

Digest FOI -0039-17

From: Middle East North Africa Department Research Group
Sent: 02 December 2016
To: Simon Collis * HMA Riyadh
Subject: Saudi leadership profiles: [Redacted]- request for in-put from post by Monday 5 December

Simon

I attach [Redacted], intended for the FS briefing pack

I'd very much welcome any comments and additions from you and colleagues at post, in particular on [Redacted], by close on Monday 5 December.

[Redacted] but [Redacted] will need to include a draft in the first cut of the briefing back going up to Private Office. [Redacted] can incorporate comments and finalise in time for the final version of the briefing pack.

Very many thanks in advance – and apologies for adding to your already considerable burdens,

Middle East & North Africa Research Group

.....

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department (APID)
Sent: 22 November 2016 15:39
To: Gulf Team, FCO
Cc:– Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department (APID)
Subject: RE: Visits Memo - GCC Summit, Manama Dialogue + Riyadh

Hi [Redacted]

Post submitted a revised programme this morning.[Redacted] Re your specific questions:

Private Office want greater clarity on three key objectives for trip. Shared with [Redacted] He will check with [Redacted] but this was his understanding of the visit.

If we agree on above objectives, where in programme will there be an opportunity for FS to [Redacted] .

I suggested that following t[Redacted] this is now much more likely as However the three issues with this are:

- a) [Redacted]
- b) [Redacted]
- c) . [Redacted]

Yes (I think this Q was based on an old draft of the programme).

Can there be more specific timings put on the programme, including arrival into Riyadh from Manama?

I think this question from [Redacted] was directed to Private Office. Have they come back on this? Happy to chase PO (need to get an answer on where the FS' delegation will stay as well).

Happy to elaborate on these/add more detail if necessary?

Thanks,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 22 November 2016 14:54

To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: FW: Visits Memo - GCC Summit, Manama Dialogue + Riyadh

Hi [Redacted], Have you managed to make any progress today with Post following [Redacted] feedback yesterday? Thanks v much,

From: Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary

Sent: 22 November 2016 14:53

To: Head of Arabian and Iran Department
Subject: RE: Visits Memo - GCC Summit, Manama Dialogue + Riyadh

Many thanks for this and all the work that has gone into the programme so far. I know how busy Post and Desk are with the back-to-back visits to the region.

Thank you for reflecting our discussion. A couple of additional comments.

We've heard from MoD that the SoS for Defence will no longer be joining the FS in Riyadh – I understand that this is due to [Redacted] the following week.

I think after draft 2, it would be worth us sitting down and discussing the proposed programme with SpAds.

Any other questions, let me know,

Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

.....
From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 08 December 2016 12:57
To: DIFD

Subject: RE: Visit to KSA and FS pack

Thanks for this. Understood on SoS. We've included the [Redacted] in the pack and will flag it to [Redacted]. [Redacted] – could you send [Redacted] the final version once it's gone?

Deputy Head of Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
.....

From: Deputy Head of Arabian &Iran Department,FCO
Sent: 07 December 2016 17:15
To: British Embassy (BE) Riyadh
Subject: RE: Urgent: VIP travel plans?

. I've just spoken to Private Office and confirmed that we are sticking to the original FS plans:

-
- departing for Riyadh at [Redacted]

;- Riyadh Saturday evening and Sunday day.

[Redacted]

Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

From: Gulf Team, FCO
Sent: 04 December 2016 22:52
To: British Embassy Riyadh
Subject: Urgent: FS KSA visit- first cut of the pack (deadline 10am Mon)
Importance: High

All,

With thanks for your help so far, please find our proposed pack for the FS' trip to KSA next week. We will be submitting this (as a first draft) to PO at midday tomorrow.

If you have any final comments, please can we have this by 10am (GMT) tomorrow. Placeholders are ok at this stage.

Please find attached:

-Draft Programme [Redacted]

-Draft Priti Patel Programme [Redacted]

- [Redacted] bilateral brief
- [Redacted] bilateral brief
- [Redacted] - bilateral brief
- [Redacted] bilateral brief
- [Redacted] bio ([Redacted] is updating with Simon)
- [Redacted] bio
- [Redacted] annotated agenda
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted] brief
- [Redacted] brief
- [Redacted] brief
- [Redacted] brief
- [Redacted] brief
- [Redacted] brief
- [Redacted] brief
- Redacted]

Awaiting:

- [Redacted] bio ([Redacted] we spoke, high side please send to [Redacted] by 10am)
- [Redacted] -[Redacted] bio ([Redacted] we spoke, high side please send to [Redacted] by 10am)
- Media Q&A ([Redacted] we spoke please send by [Redacted])
- Press Conference briefing ([Redacted] we spoke please send by [Redacted])
- Event brief: [Redacted] ([Redacted] please send by [Redacted])
- Event brief: [Redacted] please send by [Redacted])
- Event brief: [Redacted]) (Post please send by 10am)
- Event brief: Saudi Colours (Post please send by 10am)
- Event brief: [Redacted] dinner (Post please send by 10am)
- Scene Setter DipTel (Post please send by 10am)

-[Redacted] thematic brief ([Redacted] we spoke please send by 10am)

-[Redacted] brief ([Redacted] we spoke please send by 10am)

-[Redacted] brief ([Redacted] we spoke please send by 10am)

Please let me know if there is anything we have missed...

Thanks for your ongoing help with this!

IGulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: British Embassy Riyadh
Sent: 07 December 2016 07:34
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: Re: SoSFA briefing - Economy and Energy (incorporating the OPEC brief)

With thanks to [Redacted] for condensing these briefs, please see attached a couple of factual amendments in tracked changes.

Will these still be covered in a separate brief?

Regards,

From: MENAD, FCO
Sent: 06 December 2016 20:28

To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: Economy and Energy (incorporating the OPEC brief)

PSA a combined [Redacted] brief. Please could you read it through before submitting?

Grateful for any comments by our first thing Wednesday (preferably [Redacted] on this. I've cut down significantly otherwise [Redacted] .

Thanks

.....

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 25 November 2016 19:08
To: MENARG Research Analyst, Cabinet Office, MOD
Cc: Subject: RE: [Redacted]

Hi [Redacted]

Thanks. It's really appreciate your offer to help us on this (specifically the [Redacted] brief) and connecting me with [Redacted]. Re the [Redacted] brief I think it still works.

[Redacted] please do let us know if doing something on [Redacted] is possible please?

Apologies for the urgency all but please could we have something by CoP Thurs (1 Dec)?

Thanks,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: MENARG, Research Analyst. FCO
Sent: 25 November 2016 16:57
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: [Redacted]
Importance: High

You asked about [Redacted] ahead of the FS visit next month.

[Redacted]– let me know if you think it still works.

[Redacted] should be able to check what’s already available [Redacted]– and are best placed to identify what might be possible if more is needed.

I think there should be enough material [Redacted]. Unless [Redacted] can think of anyone else who might be worth tapping, I should be able to work on this, if [Redacted] is willing to contribute – [Redacted]. Could you check the APID shared area for an [Redacted]? And let me know what the deadline would be?

Principal Research Analyst, GCC States and Joint Head, Middle East & North Africa Research Group(

.....

From: MENAD, FCO
Sent: 02 December 2016 21:37
To: Simon Collis * HMA Riyadh

Subject: [Redacted]- request for in-put from post by Monday 5 December

Simon

I attach a [Redacted] intended for the FS briefing pack.

[Redacted], but [Redacted] will need to include a draft in the first cut of the briefing back going up to Private Office. [Redacted]and can incorporate comments and finalise in time for the final version of the briefing pack.

Very many thanks in advance

.....

From: BE Riyadh, Political section

Sent: 07 December 2016 08:50

To: BE Riyadh, Political Section , Gulf Team ,Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: RE: Re: SoSFA briefing - Economy and Energy (incorporating the [Redacted]

brief)

I agree the [Redacted] briefs should cross-reference one another, explicitly.

[Redacted]

.....

From: BE Riyadh, Political section

Sent: 05 December 2016 13:17

To: Gulf Team,, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: latest programme

You requested latest version of programme - attached. There are several TBCs depending on confirmation of calls and [Redacted] We also need to agree a plan with [Redacted]. If not, then we can use the downtime at the Residence.

We still do not have clarity on [Redacted]. Our understanding was that Private Offices were talking to each other to bottom this out. Is there any update you're aware of?

Best

British Embassy Riyadh

From: Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, FCO
Sent: 08 December 2016 15:42
To: Simon Collis * HMA Riyadh)
Subject: Latest FS travel plans

Simon

With huge apologies for yet another email on FS travel plans this weekend, the latest from Private Office is that the FS now plans to do the following:

- [Redacted]
- Riyadh on Sunday (suggest that the programme[Redacted])

Hopefully Private Office will be writing out shortly to confirm this but wanted to ensure you had a heads up.

Deputy Head of Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

From: Arabian Peninsular and Iran Department, FCO
Sent: 29 November 2016 18:08
To: Foreign Secretary office; Private Secretary/Foreign Secretary
Subject: RE: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

[Redacted]– after speaking to [Redacted] today, would suggest if there is still availability on option 2 – the [Redacted]

Flight – going for that option, and assuming there will be [Redacted]
travelling in the delegation (FS, PS, SpAd + [Redacted]).

Best,

**Head of the Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, Middle East & North
Africa Directorate**

From: Foreign Secretary Office
Sent: 29 November 2016 13:25
To: Private Secretary/Foreign Secretary

Subject: FW: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

[Redacted]- I've just checked all flight options between Bahrain and Riyadh in the afternoon/evening and apparently there is currently very limited availability on options 2 and 3 (Redacted]proposals mention 1 and 2) on Saturday 10 December:

- 1) [Redacted] depart Bahrain [Redacted] arrive Riyadh [Redacted]
 - 2) [Redacted] depart Bahrain [Redacted], arrive Riyadh [Redacted]
 - 3) [Redacted]depart Bahrain[Redacted] arrive Riyadh[Redacted]
- ,Assistant Office Manager |Foreign Secretary's Office

From: Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, FCO

Sent: 28 November 2016 16:10

To: Private Secretary/Foreign Secretary

Subject: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

Please find below the draft FS programme for Manama and Riyadh, taking into account previous comments, with thanks to post and desk. This is based on a schedule of flying from Bahrain to Riyadh at [Redacted] on the Saturday. Post have also suggested an alternative programme leaving Bahrain at [Redacted] which would affect the Riyadh evening programme). On careful reflection from MENAD we recommend the [Redacted] departure from Bahrain.

[Redacted]

I have also attached a draft separate programme being [Redacted]

Please let us know your thoughts.

| Head of the Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, Middle East & North Africa Directorate

.....

From:BE Riyadh

Sent: 30 November 2016 19:23

To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: RE: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

See attached the latest version of FS programme. You'll see we're proposing changes after further detailed discussion here today.

Best

British Embassy Riyadh

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 29 November 2016 22:26

To: BE Riyadh;

Subject: FW: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

Hi [Redacted], all

Thanks for your hard work on this so far. [Redacted]sought feedback on this (below). I have made some of the changes but could you respond to the points below/in the attached in red.

[Redacted]could you do the same for the ID SoS' programme too please?

Please could we have these changes **by 14:30 tomorrow?**

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Head Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, FCO

Sent: 29 November 2016 18:34

To: Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, FCO; Private Secretary/Foreign Secretary

Subject: RE: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

We discussed earlier on the FS programme to the region from 9th-11th.

On the Riyadh programme:

- Need for later start time for evening event at [Redacted]
- More information wanted on who would attend [Redacted])
- Agreed with [Redacted]if possible (with caveat below)
- Asked if 15-20 minutes could be added into day 2 (on 11th) programme (probably in morning) to [Redacted]
- Mentioned [Redacted]and asked to look into whether we recommend here (but mindful of numbers and content to be discussed)
- Asked for more information about [Redacted]
- Preference for [Redacted]

Head of the Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, Middle East & North Africa Directorate

.....
From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 07 December 2016 13:11
To: Media Office, FCO

Subject: RE: FS trip - filming?

No problem, helpful steer thanks. We are just waiting for confirmation that they will actually be able to record this clip. If so, will ping you the script. Literally a soundbite.

From: Media Office, FCO
Sent: 07 December 2016 16:08
To: BE Riyadh

Subject: RE: FS trip - filming?

Fine for the [Redacted] clip (do you have a script for this which I can include, please? Or is it in main briefing pack?).

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 07 December 2016 08:35
To: Media Office, FCO

Subject: RE: FS trip - filming?

[Redacted]

Aside from this [Redacted], there is now only a tiny amount of media on this trip. The FS will do a 30 second piece to camera on Saturday night for [Redacted] internal camera crew on meeting the [Redacted] (controlled setting – this subject only). He will also spend five minutes in a side room at the event [Redacted]

Is there anything else that you would like us to do?

Thanks

From: Media Office, FCO
Sent: 06 December 2016 18:46
To: BE Riyadh
Subject: RE: FS trip - filming?

Could you check and see whether the KSA side would mind if [Redacted] did the same?

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 06 December 2016 12:01
To: Media Office, FCO
Subject: RE: FS trip - filming?

Not yet sure which bilats he will have, [Redacted]

Media Office, FCO

Sent: 06 December 2016 14:54

To: BE Riyadh)

Subject: FS trip - filming?

Hi [Redacted]

Second hand (through [Redacted]we hear the Saudis are keen to film the top of the FS' bilats on Sunday – is this what you've heard from the Saudi side?

Senior Press Officer (Middle East and North Africa)

From: BE Riyadh

Sent: 28 November 2016 10:45

To: BE Riyadh; Gulf Team FCO

Subject: Re: FS KSA Trip: draft programme and draft outline of [Redacted]

Importance: High

The [Redacted]Office have just called asking for the flight details of the FS urgently. We need to provide these to them as soon as possible today. Please can you speak to his PO and confirm these ASAP?

Thank you,

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2016 09:04 AM
To: Gulf Team FCO

Subject: RE: FS KSA Trip: draft programme and draft outline of [Redacted]

I

[Redacted]. I haven't worried about timings – they need some work but no point fiddling at this stage because much will change right up until the last minute.

As discussed yesterday we clearly want to settle the questions of who is doing which calls settled as soon as possible and before arrival in Riyadh. [Redacted]

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 27 November 2016 17:32
To: BE Riyadh

Subject: FW: FS KSA Trip: draft programme and draft outline of the Strategic Dialogue

I have worked this up in the attached draft visit programme and [Redacted] Happy to take any further comments if necessary?

Thanks again all for your hard work on this,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 25 November 2016 22:36
To: BE Riyadh
Subject: FS KSA Trip: draft programme and draft outline of the Strategic Dialogue

Colleagues at Post,

With thanks to [Redacted]for his comments earlier, please find attached our draft programme and [Redacted]

Thanks,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

.....

From:) Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 25 November 2016 00:12
To: BE Riyadh

Importance: High

Following on from this, I have had a go at trying to meet [Redacted]

[Redacted].I am really sorry to ask you this over your weekend but **please could you review the attached by noon (GMT) tomorrow please to meet PO's deadline?**

Would welcome any comments!

Thanks a lot and sorry again,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 08 December 2016 04:53
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: RE: Final thoughts on the programme...

Responses below. We'll keep talking this end, including about your ideas and whether we can make them work in the time we've got.

British Embassy Riyadh

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 07 December 2016 21:31
To: BE Riyadh
Subject: Final thoughts on the programme...

Thanks as always for the incredible amount of work and patience you have put into the visit. I think in every sense we are getting to the final polishing stage of the visit, programme and briefing.

Some final thoughts:

[Redacted]

[Redacted], we can look into it but at this very late stage we doubt it's a runner.

Thanks as always,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

.....

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 06 December 2016 14:02
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: RE: Event briefs/scene setter?

Have 3 discussed your email with Richard & co. We will provide event briefs for the [Redacted] by start of play London time tomorrow. We are [Redacted] so will have to tackle this on Saturday night/ Sunday when we know.

The best plan in terms of scene setter is for us to work it up tomorrow for Simon to run through Thursday morning and issue before our weekend. That will allow us to include anything relevant from the [Redacted]. How far we get will determine[Redacted].. Any earlier really doesn't make any sense.

Hope that's enough for you to brief PO.

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 06 December 2016 15:36

To: BE Riyadh

Subject: Event briefs/scene setter?

Hi both,

Thanks a lot for your help as we approach the 'end game' on this visit.

[Redacted]as discussed, appreciate the event details won't be pinned down till the last minute but please could you send the event briefs with as much detail as possible for our SoP tomorrow please? Can you also give us an indication of when the 'full' brief will be issued please (I assume for the FS' arrival on Sun)?

[Redacted] are you leading on the scene setter? If so when might it be issued please? I think our plan was after the GCC Summit so appreciate it might still be in progress. Unfortunately, our 'hard' deadline with PO is midday tomorrow but we need to incorporate any changes/additions ahead of that. Is that possible please?

Thanks again,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

.....

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 06 December 2016 12:44
To: Gulf Team Arab Peninsula and Iran Department

Thanks [Redacted]

Have already emailed suggested action list to relevant colleagues here seeking input by start tomorrow your time.

.....

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 06 December 2016 13:17
To: Gulf Team FCO Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: RE: event briefs

We are working on the event briefs for you for opening tomorrow. We will include [Redacted] We are waiting for his office to confirm exactly what will happen and how they will interact.

From: Gulf Team , Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 06 December 2016 13:08
To: Gulf Team Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department , BE Riyadh
Subject: RE: event briefs

Thanks. Agree with [Redacted]. We will also need to include the guest list for the reception, who will host [Redacted] and whether we expect the FS to make a speech [Redacted].

Thanks

Middle East and North Africa Directorate | Foreign and Commonwealth Office

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 05 December 2016 18:35
To: BE Riyadh
Subject: RE: event briefs

Thanks for this- have included.

I Gulf Team I Arabian Peninsula Department I MENAD

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 05 December 2016 14:03
To: Gulf Team , Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: event briefs

As requested in lieu of event briefs:

Historic Diriyyah

A chance to see the UNESCO-listed original 'capital' of the Saudi state. [Redacted]

Saudi Colours Forum

Attend the opening of this special exhibition on 100 years of relations between the UK and Saudi Arabia. [Redacted]

Dinner [Redacted]

British Embassy Riyadh

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From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 07 December 2016 08:21
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: RE: Event Briefs

And....finally (for now)! See attached brief for [Redacted]

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 07 December 2016 11:10
To: Gulf Team Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: Event Briefs

Further information below. Please let me know if you need more.

Saturday 10 December

[Redacted]

Key message:

UK is a global outward looking nation and a top tier partner for delivering Saudi Vision 2030

[Redacted]:

Historic Diriyyah :

UNESCO world heritage site Diriyah is the first Saudi capital and houses historical monuments dating back to 1744. It is being currently being renovated to convert it to a cultural-come-tourism centre. [Redacted]

*****8

From: Media Office
Sent: 07 December 2016 16:04
To: ,BE Riyadh
Subject: RE: Diriyyah

Ta! And we're not anticipating cameras here, are we?

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 07 December 2016 13:02
To: Media Office, Gulf Team , Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: RE: Diriyyah

Looks fine to me

From: Media Office FCO
Sent: 07 December 2016 15:28
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department FCO
Subject: RE: Diriyyah

Content with this social content [Redacted] for Sunday?

ANNEX E: SOCIAL CONTENT (SUNDAY, RIYADH)

[Redacted]

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 07 December 2016 12:21

To: Media Office

Subject: Diriyyah

This is all I have on Diriyyah.

[Redacted] did Post indicate if there would be cameras?

Thanks,

HISTORIC DIRIYYAH, SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER 1045

STEER

Tour of the historic Diriyyah was the original home of the Saudi royal family, and served as the capital under the first Saudi dynasty from 1744 to 1818.

KEY ATTENDEES

[Redacted]

FORMAT

Guided tour

MEDIA

No

SPEECH

No

BACKGROUND

1. *Diriyyah is a UNESCO-listed original 'capital' of the Saudi state, the tour will [Redacted]*
2. *It is currently being renovated into a cultural and tourism centre.[Redacted]*

Gulf Team / Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

.....

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 05 December 2016 13:17
To: Gulf,Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: latest programme

Hi

You requested latest version of programme - attached. There are several TBCs depending on confirmation of calls and [Redacted].

We still do not have clarity on [Redacted]. Our understanding was that Private Offices were talking to each other to bottom this out. Is there any update you're aware of?

Best

|British Embassy Riyadh

When	What	Where	Why
Saturday, 10 December			
19:20	Arrive in Riyadh	King Khalid International Airport	N/A
20:00	Arrive at the [Redacted] for informal dinner and downtime	[Redacted]	The [Redacted] will double up as a Private Office for the FS.
20:45	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted].
22:30	Conclusion of day	[Redacted] (tbc)	N/A
Sunday, 11 December			
08:45-10:00	Briefing Breakfast	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
10:00-10:30	Meet BE Riyadh & Yemen Office Staff	[Redacted]	Chance to briefly address and then meet and hear from small groups of Embassy staff
10:45-11:45	[Redacted]	Historic ad-Dir'iyah	Cultural visit to the UNESCO-listed first capital of the Saudi

			state situated on an important ancient trade route. Redacted]
12:15-13:15 TBC	Meeting with HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef	Redacted]	Redacted]
14:00-15:30	Redacted]	Redacted]	Redacted]
16:00 TBC	Meeting with President Hadi/ FM Mikhlafi	Redacted]	Redacted]
17:00-18:00 TBC	Bilateral with HRH Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Redacted]	Redacted]	Redacted]
18:45	Saudi Colours Forum	Redacted]	This forum will feature a special exhibition on 100 years of relations between the UK and Saudi Arabia. Redacted]
1930	Depart for downtime or to head straight to dinner	TBC	
20:30 TBC	Dinner [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
23:00	Leave for the airport	[Redacted]	N/A
Monday, 12 December			
01:05	Depart for London on BA flight	King Khalid International Airport	Depart

From: Gulf Team, Arabian and Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 02 December 2016 13:50

To: Private Secretary to the Director General Political

Subject: Readout: VTC on [Redacted]FS trip to KSA

I am afraid this got overtaken by events but this was my readout from yesterday's VTC with Post on KSA/[Redacted]visits [Redacted] (in case you/[Redacted] would value an *aide memoir*).

Happy to clarify/follow up on any points?

Thanks,

Introduction:

- Yesterday (Thursday), you convened a meeting on the range of Saudi issues at the moment with Post and Desk focusing on:
 - i) [Redacted].
 - ii) Update on the PM's trip to the GCC Summit next week and messaging.
 - iii) Update on the FS' trip to Riyadh the following week and the cross Whitehall component.

FS Visit:

- The priorities for the visit are [Redacted]
- Subject to this on Monday (by CoP) we will make a decision:
 - i) [Redacted]or

ii) [Redacted].

- [Redacted] advised that he would follow up on a discussion with the Development Secretary's Special Advisor regarding the programme. I[Redacted]

Actions:

- [Redacted to discuss with [Redacted]to see [Redacted]
- [Redacted]/HMA Riyadh to discuss GCC handling off-line.
- **Press Office** to do further work on press handling for both visits.
- [Redacted] to approach NSS so that the Gulf team can see the PM's final brief.
- **All**, [Redacted]
- [Redacted]to prepare brief for [Redacted]by CoP Friday. (Actioned)
- [Redacted]to be taken by CoP Monday.

- [Redacted]. (Actioned)

Thanks,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: BE Riyadh

Sent: 30 November 2016 19:23

To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: RE: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

See attached the latest version of FS programme. You'll see we're proposing changes after further detailed discussion here today.

Best

British Embassy Riyadh

.....

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 01 December 2016 12:58
To: Gulf Team,FCO
Subject: RE: FS KSA trip: Key bilaterals

Suggest you go with this:

[Redacted]

Regards,

British Embassy Riyadh

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 30 November 2016 22:27
To: BE Riyadh
Subject: FW: FS KSA trip: Key bilaterals

Hi

[Redacted]

I have highlighted in blue where it would be helpful to get input?

Thanks,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Gulf Team Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 30 November 2016 19:26
To: BE Riyadh
Subject: FS KSA trip: Key bilaterals

We spoke earlier. Please find attached the draft briefing of the four key bilaterals for the FS' visit to Riyadh.

Thanks,

Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

.....

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 01 December 2016 10:25
To: Gulf Team , Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: FW: FS KSA trip: Key bilaterals

[Redacted]As requested. Will we have another chance to feed thoughts in?

Copying colleagues who may not yet have had the chance to cast an eye.

[Redacted]; couple of quick questions for you in tracks [Redacted]

British Embassy Riyadh

.....

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 30 November 2016 19:29
To: Gulf Team,, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: FW: FS KSA trip: Key bilaterals

Please chase at 9am if they have not responded...

Thanks!

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 30 November 2016 19:26
To: BE Riyadh)
Subject: FS KSA trip: Key bilaterals

We spoke earlier. Please find attached the draft briefing of the four key bilaterals for the FS' visit to Riyadh.

We would be keen to have your comments. With apologies for the urgency, **please could we have any comments by 10:00 (GMT) tomorrow?**

Thanks,

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 07 December 2016 16:38
To: Assistant Private Secretary to Central Units Private Office, PA/Chief of Staff
MENAD

Subject: RE: FS bilat briefs: meetings with [Redacted]

Thanks [Redacted]

[Redacted], please could you swap the versions?

**Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department |
MENAD**

From: Assistant Private Secretary to Central Units Private Office
Sent: 07 December 2016 16:23
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: RE: FS bilat briefs: meetings with [Redacted]

[Redacted]. This is still a placeholder though and will need updating tomorrow.

[Redacted]

Go team!

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 07 December 2016 12:17
To: PA to Chief of Staff MENAD

Subject: FS bilat briefs: meetings [Redacted]

With thanks to those cc-ed for their comments, please find attached the bilat briefs for the FS' meetings [Redacted]. This has also been cleared by Post.

[Redacted]

Happy to take any comments/changes?

Thanks,

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

*****8

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 24 November 2016 21:14

To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: FW: Foreign Secretary's visit to KSA

Importance: High

Can I give you the unenviable task of [Redacted]at 9am please? I will then call at 10am if we have not heard anything etc...

Thanks!

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 24 November 2016 21:12
To: BE Riyadh

Subject: FW: Foreign Secretary's visit to KSA
Importance: High

Following on from this, I have had a go at trying to meet private office's [Redacted]

[Redacted] **please could you review the attached by noon (GMT) tomorrow please to meet PO's deadline?**

Would welcome any comments!

Thanks a lot and sorry again,

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

*****8

From: Gulf Tea, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 24 November 2016 21:12
To: BE Riyadh

Subject: FW: Foreign Secretary's visit to KSA
Importance: High

Following on from this, I have had a go at trying to meet private office's [Redacted]

[Redacted] I am really sorry to ask you this over your weekend but **please could you review the attached by noon (GMT) tomorrow please to meet PO's deadline?**

Would welcome any comments!

Thanks a lot and sorry again,

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Head of Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 24 November 2016 20:47

To: Simon Collis *HMA Riyadh ; BE Riyadh

Subject: Foreign Secretary's visit to KSA

Simon, [Redacted]

Apologies for what might seem like radio silence from me on anything other than the PM's visit over the course of this week – [Redacted] I should flag that we are hugely grateful for all of the contributions we've had from the Riyadh team, e.g. [Redacted] steer on the [Redacted]through to the large number of briefing contributions.

[Redacted] recognising that [Redacted] have been pressing on with programming, etc. I would find it very helpful to do a quick VTC to ensure that we are doing all we need to at the London end but also to check [Redacted] We could hook them into the VTC too.

Grateful for your thoughts.

Kind regards and sorry to send this mail over your weekend,

**Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department | Middle East and North Africa
Directorate**

When	What	Where	Why
Saturday, 10 December			
16:15 (tbc)	Departs Bahrain	Bahrain International Airport	Depart
18:15	Arrive at the [Redacted]for informal dinner and downtime	[Redacted]	[Redacted]will double up as a Private Office for the FS.
19:30	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
22:30	Foreign Secretary [Redacted]	[Redacted]	N/A
Sunday, 11 December			
09:00	Briefing Breakfast with senior officials, including HMA KSA and HMA Yemen	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
10:30	Audience with HM King Salman [Redacted]	Royal Palace	Reassure Saudi leadership of UK commitment to Saudi Arabia and the desire to strengthen and broaden the relationship
11:00	Meeting with HRH Crown Prince	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

	Mohammed bin Nayef [Redacted]		
12:00	Informal lunch with HRH Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman [Redacted]	Historic ad-Dir'iyah	[Redacted]
14:30	Bilateral with Foreign Minister Al Jubeir	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
16:00	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
16:15	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
18:30	Return to the Residence [Redacted]	[Redacted]	Opportunity to refresh.
20:00	Dinner hosted by MbN or MbS [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
23:00	Leave for the airport [Redacted]	[Redacted]	N/A
Monday, 12 December			
01:05	Depart for London [Redacted] [Redacted]	King Khalid International Airport	Depart

.....

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 30 November 2016 12:12
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: FW: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA

Hi both,

You sent our party's visa NV off yesterday, yes?

Thanks,

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 30 November 2016 08:32
To: DIFD
Subject: RE: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks for confirmation re the [Redacted].

Regarding visas, please go through your usual channels. I'd recommend submitting these as soon as is possible, as the MFA normally ask for two weeks notice.

Regards,

First Secretary | British Embassy Riyadh

From: DIFD
Sent: 29 November 2016 21:27
To: **Gulf Team**, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department; **BE Riyadh**
Subject: RE: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA

What is the plan for Visas? Do we need to sort this through our usual channels or will this be done at post?

Thanks,

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 29 November 2016 18:23
To: DIFD; BE Riyadh
Subject: RE: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA

PO confirmed tonight that the FCO delegation is also content to stay in the [Redacted].

Thanks,

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: DIFD
Sent: 29 November 2016 18:20
To: BE Riyadh ; Gulf Team Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, DFID
Cc: Subject: RE: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA

Can confirm that [Redacted] would be happy to stay in the [Redacted].

Regards,

From: BE Riyadh
Sent: 22 November 2016 08:55
To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: RE: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA
Sensitivity: Private

The FCO has classified this message as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. Please ensure you handle it appropriately.

Thank you. Have you got a view yet from the FS's Private Office on whether he is content with the proposed programme (latest version below)? And any confirmation of flight times?

Regarding accommodation, [Redacted]. However, we need to get the views of the two Private Offices before making this decision on their behalf.

[Redacted] please could you check this last point with the relevant Private Offices and get back to me ASAP?

Timing	Foreign Secretary	[Redacted]
Eve	Arrive in Riyadh	[Redacted]
Eve	[Redacted]	- [Redacted]
	Overnight in Riyadh	
~0800	Briefing Breakfast [Redacted]	
~0930	Visit to Historic ad-Dir'iyah , the first capital of the Saudi Dynasty and a UNESCO World Heritage site	- [Redacted] - [Redacted]
am/pm	Meeting with HM King Salman	
am/pm	Meeting with HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef [Redacted]	- [Redacted]
am/pm	Meeting with HRH Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman [Redacted]	- [Redacted]
Pm	[Redacted]	- [Redacted] - [Redacted]
Pm	[Redacted]	- [Redacted]

			- [Redacted]
Pm	Bilat at the MFA with Foreign Minister Adel Al-Jubeir	[Redacted]	- [Redacted] - [Redacted]
Pm	Press Conference		- [Redacted]
Eve	Dinner , [Redacted]		
	Depart for London at [Redacted]		

Many thanks,

First Secretary | British Embassy Riyadh

From: MOD

Sent: 21 November 2016 17:39

To: Head of Gulf Team Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: FW: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA -

Not sure whether your Ministers Outer Office will have told you yet but [Redacted]

Regards,

From: MOD

Sent: 14 November 2016 16:57

To: Private Secretary to Secretary of Defence

Subject: 20161114 - Potential Visit to KSA -

You requested advice regarding the proposal for the SofS to accompany the Foreign Sec [Redacted] on a visit to KSA on 11 Dec 16.

Outline Programme

Sat 10 Dec 16 - Arrive afternoon/evening (potentially from day one on Manama dialogue), evening with HMA;

Sun 11 Dec 16 – Riyadh programme [Redacted] Mon 12 Dec 16 – Very early morning departure [Redacted] for London arrive approx [Redacted]

Regards,

From: Head of Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 25 November 2016 16:31

To: Private Secretary to Foreign Secretary

Subject: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh OFFICIAL_SENSITIVE

With regards to the FS forthcoming trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh, we will send the following onto you for early next week:

1. **FS updated programme for Manama Dialogue** – We will send to you on Monday the latest programme, including proposed bilaterals for the FS. You have asked for a separate programme for Mr Ellwood. On Monday, we will be able to provide the proposed bilaterals for Ellwood, with a more fleshed out version of his programme later in the week.

2. **FS programme for Riyadh** – We will provide on Monday an updated programme also on the KSA leg, [Redacted]
3. **Risks and contingency planning** – We have been in discussion with CO on the work you commissioned on risks and handling. We will also be sending this through early next week.
4. **Communications** – Comms team here (copied in) are leading and should be in touch with you separately (including on how FS trip ties together with No 10).

[Redacted] has just emailed to ensure you are fully in the loop with the PM's trip to the GCC Leaders Summit (including the Communique).

Best,

Head of the Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, Middle East & North Africa Directorate

.....

From: Head of Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 28 November 2016 16:10

To: Private Secretary to Foreign Secretary :SOSFA Action

Subject: FS trip to Manama Dialogue and Riyadh - draft programme

Please find below the draft FS programme for Manama and Riyadh, taking into account previous comments, with thanks to post and desk. This is based on a schedule of flying from Bahrain to Riyadh at [Redacted] on the Saturday. [Redacted]

Please let us know your thoughts.

Head of the Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department, Middle East & North Africa Directorate



Draft Programme for FS - Riyadh

When	What	Where	Why
Saturday, 10 December			
16:15 (tbc)	Departs Bahrain	[Redacted]	Depart
18:15	Arrive at [Redacted] for informal dinner and downtime	[Redacted] (tbc)	[Redacted] will double up as a Private Office for the FS.
19:30	[Redacted] [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
22:30	Conclusion of day	[Redacted] (tbc)	N/A
Sunday, 11 December			
09:00	Briefing Breakfast with senior officials, including HMA KSA and HMA Yemen	[Redacted]	Understand the current context of Saudi Arabia and preparing for the high level calls.
10:00- 11:30	<i>What is Past is Prologue</i> cultural event	Historic ad-Dir'iyah	Cultural visit to important in the first capital of the Saudi state on an important ancient trade route (UNESCO listed).
11:45- 12:15	Audience with HM King Salman)	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
12:15	Meeting with HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
12:45	Bilateral with Foreign Minister Al Jubeir with lunch	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

14:00	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
14:15	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
16:30	Bilateral with HRH Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
17:30	Return [Redacted]for down time	[Redacted]	N/A
18:30	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
19:45	Dinner hosted by MbN or MbS	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
23:00	Leave for the airport	[Redacted]	N/A
Monday, 12 December			
01:05	Depart for London [Redacted]	[Redacted]	Depart

Draft Programme for SoS DFID

When	What	Where	Why
Saturday, 10 December			
XX:XX	Departs X	X	Depart
XX:XX	Informal dinner and downtime	[Redacted]	
19:30	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
22:30	Conclusion of day	[Redacted]	N/A

Sunday, 11 December

09:00	Briefing Breakfast with senior officials, including HMA KSA and HMA Yemen	[Redacted]	Understand the current context of Saudi Arabia.
10:00-11:30	<i>What is Past is Prologue</i> cultural event	Historic ad-Dir'iyah	Cultural visit to important in the first capital of the Saudi state on an important ancient trade route (UNESCO listed).
11:45- 12:15	Audience with HM King Salman	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
12:45-13:45	Meeting with the Director of KS Relief	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
14:00	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
14:15	[Redacted]).	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
16:30	Bilateral with Minister of Finance	[Redacted]	[Redacted].
17:30	Return to [Redacted]for downtime	[Redacted]	N/A
18:30	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
19:45	Dinner hosted by MbN or MbS	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
23:00 tbc	Leave for the airport	[Redacted]	N/A

Monday, 12 December

01:05 tbc	Depart for London on [Redacted]	[Redacted]	Depart
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From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 02 December 2016 18:27
To: BE Riyadh

Subject: FS KSA Visit: Two actions for Post

Hi,

Following the VTC chaired by [Redacted] yesterday there was [Redacted] a programme for the FS' KSA visit [Redacted]With apologies for adding further to your workload, please could you work something up to be held 'in reserve' please?

Additionally, can I just check that colleagues at Post are able to prepare the various event briefs for the trip [Redacted]

If you have any questions, [Redacted] will be in on Sat and I will be in on Sun and happy to discuss.

Thanks as always!

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Sent: 02 December 2016 18:54
To: BE Riyadh
Subject: FS KSA Visit: [Redacted]

All,

Please could you review the attached '[Redacted]' list for the FS' KSA trip.

Would welcome any comments! Specifically:

[Redacted]D1, D2

[Redacted]D3, D8

[Redacted]D4, D6

[Redacted]D5

[Redacted]D7

All: D9

With apologies for the urgency, please could I have any **comments by midday Sunday (GMT)?**

Thanks,

**Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department
I MENAD**

.....

.....

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 27 November 2016 15:25

To: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Subject: FS in Riyadh: Plan for the next two weeks

Please do not forward on. Just discussed our plan with [Redacted] for the next fortnight preparing for the FS' Riyadh trip:

28th Monday: CoP i) update PO on status of visit w/PP's schedule ii) [Redacted]

29th Tuesday: CoP i) Receive initial steer from PO

30th Weds: CoP i) [Redacted] for PP visit

1st Thurs: CoP i) brief to [Redacted]inc '[Redacted]and ii) headsup to RSE that visas will be coming on Fri

2nd Fri: CoP i) brief to [Redacted]and ii) send visas to [Redacted]

5th Mon: CoP i) brief to [Redacted] and ii) send first cut to PO

7th Weds: CoP i) final brief to PO

9th Fri: CoP i) FS flies to Bahrain and ii)

Let's discuss tomorrow...

.....

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 06 December 2016 12:36

To: Gulf Team,

Subject: Event briefs/scene setter?

Hi both,

Thanks a lot for your help [Redacted]

[Redacted, as discussed, [Redacted]but please could you send the event briefs with as much detail as possible for our SoP tomorrow please? Can you also give us an indication of when the 'full' brief will be issued please (I assume for the FS' arrival on Sun)?

[Redacted, are you leading on the scene setter? If so when might it be issued please? I think our plan was after the GCC Summit so appreciate it might still be in progress. Unfortunately, our 'hard' deadline with PO is midday tomorrow but we need to incorporate any changes/additions ahead of that. Is that possible please?

Thanks again,

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD

.....
From: BE Riyadh

Sent: 07 December 2016 08:10

To:Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: Event Briefs

[Redacted,]

Further information below. Please let me know if you need more.

[Redacted]

Saturday 10 December

[Redacted]

Sunday 11 Dec:

Saudi Colors Forum 2016 is organised by the Saudi Commission of Tourism and Heritage [Redacted]

Historic Diriyyah :

UNESCO world heritage site Diriyah is the first Saudi capital and houses historical monuments dating back to 1744. It is being currently being renovated to convert it to a cultural-come-tourism centre. [Redacted]

From: Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Sent: 07 December 2016 12:21

To: Media Office;Gulf Team, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department

Subject: Diriyyah

[Redacted]

This is all I have on Diriyyah.

[Redacted] did Post indicate if there would be cameras?

Thanks,

HISTORIC DIRIYYAH, SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER 1045

STEER

Tour of the historic Diriyyah was the original home of the Saudi royal family, and served as the capital under the first Saudi dynasty from 1744 to 1818.

[Redacted]

MEDIA

No

SPEECH

No

BACKGROUND

1. *Diriyyah is a UNESCO-listed original 'capital' of the Saudi state, [Redacted].*

Senior Saudi Arabia Desk Officer | Gulf Team | Arabian Peninsula Department | MENAD