Subject:

FW: IFT launch OFFICIAL\_SENSITIVE

Attachments:

IFT launch Comms Plan 27th September.docx; IFT launch guest list.xlsx

Security Label:

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

From: (Sensitive)

**Sent:** 22 September 2017 17:06

To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) <David.Frost@fco.gsi.gov.uk>

Cc: Ben Gascoigne (Sensitive) <Ben.Gascoigne@fco.gsi.gov.uk>; Simon McGee (Sensitive)

<Simon.McGee@fco.gsi.gov.uk>; David Blair (Sensitive) <David.Blair@fco.gsi.gov.uk>;

Subject: IFT launch OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

David,

I've seen your steer on the media for the Foreign Secretary's speech at the launch of the Institute for Free Trade on Wednesday 27 September.

DIT have put together an initial media handling plan as attached (not yet final). I wanted to check you were happy with the approach they set out. It is rather more ambitious than they had indicated previously, though still not high profile. They (DIT) plan to issue a press release, rather than IFT, but they're keen to include a quotation from the Foreign Secretary, which we can provide next week of course. I know David B is working on the speech.

The IFT have issued the invitations to the attached, but I suspect they will have invited more journalists than set out here.

Are you happy with this approach?

Matt

#### Media handling

- National press release into the morning 00:01 Wednesday 27 September (see below) giving support to the IFT and setting out the achievements of the Department post-Brexit for UK papers into Wednesday. FCO SoS will also have an included quote.
- Pre-brief sections of Sec of State's speech to friendlies (Brexit Central, Telegraph, Mail, Express, Sun and into the day (if speech available).
- The IFT have issued invites. Notable media attendees include Tom Newton Dunn,
- SoS gives speech on the day with no media Q&A, but a separate interview with
- Social Media we will tweet our support for the formation of IFT (suggested tweet below), and will tweet a GIF on the benefits of free trade
- Daniel Hannan will be doing Newsnight and the Today programme on the day of the event we will share our DIT briefing with him.

David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) From: 25 September 2017 17:24 Sent: To: Fwd: Re: Personal - FW: IFT launch OFFICIAL SENSITIVE Subject: hope this email about the IFT launch has reached you by now. David David Frost CMG | Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH | ----- Forwarded message -----From: Date: 25 September 2017 at 08:31:56 EEST Subject: Re: Personal - FW: IFT launch OFFICIAL SENSITIVE To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) <David.Frost@fco.gsi.gov.uk> Will do. On 25 Sep 2017 6:17 am, "David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)" < David.Frost@fco.gsi.gov.uk> wrote: Hi David David Frost CMG | Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary Foreign and Commonwealth Office |King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

On 22 September 2017 at 17:34:06 BST, Liam Parker (Sensitive) <Liam.Parker@fco.gsi.gov.uk> wrote:

Totally agree with you.

Sent from VMware Boxer

On 22 September 2017 at 17:15:46 BST, David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) <David.Frost@fco.gsi.gov.uk> wrote:



Thanks.

Liam

Thoughts? I can't say I am very happy with this.

We were asked first, this is happening in the FCO by courtesy of us, and it is Boris who is the pull let's face it. As it is we are a bit part in a DIT booster event, at least to take their comms plan seriously.

We should check whether IFT are doing a release themselves too.

But I don't see how we can stop DIT doing a press release about their SofS's words.

## Questions:

- (1) Should we insist on a joint press release? Looks odd for it to be 1 Dept only.
- (2) Do we want to trail what Boris says into the media in the way they are handling Fox's? Pros and cons just at the moment. If so we had better go up a gear in finalising remarks and getting ready to go.
- (3) Do you (or me) want to talk to Dan about what he says?

David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary

Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From:

Sent: 22 September 2017 17:06

To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Cc: Ben Gascoigne (Sensitive); Simon McGee (Sensitive); David

Blair (Sensitive);

Subject: IFT launch OFFICIAL\_SENSITIVE

David,

I've seen your steer on the media for the Foreign Secretary's speech at the launch of the Institute for Free Trade on Wednesday 27 September.

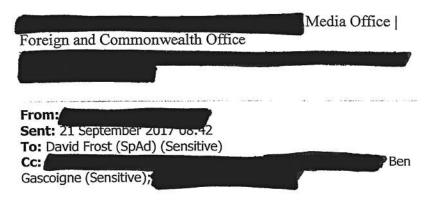
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The IFT have issued the invitations to the attached, but I suspect they will have invited more journalists than set out here.

Are you happy with this approach?

Media handling

- National press release into the morning 00:01 Wednesday 27 September (see below) giving support to the IFT and setting out the achievements of the Department post-Brexit for UK papers into Wednesday. FCO SoS will also have an included quote.
- Pre-brief sections of Sec of State's speech to friendlies (Brexit Central, Telegraph, Mail, Express, Sun and into the day (if speech available).
- The IFT have issued invites. Notable media attendees include Tom Newton Dunn,
- SoS gives speech on the day with no media Q&A, but a separate interview with
- Social Media we will tweet our support for the formation of IFT (suggested tweet below),
   and will tweet a GIF on the benefits of free trade
- Daniel Hannan will be doing Newsnight and the Today programme on the day of the event we will share our DIT briefing with him.



Sent from VMware Boxer

On 21 Sep 2017 8:33 a.m., "David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)"

wrote:

Thanks.

Btw we are no longer pushing for the speech on 28 Sept either - we will have to find another slot.

David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From:

Sent: 20 September 2017 18:23 To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) Cc: Media Planner (Sensitive);

Subject: RE: No 10 x-govt planning meeting - 20 September OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

David, many thanks, this is really helpful and I have sent the details to the No 10 grid planner.

International Media Office | Media Office | Room WG.71 | Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London SW1A 2AH

From: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) Sent: 20 September 2017 18:14

To: Media Planner (Sensitive);

Subject: RE: No 10 x-govt planning meeting - 20 September OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

Hi

On the IFT launch (highlighted) I have sent No.10 some more details (attached). No media as such, beyond a press release, but there will be media there. David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary

Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From: Media Planner (Sensitive) Sent: 20 September 2017 18:11

To: DL Media Office (Sensitive); DL Ministerial Teams - Team Leaders (Sensitive); Helen Bower-Easton (Sensitive); , Media Planner (Sensitive); PRD

Action/info (Sensitive)

PUS Action (Sensitive)

Subject: No 10 x-govt planning meeting - 20 September OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

# No 10 grid

27 September – FS at opening of Institute for Free Trade – No 10 asked for details about this. I emailed afterwards to say that there was no media planned so far and that we are still discussing plans with DIT and hope to get back to them later this week.

Subjects	FW:
Subject:	OFFICIAL: Institute for Free Trade: Events Brief
On 25 September 2017 at 14:59:33 BST,	
Please find attached an Event	s Brief for the launch of the Institute for Free Trade which the Foreign
Secretary is attending and speaking at in the FCO on Wednesday 27 September.	
The Icelandic Foreign Minister will also attend and speak at the event.	
,	
The final guest list will follow tomorrow.	
Please let me know if you need any further information.	
Thanks	
THALKS	
Trade Diplomacy Unit	

#### OFFICIAL

TITLE:

Launch of Institute for Free Trade (IFT), Wednesday

27 September 17:30 - 19:30, Map Room, FCO.

STEER:

The Foreign Secretary will attend the launch event, hosted by IFT President Daniel Hannan MEP, and

make a short speech.

**KEY ATTENDEES:** 

Daniel Hannan MEP, the Secretary of State for

International Trade, the Icelandic Foreign Minister and

(see background).

Over 150 attendees, including Ministers,

parliamentarians, diplomats and business leaders.

FORMAT:

This event is hosted and organised by the IFT. Guests will arrive from 17:30. Speeches will take place at 18:00. Daniel Hannan will introduce first the Foreign Secretary, followed by the Secretary of State for

International Trade and then the Icelandic Foreign Minister. Daniel Hannan will speak finally.

MEDIA:

Invited journalists only, including Tom Newton-Dunn,

FCO and DIT official photographers will be present.

SPEECH:

Yes – say a few words. David Blair is drafting. No

Q&A.

**OBJECTIVES:** 

- To welcome the launch of the Institute for Free

Trade:

To emphasise HMG's position as a champion of free trade and to underline our wish to work with the IFT and other think tanks to make the case for

free and fair trade to drive prosperity.

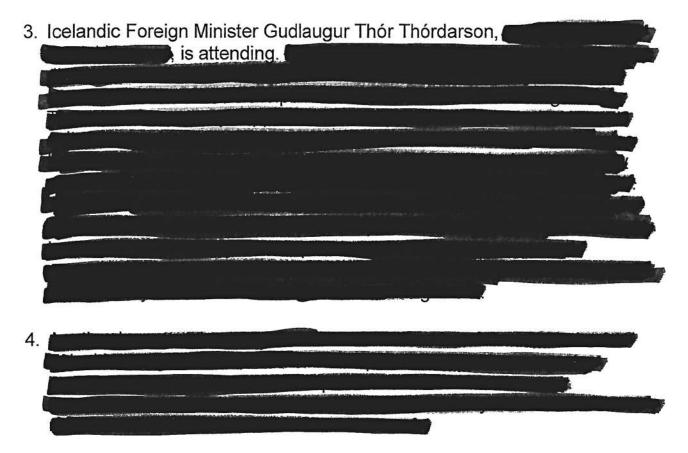
Drafted by: , TDU. Cleared by:

Date: 25 September 2017

## **OFFICIAL**

#### BACKGROUND

- The Foreign Secretary agreed that the IFT could host their launch event at the FCO. Much of this has been arranged through political channels by SpAds.
- 2. The IFT, which is headed by Daniel Hannan MEP, has been set up as a not-for-profit research foundation to make the case for unrestricted trade globally. It sees Britain's withdrawal from the EU as a unique opportunity to revitalise the world trading system. Both the Foreign Secretary and the International Trade Secretary will attend and make short speeches. Over 100 parliamentarians, diplomats and business leaders have been invited to the launch.



5. We welcome the role of think tanks in providing public policy research and they have an important role to play on trade, as the UK develops an independent trade policy and looks to reinvigorate the global debate and champion open markets. They can research practical ways to lower trade

Drafted by: TDU.

Date: 25 September 2017

## **OFFICIAL**

barriers and provide great insight and vision in the global debate in support of open markets and free and fair trade. The aims of the IFT are to: make the case for free trade; reach out to business groups around the world, including developing countries, to look at ways to eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers to free trade; and to network across government to promote new trade agreements.

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

David Blair is drafting and these will follow. We have contributed trade policy points for David to draw on.

Drafted by: TDU Cleared by:

Date: 25 September 2017

Subject:

FW: Update - Institute for Free Trade Launch Reception: 27 Sept 2017

Security Label:

**OFFICIAL** 

Hi David,

Hope you're ok with the information given. Grateful if you could let know when the speech will be ready so he can use some of the contents for the Foreign Secretary's press statement.

Regards,

Trade Diplomacy Unit Foreign and Commonwealth Office King Charles Street SW1A 2AH

From: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Sent: 10 August 2017 13:51

To:

Cc: Anna Clunes (Sensitive)

Subject: FW: Update - Institute for Free Trade Launch Reception: 27 Sept 2017

Dear

Thanks. Timings and what you propose for the invitation sounds fine to me.

No immediate additions to the guest list, which seems to cover it well. If we have extra names we'll feed them in idc.

Thanks David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary

Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From: SOSFA Action (Sensitive) Sent: 10 August 2017 13:06 To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Cc:

Subject: FW: Update - Institute for Free Trade Launch Reception: 27 Sept 2017

David - I assume this is for you?

From: Sent: 10 August 2017 13:04

To: SOSFA Action (Sensitive); PUS Action (Sensitive); Anna Clunes (Sensitive);

DL Trade Diplomacy Unit (Sensitive)

Subject: Update - Institute for Free Trade Launch Reception: 27 Sept 2017

David,

Below is an update on the Institute of Free Trade Reception on 27 September.

- The Reception will now take place in the Map Room from 17:30 to ensure guests are in place for the arrival of the Foreign Secretary at 18:00. Liam Fox and the Icelandic Foreign Minister Thórdarson have confirmed their attendance and will be guest speakers alongside the Foreign Secretary and David Hannan.
- IFT would like to send out invitations soon (possibly Monday) and have asked whether the FCO logo can be used. We would recommend against using the FCO logo (not least as, if we're using HMG logos we should include DIT too), but agreeing to the following wording for the invitation: **Daniel Hannan MEP invites you to THE LAUNCH OF THE INSTITUTE FOR FREE TRADE With Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson and Trade Secretary Liam Fox**" (we will request the IFT to use the correct and full titles for both Secretaries of State).

We have been asked whether we would like to add any names to the invitation list attached which includes MPs, ambassadors, civil servants and think tanks. A variety of journalists are also listed. Grateful for your views.

Regards,

Trade Diplomacy Unit I
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
ing Charles Street SW1A 2AH

From:

Sent:

08 August 2017 16:40

To:

Subject:

RE: IFT Update

Security Label:

**OFFICIAL** 

Foreign and Commonwealth Office ing Charles Street SW1A 2AH

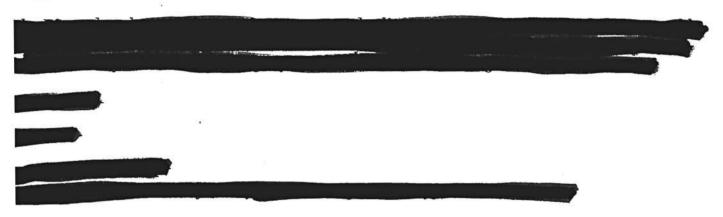
From:

Sent: 08 August 2017 16:35

Гоз

Subject: RE: IFT Update

Hi 💮



From:

Sent: 08 August 2017 16:24

To:

Subject: FW: IFT Update

Hi

Hope this email finds you well. Please see below. It has been agreed that the Foreign Secretary will be attending the IFT Launch party next month in the Map Room. I was wondering if you could confirm the actual time he will be attending so the co-ordinator can firm up the timetable for invitations.

Regards,

Trade Diplomacy Unit I Foreign and Commonwealth Office Charles Street SW1A 2AH From:

Sent:

14 July 2017 10:39

To: Cc: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive)

Subject:

RE: IFT - Provisional Fine Room Booking - Service Request: 373075 - Location Code:

XAC 100A-1-E102

David, quick update.

is coming over to discuss and have a look at the Map Room on Monday.

From: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Sent: 05 July 2017 12:56

To:

Cc: Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive)

Subject: FW: IFT - Provisional Fine Room Booking - Service Request: 373075 - Location Code: XAC 100A-1-E102

Dear

On the IFT launch, we have made a provisional booking in our name

for the Map Room for 27 Sept, but it needs firming up with this form. Can I leave this to you after discussing with given the need to be clear about timings, room layout,

etc?

Thanks

David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary

Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From:

Sent: 04 July 2017 14:59

To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Subject: FW: Provisional Fine Room Booking - Service Request: 373075 - Location Code: XAC 100A-1-E102

From:

Sent: 04 July 2017 13:50

To:

Subject: Provisional Fine Room Booking - Service Request: 373075 - Location Code: XAC 100A-1-E102

Thank you for contacting the facilities management helpdesk to enquire about fine room availability.

Date & Time: 27/09/17 15:00 - 21:00

Your booking has been provisionally reserved but in order to secure the room and in accordance with our booking procedures, we do require you to complete the attached booking form which contains the full list of terms and conditions and room layouts.

\*\*Important notice - please read \*\*

Some of the centrally managed Fine Rooms have heavy or immobile furniture and because this can easily be damaged when moved, we must minimise the number of occasions it is moved. As a result, some of the rooms have been designated to be fixed in a boardroom style layout only. Requests for movement or removal of this furniture is subject to approval only and, if

granted, may incur additional charges. Please ensure that the room you have provisionally booked suits your needs to avoid any potential disappointment.

It is possible for fixed rooms to include some additional seating around the edge or for other tables to be put on balconies (space dependant) as this has no impact on the fixed furniture layout, but each request will be considered on its merit. We will need to assess not only the availability of any additional meeting room furniture but also the logistics of delivering this, so on occasion some requests may not be accommodated, or additional costs may be incurred.

It is important that the form is returned to reply of this email as it contains your unique service request number and your exact requirements are captured as the content will form the basis of a working instruction.

Please ensure the booking form is **completed and returned no later than 1 week before the event or meeting** as a failure to do so can result in your request being delayed or may even cause your provisional booking to be cancelled. If you no longer require your booking, please email your cancellation request including the service request number to the email address provided.

Regards

FM Helpdesk

Tel:

Email:

This email may contain privileged, confidential and or copyright information. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately and delete the material from any computer. We do not accept liability for any error or omission in the message arising from corruption of, delay in or interference with, its transmission. We reserve the right to monitor email communications through normal internal and external networks.

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Interservefin Ltd.
Registered in England, Number: 2820560.
Registered Office: Capital Tower, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8RT.

From:

David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Sent:

05 July 2017 11:48

To:

. .

Cc: Subject:

RE: IFT launch

Dear

dear

I hereby connect you up on the IFT launch in the FCO on the evening of Wed 27 September!

s the contact point here. Contact details:

Job Title: Trade Diplomacy Unit

Directorate: Economic Diplomacy Directorate

Department or Post: Commercial and Economic Diplomacy Department

Location: UK - King Charles Street

Telephone Number:

Mobile Number:

Lis Dan's assistant.

Do keep me in the picture in a general way as this evolves.

Best wishes

David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary
Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) From: Sent: 05 July 2017 11:36 To: Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive) David Blair (Sensitive); Cc: Ben Gascoigne (Sensitive); Subject: RE: Institute for Free Trade Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged Great, I will join and I don't see it as a huge media thing from our point of view, though of course we may want to push out key messages on trade. So I would say a 5 min speech on why free trade is good, with a few key lines we can tweet out, and photo op etc. Not a major speech -David David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH | From: Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive) Sent: 04 July 2017 18:06 To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive) Cc: David Blair (Sensitive); Ben Gascoigne (Sensitive); Subject: RE: Institute for Free Trade David who is on leave this week will be our lead on this, so fine to pass on his name. Before engaging further with IFT can we now bring in Comms directorate, to develop a media plan? Does the FS have a view on how much he wants to make of the event and on messages (presumably building on his speech to the British Chambers of Commerce in February). Barry Sent from VMware Boxer

So where we are is:

Thanks Barry,

On 4 Jul 2017 3:37 p.m., "David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)"

We are going for Wed 27 Sept [sic – ie one day later than in the chain below], evening, in the Map Room. We have made a provisional booking and will complete it soon.

The FS is willing to speak (not a lengthy thing but a pep talk on free trade)

I have told Dan the room is free, but everything else (food, drink, security) has to be covered by them. And obviously there is the practicality of the invitations etc too.

Dan's assistant is and she will be the contact point for practicalities -

are you the person she should liaise with about this? If so I will let them know. I am happy to be consulted on any practicalities involving the Foreign Sec obviously.

Thanks all,

David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary

Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From: Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive)

Sent: 03 July 2017 18:03

Cc: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive);

Ben Gascoigne (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: Institute for Free Trade

I bumped into earlier today who said that Liam Fox was unlikely to be able to make this date as he could be travelling. But DIT were content for us to proceed (and was pleased that we had checked).

Barry

From: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Sent: 28 June 2017 12:40

To

Cc: Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive);

Ben

Gascoigne (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: Institute for Free Trade

Thanks.

He is ok with this.

However, don't go back to Dan till we have had a firm decision here on the workability of the date – probably on Friday.

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary
Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From:

Sent: 28 June 2017 12:38

To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)
Cc: Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive);

Subject: RE: Institute for Free Trade

David,

I'm happy to take this forward and liaise with Dan Hannan on arrangements. If you agree, I'll hold off getting in touch with him until the FS has cleared point below:

The Locarno Suite will be booked in the FS's name, the FCO will have lost income on the hire of the room (about £6,000 – I will check the exact figure; small change I know in the big scheme) – is the FS aware of that and content to sign it off?

Yrs,

rade Diplomacy Unit
Foreign & Commonwealth Office and Department for International Trade
King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH

From: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

**Sent:** 27 June 2017 18:46 **To:** Barry Lowen \* (Sensitive)

Subject: FW: Institute for Free Trade

Barry

To see below. All looks ok as long as Liam Fox can do 26<sup>th</sup> Sept (though really his problem if not – it can still be co-hosted).

We will of course need the IFT to fund everything listed below.

Is there anyone in your team we can put in touch with Dan Hannan about these practicalities?

David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary
Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From:

Sent: 27 June 2017 18:41

To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Cc: Ben Gascoigne (Sensitive); Martin Reynolds (PPS) (Sensitive);

Pavid Blair (Sensitive)

Subject: RE: Institute for Free Trade

David

The Locarno Suite is free and I have booked it from 1600-2100 on 26 September. Please let me know who to hand over to – there are forms to fill!

Assume Barry's team are also taking forward refreshments (hire of a security cleared caterer and cleared staff from a pre-approved FCO list), security (hire of and payment for additional guards –



The Locarno Suite will be booked in the FS's name, the FCO will have lost income on the hire of the room (about £6,000 - I will check the exact figure; small change I know in the big scheme) is the FS aware of that and content to sign it off?

Over to you.

From: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Sent: 27 June 2017 14:37

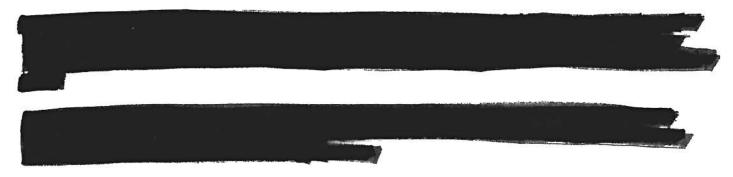
Cc: Ben Gascoigne (Sensitive); Martin Reynolds (PPS) (Sensitive); Sensitive); David Blair (Sensitive)

Subject: FW: Institute for Free Trade

Things have moved on again on this. Summarising for others' benefit:

He is happy, given the subject matter, for it to be joint hosting with Liam Fox and for Liam to speak at the event too.

I have asked Barry Lowen to run this by Liam Fox's office, but DIT SpAds are ok with it. Barry will find someone in his team to liaise with Dan's office on the practicalities.



David

David Frost CMG | Foreign Affairs Special Adviser to the Foreign Secretary Foreign and Commonwealth Office | King Charles Street | London | SW1A 2AH |

From: Dan Hannan Sent: 11 June 2017 21:59

To: David Frost (SpAd) (Sensitive)

Subject: Re: Institute for Free Trade

Hi, David. I wonder whether we can get any close rot a date here?

#### Daniel

Read Daniel every day at www.hannan.co.uk

From: HANNAN Daniel

Sent: 04 April 2017 11:49
To: 'david.frost@fco.gov.uk'

Cc: Dan Hannan;

Subject: Institute for Free Trade



4 April, 2017

Dear Boris,

Thank you for agreeing to host the launch of the Institute for Free Trade (IFT).

As we discussed, IFT will make the case for unrestricted commerce both with the EU and with the rest of the world. As well as advancing the argument in principle, it will look at the specific gains to be made on a country-by-country and sector-by-sector basis.

To give you some idea of the scope of our activities, we have three major events planned for the second half of this year. One is a large meeting — a loya jirga, as the Afghans say — at Mercers' Hall to mark the bicentenary of the theory of comparative advantage, published by David Ricardo in 1817. Comparative advantage is as surprising and counterintuitive today as it was then, and we'll bring together trade negotiators, civil servants, legislators and financial journalists from around the world to hear its full implications from its best exponents.

We also plan major trade conferences in Uganda and India, both of which will be accompanied by new research showing the potential gains to both parties of agreements based on the simple removal of obstacles and on mutual product recognition.

In between, we shall be publishing papers and studies, holding seminars and endeavouring to change minds. Free trade runs up against a million years of evolution. Our hunter-gatherer instinct is to provide against famine, to hoard, to seek self-sufficiency. No one begins as a free trader; but people can be talked around.

IFT is a company limited by guarantee, and supports its activities with private donations. I am President, and it has an international advisory board which includes former heads of government from Australia, Canada, Colombia and Denmark.

Which brings us to the launch. You have been good enough to suggest that we use the premises of the FCO. I think this is terrifically important: we want to be visibly supporting the government's agenda rather than simply being another think-tank. For the launch itself, we'd invite overseas diplomats as well as some MPs, peers and business leaders. Obviously, we'd want you to speak; no one does it better.

May I suggest one of the weeks beginning 24 July, 31 July, 18 September or 25 September? Pretty much any time of day, Monday to Thursday.

Perhaps you'd be kind enough to let me know when suits

All the best,

Daniel