providing welcome advice and support with the planning.

I am writing to you to request, formally, that the Mayor and accompanying delegation travel under the FCO's Duty of Care. The Mayor wants the delegation to consist of himself, me, [REDACTED] and Nadhim. We would also like two journalists to join us – [REDACTED] (photographer) and [REDACTED] (Political Editor at The Sun). We recognise that is two more than the preferred max. of three persons. Our challenge is that the KRG have very generously offered to cover the flight and hotel costs for the Mayor and team (probably not the media though) and in taking their hospitality, the Mayor is keen to try to do as much of the KRG's suggested programme as possible (which I know the FCO team on the ground can coordinate with the KRG reps). However he recognises that he is a recognisable British dignitary and there is a need to keep things as safe and secure as possible.

I understand that Nadhim has spoken to Angus in Erbil, and that they have agreed the Mayor and team could stay at the [REDACTED] (suggested by the KRG) as this is just as safe as the preferred [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] – a summary is below. To emphasise, the Mayor is keen to be able to meet the British troops training the peshmerga and to do some sightseeing on the Friday.

Questions: does this all sound reasonable to do on Thursday and Friday? Are the numbers too many? What is the cost of the hostile environment training? I understand everyone travelling will need to do the condensed version (2/3 hours). Will FCO insurance cover the Mayor and delegation?

Thursday 22nd: arrive Erbil approx. 1315 on Thursday 22nd on the Royal Jordanian flight from Amman (having left London late night Wednesday). Programme to start after check-in at hotel or at least some time to freshen up.

- Thursday: meetings with the PM (likely to be joined by other Ministers), President, roundtable / discussion with British business people ([REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were mentioned) in Erbil (under the British Business Group umbrella?), ending with an official dinner hosted by the PM.
- Friday: breakfast with the British teams training the Peshmerga and observing their activities, possibly time with media or UK businesses, and then rest of the afternoon to be sightseeing. The Mayor likes the idea of the citadel and staying in the city.
- Saturday: all to dept Erbil on 0430 Royal Jordanian flight to Amman and then on to London.

I am back in the UK today, and available to speak this afternoon. Unfortunately time is not on our side and your speedy advice would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks very much to all involved so far.

Regards

Ed
Sir Edward Lister
Chief of Staff & Deputy Mayor, Policy & Planning

Subject: Possible visit by Mayor of London to KRI

Email exchanges between British Consulate Erbil, British Embassy Baghdad, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Mayor of London's Office (MO) and Prime Minister's Office (PMO)

Email 1 FCO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 January 2015 10:25

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Subject: Fw: POSSIBLE VISIT BY MAYOR OF LONDON TO KRI

TBA

Email 2 PMO to FCO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 10:06 AM

To: [REDACTED]; Edward Oakden (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: POSSIBLE VISIT BY MAYOR OF LONDON TO KRI

The PM has noted the intention of the Mayor of London to visit the KRG 22-23 Jan and is content. He is happy with the plan, including the visit to Troops, and notes the intention to provide the party with DoC. I would be grateful if you would coordinate the plans with MOD.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit draft programme

Email exchanges between British Consulate General in Erbil and British Embassy in Baghdad

Email 1 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 11 January 2015 12:02
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Mayor of London visit draft programme

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Thanks. Once the prog is a bit tighter, & we have a specific engagement event decided, we can consider whether to invite a few of those outside the country.

I hope to call on the Minister of Electricity soon, possibly when you're here.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]
Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 2 – BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2015 10:52 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme

I am not sure, but they have representation in Dubai. They might send someone senior for Borris. Our contact is [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

I have asked Corp Services to look into Iraqi Airlines flights and will keep you posted.

Email 3 – BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 11 January 2015 13:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Mayor of London visit draft programme -

CLASSIFICATION:[REDACTED]

Thanks. Do they have a rep here?

Are you coming up later this week? I know Mon-Wed couldn't be accommodated but I'd be keen to see you here after that.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil

[REDACTED]

Email sent from Blackberry, please excuse errors

Email 4 – BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2015 08:39 AM

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); Frank Baker (Sensitive); Belinda Lewis (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme –

Angus

On big UK companies, one suggestion is [REDACTED] who is working with the Ministry of Electricity in the KR.

[REDACTED]

Email 5 BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 11 January 2015 07:40

To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive); Frank Baker (Sensitive); Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED];

Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme

[REDACTED]

Thanks. We'll revise this again after the weekend – following the latest steer from No. 10 (which might concede he can meet the UK military), and after an initial conversation with the KRG.

[REDACTED] which is why I think we should work to get a few bigger fish in. Being seen in the room with the Mayor and HMA is an explicit endorsement of our backing. I'm not suggesting we publicise [REDACTED] but we should offer them the chance to be there. If your team had similar suggestions, they'd be welcome.

On Belinda's separate point: I'd work on the basis that Ali Sindi would be included in PM Nechirvan's meeting, and also invited to the Mayor/Qubad talk.

Angus

Email 6 BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 11 January 2015 05:47

To: [REDACTED] (Sensitive)

Subject: Fw: Mayor of London visit draft programme

[REDACTED] - on investors, I'd already thought that the 'reform' talk with Johnson/Qubad would include the top Kurdish businessmen - Kar Group etc. We bill it as a select event. I'll cast it to make sure it has a lot of networking time.

Angus McKee
UK Consul General, Erbil
Tel. [REDACTED]

Email 7 BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Frank Baker (Sensitive)
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2015 05:39 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme

Angus,

Thanks. I agree with you. It is also worth remembering that the Mayor will be looking for meetings with potential investors into London.

[REDACTED]

F

Email 8 from BE Baghdad to BE Baghdad and BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 January 2015 05:33
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); Frank Baker (Sensitive); Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme - [REDACTED]

Angus, I'm speaking to [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) later today and will mention it to him.

[REDACTED]

Email 9 from BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Sent: 11 January 2015 07:40
To: Frank Baker (Sensitive); Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme

[REDACTED]

Thanks. We'll revise this again after the weekend – following the latest steer from No. 10 (which might concede he can meet the UK military), and after an initial conversation with the KRG.

Part of the problem in Erbil is the permanent British businesspeople are all closer to the bottom-feeder end/middle of the spectrum, which is why I think we should work to get a few bigger fish in. Being seen in the room with the Mayor and HMA is an explicit endorsement of our backing. I'm not suggesting we publicise [REDACTED] but we should offer them the chance to be there. If your team had similar suggestions, they'd be welcome.

On Belinda's separate point: I'd work on the basis that Ali Sindi would be included in PM Nechirvan's meeting, and also invited to the Mayor/Qubad talk.

Angus

Email 10 from BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 09 January 2015 14:59

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); Frank Baker (Sensitive); Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme - OFFICIAL SENSITIVE OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Angus,

Thanks for consulting me on the Trade side. I'm sure others, in particular Frank, will have thoughts but here's mine; rather than a Business Breakfast, why don't we aim for a Business Reception on the Friday evening using [REDACTED] as the venue (it lent itself excellently for the BBG Launch, and is a great backdrop for the media). Perhaps the BBGK could host and help organise [REDACTED]?

As you say, we could also line up a few big companies, but some may not want to be in the same room (e.g. [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] probably wouldn't and doesn't like the limelight), [REDACTED], and I'm unsure if [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) plan to be in town but we could ask (though they'd want minimal publicity at this stage). Can't think of any others within a KR context at this stage.

On the Prosperity side, copying [REDACTED] in for his views.

[REDACTED]

Email 11 from BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive)

Sent: 09 January 2015 11:49

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive); Frank Baker (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Mayor of London visit draft programme

Thanks Angus. Is it worth getting Ali Sindi more involved re: reconstruction projects and raising capital?

B

Email 12 BCG Erbil to BE Baghdad

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 09 January 2015 09:55

To: Frank Baker (Sensitive); Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Mayor of London visit draft programme

Frank, Belinda, [REDACTED], [REDACTED],

[REDACTED] and I have come up with a first draft programme for Johnson. It does not include UK military. I'd welcome your thoughts, particularly on how it might best advance our prosperity objectives.

I've cast the first (half) day as more "Kurdistan Region/UK", the second more "cities". Given that the UK business presence here is a mixed bag, I wonder if it's worth UKTI lining up a few key UK businesses to bring in a senior individual for this visit (e.g. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], etc), who can be included in

the Mayor/Qubad event and business breakfast (possibly even the Nechirvan dinner). Friday is a bit more of a challenge: need to look hard at the bazaar walkabout (but I think it's doable), not sure if the Governors would want to participate in a Friday event, etc. I assume the party will want an early night. There is the option of joining the Caledonian Society's Burns Supper.

Anyway, views please, by Sunday. Thanks.

>>>>>

Thursday 22/1

Arrive Erbil 13.15; transfer to hotel; freshen up and short briefing with Ambassador/Consul General; programme starts from 14.30.

Meeting with PM Nechirvan & Cabinet

Mayor hosted by DPM Qubad – talk to select audience of UK and Kurdish businesspeople, young entrepreneurs, KRG reformists, etc. on a reform theme; followed by half hour mixing.

Tour of Erbil International Airport – showcasing British expertise. Media opportunity.

Dinner with PM Nechirvan

Friday 23/1

All day.

Breakfast meeting with UK businesses

Call on Governor (cities/anti-ISIL message)

Tour of citadel, bazaar

Anfal Memorial (TBC)

Late afternoon: Governor, Governors of Sulemani/Duhok, etc – short talk on the development/infrastructure/security challenges of a modern city

Press conference

Evening TBC

Saturday 24/1

04.30 Royal Jordanian flight to Amman/London.

<<<<<

Subject: Erbil visit

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil and Nadhim Zahawi's Office (NZO)

Email 1 –From NZO to BCG Erbil

From: ZAHAWI, Nadhim
Sent: 08 January 2015 16:58
To: Angus McKee
Subject: Re: Erbil visit

That looks really good.

Sent from my iPhone

Email 2 –From BCG Erbil to NZO

On 8 Jan 2015, at 16:46, "Angus.Mckee" wrote:

Dear Nadhim

I've jotted down below some initial ideas for the forthcoming visit. Please don't share them with the Mayor's office yet (they are in touch with the FCO separately, finalising the duty of care question). I've also sent this to the Ambassador and UKTI team to get their thoughts. But do let me know your initial reactions, and any other big ideas you have.

Thursday 22/1

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Meeting with PM Nechirvan & Cabinet

Mayor hosted by DPM Qubad – talk to audience of UK and Kurdish businesspeople, young entrepreneurs, KRG reformists, etc. on a reform theme

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Press conference

Evening TBC

Saturday 24/1

04.30 Royal Jordanian flight to Amman/London.

Thanks,

Angus

Angus McKee

HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq

[REDACTED]

Subject: hostile environment training

Email exchange between Mayor of London's Office (MO) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)

Email 1 from FCO to MO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 16:21
To: [REDACTED];
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: hostile environment training

Hi [REDACTED],

Please find attached an earlier email I sent to [REDACTED] giving further details which will answer many of your questions. Please note that the cost is a one-off fee for a group of up to approx. six participants. Please do feel free to ask any further questions as the need arises but it would be best to use the 'Security Direct' address as the whole team sees messages this way and we can ensure there is no delay in responding.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

Email 2 from MO to FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 16:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: hostile environment training

Thanks very much [REDACTED] and good to meet you [REDACTED].

Just to confirm: [REDACTED]? Also, does it need to happen at FCO offices or can it happen at city hall? Am I correct in saying to colleagues here that everyone who travels under FCO Duty of Care needs to do the briefing? And that it is a contractual requirement of [REDACTED]? Who is the training provider?

Sorry for all the questions and if this is possibly repeating conversations from yesterday. It's just so I can provide full info to the Private Office.

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 3 from FCO to MO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 15:59
To: [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: hostile environment training

Hi [REDACTED],

My colleague [REDACTED] (CCd) has kindly agreed to work with you to find an appropriate time for the course.

[REDACTED]

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 4 from MO to FCO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 15:24
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: hostile environment training

Thanks [REDACTED]. Private Office keen to know.

[REDACTED]

Email 5 from FCO to MO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 13:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: hostile environment training

Hi [REDACTED],

I've just spoken to our security training team. I've got to dash out to a meeting but will forward a point of contact and costs ASAP.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 6 from MO to FCO

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 08 January 2015 13:38

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: hostile environment training

Hi [REDACTED]

Please can you come back ASAP re: costs of the training? Could you also outline what the training involves.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Bespoke VIP Safe Training

Email exchange between officials at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 08 January 2015 14:40

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Bespoke VIP SAFE Training

Dear [REDACTED],

We briefly discussed the possibility of The Mayor of London undertaking VIP SAFE training for a forthcoming visit to Erbil and I undertook to send you more information about cost, content etc.

[REDACTED]

In order to provide a tailored briefing, it is useful to have feedback on the following:

- Has the VIP had any military experience,background?
- Has the VIP ever visited SAFE/+ countries in the past, and if so, when? Did they travel outside the capital city?
- Has the VIP had any sort of SAFE/+type training in the past, and when?
- Has the VIP ever had Close Protection or experience of it?
- Has the VIP ever used body armour?

We would be very happy to help arrange a suitable briefing and await further contact from yourself or someone in the Mayor's office.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

Subject: Erbil / DOC Advice Requested

Email exchange between Mayor of London's Office (MO), British Consulate General in Erbil and Nadhim Zahawi's Office (NZO)

Email 1 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2015 10:00
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Subject: Re: Erbil / DoC - advice requested OFFICIAL

Great, sounds good, speak soon.

Email 2 – BCG to MO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2015 09:25 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Edward Lister
Subject: Re: Erbil / DoC - advice requested [REDACTED]

No irritation, quite the opposite, we want to make this work. I'll call you at 10. Once we've spoken I can update Edward Oakden which will hopefully speed up his response.

Angus
UK Consul General, Erbil
[REDACTED]

Email 3 – MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2015 09:14 AM
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: Edward Lister
Subject: Re: Erbil / DoC - advice requested

Morning Angus

Thanks very much for the advice below. Rest assured it is being heard and my apologies if the questions were irritating (I wasn't trying to be).

I am happy to speak this morning. I've an external appointment now but could speak anytime after 10 if that is convenient.

Best
[REDACTED]

Email 4 – BCG Erbil to MO

From: Angus Mckee
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2015 08:32 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Edward Lister
Subject: RE: Erbil / DoC - advice requested

[REDACTED]

I said to Nadhim that going without the FCO duty of care might still work from a *practical* perspective – i.e. the Ambassador and I could still join the programme. But that's not to say that would be optimal from the security perspective – hence both me (to Nadhim) and [REDACTED]/ [REDACTED] (to you) pushing for the delegation being on our platform under our duty of care, albeit meaning a constraint on the delegation's numbers (or the principals at least being under our duty of care, but not others in the delegation).

I think you and I should talk through properly on the phone... tomorrow morning?

Angus

Angus McKee
HM Consul General to the Kurdistan Region and Northern Iraq
[REDACTED]

Email 5 –MO to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 January 2015 20:58
To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)
Cc: Edward Lister
Subject: Erbil / DoC - advice requested

Angus

Sorry to disturb this evening. I've just received the email below from Nadhim, per his call with you. It is different to what I was advised by [REDACTED]and [REDACTED], who gave strong recommendations that the Mayor and delegation should all travel under FCO duty of care and that the delegation should ideally be 3 people max. Are you comfortable with this approach?

To be able to plan for the worst case, if we do not travel with FCO duty of care what would happen in the case of an emergency? Would it be for the KRG to organise for the Mayor and delegation to be evacuated (again, thinking about the worst case)? If not, who?

Looking forward to hearing from you,
[REDACTED]

Email 6 – NZO to MO

From: ZAHAWI, Nadhim
Sent: 07 January 2015 17:28
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Edward Lister
Subject: Re: Erbil flights

I have spoken to Angus. He agrees that we can go without FCO duty of care and he and Frank can join us at our hotel in the morning and be part of trip. They would prefer the duty of care option or only Boris being under it, although he does admit that it is hugely restrictive. He also agrees that [REDACTED] Hotel is super safe as it hosts [REDACTED].

I strongly recommend that we stick with our plans. I promise you it's the best option.

N

Sent from my iPhone

Email 7 MO to NZO

On 7 Jan 2015, at 15:33, [REDACTED] wrote:
Nadhim, [REDACTED]

I've been in touch with Consulate in Erbil. Their strong advice is for the Mayor to travel under FCO Duty of Care which, per our conversation on Monday, is likely to mean that he stays in their hotel and not the [REDACTED]. For insurance reasons we have to go with this. Please could you advise if the KRG would be happy to cover this cost?

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 8 – MO to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 January 2015 14:30
To: 'ZAHAWI, Nadhim'; [REDACTED]
Cc: Edward Lister
Subject: RE: Erbil flights

Nadhim, [REDACTED]

Thanks very much for your time on the call the other day, really appreciate your advice and support.

I am writing to update you on the flights that we would like to take. The original combination of Turkish airlines and Atlas Jet flights now seem to have disappeared and the only combination remaining involves British Airways and Royal Jordanian – as attached. Given the timings and a full programme on arrival it would be ideal if the Mayor and his team (plus Nadhim of course!) could travel in business class, for the outbound flights at least but preferably both legs if possible. Is this something you could discuss with the PM's office. We hope they don't think our request is too cheeky or onerous; it's very generous of them to cover the costs.

I am speaking with the two journalists who we would like to accompany to triple check their requirements for bookings and so forth. If it's ok with you I can send an update with full names, passport information of all passengers to be booked as soon as I have everything.

Thank you again
[REDACTED]

Email 9 – NZO to MO

From: ZAHAWI, Nadhim [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2015 08:41
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Edward Lister;
Subject: Re: Erbil

Looking forward to it. [REDACTED] copied and will join us.

Sent from my iPhone

Email 10 – MO to NZO

On 5 Jan 2015, at 07:39, [REDACTED] wrote:
Morning all

Thanks for the emails. I will send in dial-in details for a call at 3.30 London time. There is plenty to get through and I hope your diaries might be able to spare at least 45 mins (preferably an hour).

Nadhim - it's good to meet you and thank you for your assistance and support to this visit. It might be useful if [REDACTED] joins the call also, diary permitting, to cover off the practicalities of bookings etc.

Please be in touch if any questions in the meantime.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

Email 11 – MO to NZO

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 01:17 AM
To: Edward Lister; 'ZAHAWI, Nadhim'
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

I'm fine for 330pm

Email 12 – MO to NZO

-----Original Message-----

From: Edward Lister
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 12:42 AM GMT Standard Time
To: 'ZAHAWI, Nadhim'

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Erbil

Just let me know what time and the number and I will dial in.

Ed

Email 13 – NZO to MO

-----Original Message-----

From: ZAHAWI, Nadhim
Sent: Sunday, January 04, 2015 02:55 PM GMT Standard Time
To: Edward Lister
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Erbil
Can we go for 3:30 pm UK time.

Sent from my iPhone

Email 14 – MO to MO and NZO

On 4 Jan 2015, at 14:30, "Edward Lister" wrote:

Can I suggest a telephone conference call for Monday. I am around from 13:00 your time

Ed

Email 14 – MO to MO

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 03, 2015 07:02 PM GMT Standard Time
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Edward Lister
Subject: Erbil

After discussion with the Mayor and Ed we will delay the Mayor's departure for Erbil until late Wednesday evening.

He will attend the [REDACTED] event in Central London until 645pm.

The plan would then be to join [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and a n other journalist and catch the 1030pm flight to Istanbul, overnighing at the airport and catching the 1030am Thursday flight Istanbul to Erbil.

Don't know whether Nadhim comes with us and/or makes sense for you and Ed and Nadhim to stick with the Wednesday mid afternoon departure so we can hit the ground running Thursday?

That gives us the afternoon and evening Thursday for engagement with British Business group and the PM, and Friday to do UK troop training and Erbil sights.

Ed feels its tight but I'm sure doable as this should be a short in and out anyway as PM and SoS often do.

Can we all chat Monday and see if we can nail this down.

Thanks

Subject: Visit to Erbil

Email exchange between: Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), British Consulate General in Erbil (BCG Erbil), British Embassy Baghdad and Mayor of London's Office (MO)

Email 1 from MO to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 January 2015 12:14
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: O: Visit to Erbil

Hi [REDACTED]
No problem at all, I am happy to delay until 1530 or later, whichever suits you.
In terms of security clearance, I can see documents marked "[REDACTED]" – does this help?

Best
[REDACTED]

Email 2 from FCO to MO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 January 2015 12:12
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: O: Visit to Erbil

Hi [REDACTED],

I do apologise but would it be possible to push out meeting back half an hour to 1530? Unfortunately something urgent has come up.

On your requests, could you let me know what level of security clearance you have?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 3 from MO to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 January 2015 07:39
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: O: Visit to Erbil

Hello [REDACTED]

Just thinking ahead, would you mind bringing any recent diptels, country briefings, reports or any other documents related to HMG engagement with Kurdistan to our discussion later? I know that some of these can't be shared by email and conscious of timescales, it would be easier to have sight of info that might be relevant to the Mayor's briefing pack. Hope you don't think this is too cheeky of me to request.

Thanks very much in advance and see you at 3pm.

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

Email 4 from MO to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 06, 2015 09:17 AM
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: O: Visit to Erbil

Thanks very much [REDACTED] – 3pm would be ideal.

Please see a location map for city hall at the web link: <http://www.london.gov.uk/city-hall/location-map>

On arrival at Reception please ask for me and I'll come to collect you. Will you be accompanied by any of your colleagues?

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Email 5 from FCO to MO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 January 2015 08:44
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: O: Visit to Erbil

[REDACTED],

That should be fine. Would 1500 work for you?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 6 from MO to FCO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2015 19:13
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: O: Visit to Erbil

Hello [REDACTED]

Thanks for getting in touch and yes, it would be good to talk.

Would you be able to come to City Hall on Wednesday afternoon? I'm around all afternoon if that suits, or end of the day is also good. Nearest tube stop is London Bridge.

Thanks very much
[REDACTED]

Email 7 from FCO to MO and BE Baghdad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 02, 2015 11:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: O: Visit to Erbil

[REDACTED], [REDACTED],

I hope this finds you well.

I understand that you have been in contact with my colleagues Belinda Lewis and [REDACTED] regarding the possible visit of the Mayor to Erbil in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

I am writing to introduce myself and suggest that we meet at a time of your convenience to discuss the Mayor's plans in more detail.

Please do let me know when would be a good time for you. You are more than welcome at the FCO or I'm happy to come to City Hall if that would be easier.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Briefing for Boris Johnson visit

Email exchange between British Consulate General in Erbil and British Embassy Baghdad

Email 1 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 January 2015 16:18

To: Belinda Lewis (Sensitive); Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Subject: FW: Briefing for Boris Johnson visit

Belinda/Angus

FYI, not sure exactly when you need this but I will send on the final draft when I get comments from colleagues.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Email 2 – From BE Baghdad to BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 January 2015 19:15

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Briefing for Boris Johnson visit

[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Please find attached commercial briefing as requested by Belinda for the Mayor of London visit to Erbil. She asked for a page and a half on our commercial engagement with Iraq, with a focus on KRG and F&P services (given Boris' interest in this sector). Many thanks to [REDACTED] for her excellent research and write up on the financial sector which I have incorporated into the brief.

Grateful for comments by noon Wednesday so that I can send on to Belinda.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Subject: Possible visit to KRI by Mayor of London: January 2015

Email exchange between the British Consulate General in Erbil and Department for International Development

Email 1 –Between officials at BCG Erbil

From: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Sent: 04 January 2015 04:46

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: POSSIBLE VISIT TO KRI BY MAYOR OF LONDON: JANUARY 2015 [REDACTED]

FYI

Email 2 –Between officials at BCG Erbil

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 28 December 2014 06:32

To: Angus McKee (Sensitive)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: POSSIBLE VISIT TO KRI BY MAYOR OF LONDON: JANUARY 2015 OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

Angus,

As you will be aware when PM Barzani visited London in May he met with the Mayor of London (Boris Johnson). During his meeting the PM extended an invitation to the Mayor to visit Erbil.

Mr Johnson's Private Office have been in touch, the Mayor has accepted the invitation from the PM and his office have suggested that the visit takes place on 22-23 January. The purpose of the visit would be to;

- Promote London's expertise in the areas of urban development, developing a financial services hub and investment in infrastructure.

In addition to the above the Mayor would also like to undertake a morale boosting call on UK military personnel deployed in the KRI.

On the logistics of the proposed dates, you, I and [REDACTED] will all be in Erbil. [REDACTED] will have departed but his successor ([REDACTED]) will be in theatre. [REDACTED] is due to finish his tour in Erbil on 25th and during the week of the proposed visit will be handing over to his successor. I am working on the basis that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] will also be back and [REDACTED] from NSGI will also be here giving us a total of nine UKBS on platform during the period of the proposed visit.

At this stage I am unsighted as to whether or not the Mayor will fall under our Duty of Care (DoC), I am assuming that this will be the case but will seek clarification from Iraq Team and ESD(S) on this. During the visit the Mayor will be accompanied by at least one member of his Private Office (this will probably be [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in the Mayor's office and with who I have had contact with in the past; albeit when I was doing a different FCO job). I have a telecon scheduled for tomorrow (29th) with [REDACTED] and her colleague [REDACTED] and will revert following this. In the meantime grateful if;

[REDACTED]: Your (and MoD) views on a call by the Mayor on UK military personnel deployed in the KRI. My initial thought is that this would only be a runner if the visit by the Mayor would allow us to fit in a Out of Area to Sulemaniyah that would permit a visit to [REDACTED]. There could also be positive benefits

related to the other priorities for the Mayor's visit (infrastructure, urban development) from the inclusion of Sulemaniyah in the programme if time permits.

[REDACTED]: Grateful if you could confirm that we will have sufficient room space available on the [REDACTED] to accommodate the nine UKBS who will be on platform during the period of the visit along with the Mayor +1. You should also assume that HMA will want to be in Erbil for the visit. With the exception of the Operations Manager and the Communications Officer all remaining expat members of the [REDACTED] security team should now be doubled up in accommodation at the [REDACTED] as the norm and as permitted under the FCO/[REDACTED] contract. If HMA does come to Erbil for the Mayor's visit he will be accompanied by a [REDACTED] PPO from Baghdad and this PPO should be doubled up with one of our [REDACTED] expat team members. It is also possible that [REDACTED] will want to come up but I suspect that the platform will not be able to accommodate and we may need to push back.

[REDACTED]: There have been no indications from the Mayor's office that he would like any IDP related element to his programme. I do not intend raise this with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] but grateful if you could let me have your views on how such an element could be incorporated if it does come up.

A wonderful start to the New Year.

[REDACTED]