

1. Any correspondence between the Scottish and UK Government following Keir Starmer's announcement on September 26 2025.

From: Rutter, Hannah (DSIT) <Hannah.Rutter@dsit.gov.uk>
Sent: 26 September 2025 16:10
To: Rutter, Hannah (DSIT) <Hannah.Rutter@dsit.gov.uk>
Subject: Digital ID announcement

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your engagement with OfDIA on digital identity policy to date. You may have seen the [announcement](#) earlier today from the Prime Minister about the government's plans to develop a new digital ID. You can find more information [here](#).

The announcement introduces a new digital ID that will be available for all UK citizens and residents through the GOV.UK Wallet. The scheme aims to make it more difficult for firms to hire workers illegally, while providing benefits to the public by making it easier for people to access the services they are entitled to.

The government is keen to make sure expert advice is thoroughly considered in designing the scheme and a public consultation will be launched later this year.

In the meantime, we continue to prioritise work to commence and deliver the measures in Part 2 of the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, which underpin the UK digital identity and attributes trust framework and the governance systems we have been developing with your input over the past few years.

We continue to value your constructive engagement and look forward to engaging further with you in the coming weeks and months. We will share further information when we can.

Regards
Hannah



Hannah Rutter

Chief Executive, Office for Digital Identities and Attributes
Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

Diary support: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Visit our blog: enablingdigitalidentity.blog.gov.uk

OFFICIAL

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]>

Sent: 29 September 2025 11:23

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]<[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.wales; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@finance-ni.gov.uk; and [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@finance-ni.gov.uk (DD) <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@finance-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: Rutter, Hannah (DSIT) <Hannah.Rutter@dsit.gov.uk>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (DSIT) <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@dsit.gov.uk>

Subject: Announcement about a new UK digital ID - meeting with the Devolved Governments

OFFICIAL

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)], [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)], [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] and [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)],

On Friday it was announced that a new digital ID that will be made available to all UK citizens and residents through the GOV.UK Wallet. OfDIA has always valued your constructive engagement in our digital identity programme, and we want to make sure we are in a conversation with you on this new UKG priority from the outset.

We know you will all have your own separate considerations in relation to this new announcement from Prime Minister Starmer, but in the first instance - just to lay the ground at pace - **we would like to invite you all to a Teams meeting on Wednesday at 1030-1115** with Hannah Rutter, the CEO of OfDIA (our DD).

The formal invitation will follow shortly from Hannah's diary.

The purpose of this initial meeting will be for us to come together in this new context as digital identity policy experts, and for DSIT to hear your views on the most effective and efficient way for DSIT to identify and work with the devolved governments on the UK-wide digital identity programme going forwards.

I really hope you will be able to come to the meeting on Wednesday. But if you can't attend due to the short notice, please forward the invitation to someone who can, and let us know their name and position so we can start building a list of key contacts. Equally, if there is someone more senior in your team who might like to come along, please let us know.

Best wishes,

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology



Office for Digital
Identities & Attributes

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Assistant Director for Strategy and Policy (job
share)

Office for Digital Identities and Attributes
Department for Science, Innovation and
Technology

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] ([Redacted under
Section 38(1)(b)] - Monday to Wednesday)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] ([Redacted under
Section 38(1)(b)]- Wednesday to Friday)

Find out more on GOV.UK: www.gov.uk/ofdia

Visit our blog: enablingdigitalidentity.blog.gov.uk

OFFICIAL

2. Any internal correspondence referencing digital ID or BritCard. between 04.06.2025-03.10.2025

Correspondence No. 1 relates to parliamentary question S6F-04356:

- **Asked by:** Gordon MacDonald, MSP for Edinburgh Pentlands, Scottish National Party
- **Date lodged:** 29 September 2025
- **Current status:** Taken in the Chamber on 2 October 2025

The answer to this and supplementary is available on the parliamentary website:

[Written question and answer: S6F-04356 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2025 9:49

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

<[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

<[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; PQ/FMQ Team <pq/fmqteam@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

<[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Digital Identity <digitalidentity@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section

38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: URGENT - Known PQ - S6F-04356 - Due 2pm Tuesday

Hi [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)],

Confirming I will lead for the PQ.

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Digital Identity | Policy and UK Relations Lead | Directorate for Digital

Working from home, please contact me via email at [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] or Mobile: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2025 09:01

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; PQ/FMQ Team <pq/fmqteam@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Digital Identity

<digitalidentity@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section

38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section

38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;
[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - Known PQ - S6F-04356 - Due 2pm Tuesday

Thanks colleagues.

Since some of you have been working on the Digital ID brief, it will mainly just be drafting of the answer and maybe some tweaks to the brief that will be needed here, so hopefully pretty straight forward.

Grateful for the name to be confirmed so we can get the wheels in motion 😊

Thank you

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | **She/Her** | [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]
First Minister's Questions Manager, Scottish Government
4th Floor, St Andrew's House
Preparing First Minister's Questions (FMQs) (sharepoint.com)

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: 29 September 2025 16:26

To: PQ/FMQ Team <pq/fmqteam@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Digital Identity <digitalidentity@gov.scot>; Eilidh McLaughlin <Eilidh.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: URGENT - Known PQ - S6F-04356 - Due 2pm Tuesday

Hi [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Confirming our team will pick this up. We will confirm am tomorrow the name of the lead.

Kind regards

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (She/Her) | Digital Identity Policy and Inclusion Lead | Digital Directorate | Scottish Government Area 1F South | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** PQ/FMQ Team

Sent: 29 September 2025 16:13

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under

Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Digital Identity <digitalidentity@gov.scot>
Cc: PQ/FMQ Team <pq/fmqteam@gov.scot>; First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]< [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: URGENT - Known PQ - S6F-04356 - Due 2pm Tuesday

Hi all,

We have received this week's Known PQs and we think this one may sit with your area.

The PQ is due with the FMQ team by **2pm Tuesday**.

If this is for your area, can you please confirm who it should be allocated to? If not, can we please ask that you copy in colleagues you feel this should sit with?

Once allocated someone from the FMQ team will be in touch with further information.

The Known PQ is;

4. Gordon MacDonald: To ask the First Minister, regarding the potential impact on marginalised communities and public services in Scotland, what the Scottish Government's response is to UK Government proposals to introduce a mandatory digital ID scheme. ([S6F-04356](#))

We know sometimes areas like to discuss who will answer, content of answer etc before coming back to us, but with such a tight deadline can you confirm it has been picked up?

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]
PQ/FMQ Officer
Central Correspondence Unit
Email: PQ/FMQTeam@gov.scot
Improving Public Engagement Division (IPED)

 **Scottish Government**
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Correspondence No. 2

From: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 September 2025 10:59

To: Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: ID cards follow up comms today

To include in any briefing.

Geoff Huggins

Chief Digital Officer
Scottish Government

(mobile) [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (Please text first if you are not likely to be in my contacts as I do not routinely answer calls from unknown numbers.)

Please be aware [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] and [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] routinely read and deal with the correspondence in this mailbox.

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 September 2025 10:16

To: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ID cards follow up comms today

Please also see below comments from DFM on GMS today and, attached, transcript of Secretary of State for Scotland.

Presenter

Let me also if I can ask you about digital ID cards. Sir Keir Starmer said to announce plans for this compulsory UK wide idea later this morning, the First Minister has already made his feelings about this strongly known. He's against it. Are you against this too?

KF

Well, let me make it quite simple that although we don't have all the detail yet and we don't know what the implications are for Scotland, we are opposed to the introduction of any card that's compulsory to have or compulsory to carry or that anyone can demand to see, including a digital ID. So we await further information, I think, over the course of today, because most of what we have is from a leak yesterday I believe. But we await further information, but that is our principled position.

Presenter

Even if it would stop illegal work?

KF

Well, there are ways and means right now of ensuring that somebody has the right to work in the UK. And I guess I've got two concerns. One is that, is this the start of something else? So what follows this introduction of a digital ID card? And secondly, I'm still to see polling or public support for the roll out of something like this.

Presenter

Is it much different to a digital passport or a digital driving license?

KF

Well, neither are compulsory to have unless you want to either drive or travel. It's not, I don't think it is comparable. Obviously, over the last two decades, our digital footprint has massively expanded, so most people are quite easily findable in terms of a digital online footprint, which is something that we all need to be conscious of and aware of, and most of us don't realise, but that, I think, is very different from a state introduced approach. We will see what the Prime Minister announces, I think, later today, and we'll, of course, keep engaging with the UK Government to understand the implications for Scotland.

Presenter

Have they consulted you at all yet?

KF

I had a very brief conversation, I'm glad to say, with UK Government yesterday, late afternoon. It was just very short, and it confirmed what we'd read about in the BBC already. So our big question is, what it means, what the implications are to any roll out in Scotland.

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | Communications Team Leader
Finance & Local Government | Scottish Government

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

From: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 September 2025 09:55

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ID cards follow up comms today

[Redacted under Section 30(b)(ii)]

Geoff Huggins

Chief Digital Officer
Scottish Government

(mobile) [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (Please text first if you are not likely to be in my contacts as I do not routinely answer calls from unknown numbers.)

Please be aware [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] and [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] routinely read and deal with the correspondence in this mailbox.

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 September 2025 09:47

To: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ID cards follow up comms today

Here's the official UKG news release - [New digital ID scheme to be rolled out across UK - GOV.UK](#)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | Communications Team Leader

Finance & Local Government | Scottish Government

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Sent: 26 September 2025 09:36

To: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ID cards follow up comms today

We can catch up after the speech which I believe is scheduled for 11am.

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | Communications Team Leader

Finance & Local Government | Scottish Government

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Sent: 26 September 2025 09:33

To: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ID cards follow up comms today

Thanks, that's helpful, Geoff. If the below people/boxes can be included on any submissions etc that would be great.

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | Communications Team Leader

Finance & Local Government | Scottish Government

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

From: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 September 2025 09:32

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under

Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ID cards follow up comms today

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] – I have reached out to [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] for a chat on citizenship, but generally digital identity sits with me as a policy area.

Geoff Huggins

Chief Digital Officer
Scottish Government

(mobile) [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (Please text first if you are not likely to be in my contacts as I do not routinely answer calls from unknown numbers.)

Please be aware [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] and [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] routinely read and deal with the correspondence in this mailbox.

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 September 2025 09:30

To: Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>

Subject: ID cards follow up comms today

Good morning Gregor

I understand you were on the call with DFM about digital ID last night. You'll have seen the holding response we issued following the early reporting yesterday afternoon but we will likely need to say more in a ministerial space today following the full announcement.

Please can your team let us know who is leading for policy in SG and please can the following comms colleagues/boxes be included on the copy list for any briefing/updates to ministers:

Julie Grant (DD)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (TL, Finance and Local Gov)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (Media Manager, Finance and Local Gov)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (Senior Media Manager, Finance and Local Gov)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (TL, FM)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (TL, DFM & Economy)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (TL, Social Justice)

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (TL, Justice)

Communications Finance and Local Government

CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot

Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>

Good Morning Scotland transcript

Douglas Alexander

Green Freeport

GMS

26Sept25

11m13s

Presenter

(not in scope)

Let's speak now to the Secretary of State for Scotland, Douglas Alexander, who's in our Inverness studio. Good morning to you.

Douglas Alexander

Good morning, Laura.

Presenter

(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander

(not in scope)

Presenter

(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander

(not in scope)

Presenter

(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander

(not in scope)

Presenter

(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander

(not in scope)

Presenter

(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander
(not in scope)

Presenter
(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander
(not in scope)

Presenter
(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander
(not in scope)

Presenter
(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander
(not in scope)

Presenter
(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander
(not in scope)

Presenter

The Prime Minister is to announce the introduction of compulsory ID cards a little later today, the First Minister, John Swinney, says the scheme is an attempt to force every Scot to declare themselves British. I dare say there are a few folk in Wales and Northern Ireland who might have issues with this as well. What sort of consultation has there been? Kate Forbes, the Deputy First Minister, said she'd had a very brief conversation with someone yesterday for the first time?

Douglas Alexander

Yes, I heard Kate admit that actually, the chief secretary to the Prime Minister phoned her at 16:45 yesterday to give her notice of the announcements that's coming today... **[CROSSTALK]**

Presenter

...its hardly a consultation, is it...

Douglas Alexander

...forgive me, let me just deal with the facts. The Prime Minister's speech today will not be announcing a Brit card. It's not called a Brit card, and it isn't even a card. What he'll be talking about today is a digital ID that will be stored on your phone like a payment card. We've got boarding passes, train tickets, Tesco club cards on our phones already, and I can be very clear that you won't

be required to carry it or produce it, except to prove your right to work in the United Kingdom. So people may be inclined to try and play politics or to try and anticipate what this might or might not be, but I can give Good Morning Scotland listeners exactly the assurance I hope many of them will want, which is, this is not a card. It's a digital ID. It is reflecting the kind of changes we've seen in Australia, in Estonia and Denmark and many other parts of the world, and the way that the debate has moved on over the last 20 years. And of course, people are going to try and score political points even before the Prime Minister speaks...**[CROSSTALK] [INAUDIBLE]**

Presenter

What does come after, though? Does it lead to sort of, digital passports, that sort of thing, digital, you know, working with local authorities, that sort of stuff, or just people will be interested to know how their data will be treated in this?

Douglas Alexander

so in terms of mandation, it will be required by the end of the parliament to try and clamp down on illegal working. But exactly as your question describes, Laura, the fact is, we already, many of us, have a national insurance number, passport, a driving license, and in that sense, that's what we have in terms of our engagement with the government, in relation to how we engage with many of these companies online, whether it's tickets, whether it's boarding passes, whether it's loyalty cards at supermarkets. This is a development that I think reflects the fact that many of us want to see not only a secure identity online as more of our lives move online, but also the opportunity to actually help us engage directly with public service. How many times have any of us had to scrabble around in the house to try and find an old utility bill? Having a secure digital ID feels like the way of the future,

Presenter

(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander

(not in scope)

Presenter

(not in scope)

Douglas Alexander

(not in scope)

Presenter

Douglas Alexander, Secretary of State for Scotland. Thank you very much indeed for your time this morning.

[END]

Please find attached an updated FMQ brief that has been developed following this morning's "New digital ID scheme to be rolled out across UK" announcement, for clearance.

We have shortened the copy list from last night, once cleared I will circulate around full copy list and relevant policy areas (health colleagues etc are aware that an updated brief will be circulated)

Many thanks and best wishes,

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Digital Identity Communication & Engagement Manager
Digital Identity Programme, Digital Citizens, Digital Directorate, The Scottish Government

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

@digitalscots

🕒 My working day may not be your working day. I work flexibly and don't expect you to read, respond to, or action this email outside your own working hours.

Correspondence 4.

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> On Behalf Of Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic
Sent: 25 September 2025 18:52
To: Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance <MinisterPF@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Solicitor General <SolicitorGeneral@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Lesley Fraser <Lesley.Fraser@gov.scot>; DG Corporate <dgcorporate@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Lines to clear: Media enquiry - Digital ID - Multiple outlets

Thanks Ross

For completeness – DFM is content

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Private Secretary to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic – Kate Forbes MSP

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)], Rùnaire Priobhaideach dhan Leas-Phrìomh Mhinistear is do Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson na h-Eaconamaidh is Gàidhlig – Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
T: 0131 2449412 | M: 07585 985751 | Email: DFMCSEG@gov.scot

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From: Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>

Sent: 25 September 2025 18:40

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; Lucy Smith <Lucy.Smith@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance <MinisterPF@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Solicitor General <SolicitorGeneral@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Lesley Fraser <Lesley.Fraser@gov.scot>; DG Corporate <dgcorporate@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>

Subject: Re: Lines to clear: Media enquiry - Digital ID - Multiple outlets

hi

Colin and I have discussed - this can go on Spad clearance thanks.

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 6:06:05 PM

To: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance <MinisterPF@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Solicitor General <SolicitorGeneral@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Lesley Fraser <Lesley.Fraser@gov.scot>; DG Corporate <dgcorporate@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister

Page | 18

<Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Lines to clear: Media enquiry - Digital ID - Multiple outlets

Many thanks Geoff.

DFM, grateful for confirmation these can issue.

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]
News | Net Zero, Energy and Rural Affairs

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh
Mobile: 07385 969 091 | Portfolio Media inquiries: 0300 244 9029
www.gov.scot/news

From: Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>
Sent: 25 September 2025 17:27

To: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance <MinisterPF@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Solicitor General <SolicitorGeneral@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Lesley Fraser <Lesley.Fraser@gov.scot>; DG Corporate <dgcorporate@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Lines to clear: Media enquiry - Digital ID - Multiple outlets

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] /copy list

I've spoken to Gregor who was on the call. The announcement is more limited that is being reported ('workplace ID verification by the end of the Parliament'), but the lines below are still valid.

Geoff Huggins

Chief Digital Officer

Scottish Government

(mobile) [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] (Please text first if you are not likely to be in my contacts as I do not routinely answer calls from unknown numbers.)

Please be aware [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] and [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] routinely read and deal with the correspondence in this mailbox.

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: 25 September 2025 17:24
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic <DFMCSEG@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Finance & Local Government <CabSecFLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance <MinisterPF@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Solicitor General <SolicitorGeneral@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Lesley Fraser <Lesley.Fraser@gov.scot>; DG Corporate <dgcorporate@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>
Subject: Lines to clear: Media enquiry - Digital ID - Multiple outlets

DFM PO

We've been approached by media following Sky reporting (x.com/SkyNews/status/1971225310717763660) of plans for a UK Digital ID scheme.

We've agreed the below line and background with Director for Digital and SpAds. Is the DFM content to clear?

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

"The Scottish Government is opposed to the introduction of any card that is compulsory to have, compulsory to carry or that anyone can demand to see, including that of a digital ID."

Background

The Scottish Government is engaging with the UK Government to understand the implications for Scotland.

Thanks

Page | 20

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | **Communications Team Leader
Finance & Local Government | Scottish Government**

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Correspondence No. 5

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, September 26, 2025 4:22:46 PM

To: Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <Lucy.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: SPAD VIEW PLS: Media query: Digital ID (ScotAccount) - Scotsman

Thanks Ross, we've messaged separately and you've confirmed you're content with the lines as they are so I'll put up for clearance now,

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

From: Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>

Sent: 26 September 2025 16:18

To: Stephen Naysmith <Stephen.Naysmith@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Eilidh Mclaughlin <Eilidh.Mclaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

Subject: Re: SPAD VIEW PLS: Media query: Digital ID (ScotAccount) - Scotsman

Is put the last line of quotes but ok otherwise to go for clearance

From: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, September 26, 2025 4:09:48 PM

To: Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>

Cc: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section

38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Finance and Local Government <CommunicationsFinanceandLocalGovernment@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; Julie Grant <Julie.Grant@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Geoff Huggins <Geoff.Huggins@gov.scot>; Isaac Smith <Isaac.Smith@gov.scot>; [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] <[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] @gov.scot>; Eilidh McLaughlin <Eilidh.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; Kavita Chetty <Kavita.Chetty@gov.scot>; Gregor Irwin <Gregor.Irwin@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

Subject: SPAD VIEW PLS: Media query: Digital ID (ScotAccount) - Scotsman

Hello Spads,

We have been asked by the Scotsman whether the SG continues to support the introduction of a non-mandatory ID scheme, as proposed in 2021.

We understand David Bol to be referring to the ScotAccount scheme and I've agreed the response below with policy colleagues. Could I have a Spad view on this now, please?

Regards,

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“The Scottish Government developed ScotAccount as a secure and simple way for people to prove who they are and that they are eligible for a public service or benefit online.

“Using ScotAccount is not mandatory and it does not provide a centralised searchable database of people’s personal information.

“ScotAccount continues to be adopted by Scotland’s public sector organisations and its roll out will make it easier for people to access services online.

“The Scottish Government is opposed to the introduction of any card that is compulsory to have, compulsory to carry or that anyone can demand to see, including that of a digital ID.”

Background

ScotAccount is a Digital Strategy 2021 commitment and launched in February 2023.

The Scottish Government is engaging with the UK Government to understand the implications for Scotland of the proposed Digital Identity.

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | **Senior media manager | Finance, Local Government and Corporate**

Scottish Government, St Andrew's House

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Mob: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

QUERY

As I mentioned, I am looking for some clarity on whether the Scottish Government's digital ID, proposed in 2021, is still intended to be rolled out.

I appreciate its not intended to be mandatory like the UK government scheme, but just wanted some clarity.

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2021/03/a-changing-nation-how-scotland-will-thrive-in-a-digital-world/documents/a-changing-nation-pdf-version/a-changing-nation-pdf-version/govscot%3Adocument/DigiStrategy.FINAL.APR21.pdf>

I will need a response by the close of play today to be included.

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)] | **Senior media manager | Finance, Local Government and Corporate**

Scottish Government, St Andrew's House

[Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

Mob: [Redacted under Section 38(1)(b)]

3. And, was the Scottish Government informed of the plans for digital ID ahead of Keir Starmer's announcement?

Yes, correspondence no. 2 provides information that there was a call between the Deputy First Minister and the UK Government on Thursday 25 September 2025.