

Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP
First Minister of Scotland

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Her Majesty The Queen
Buckingham Palace
LONDON
SW1A 1AA

19 May 2016

Your Majesty,

With my humble duty, I write to seek Your Majesty's approval to make appointments under sections 47 and 49 of the Scotland Act 1998.

I propose to appoint the following Members of the Scottish Parliament as Scottish Ministers under section 47 of the Scotland Act 1998 to serve as members of the Scottish Government. In keeping with existing convention, they will in practice be referred to as Cabinet Secretaries.

Fergus Stewart Ewing, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity

Derek John Mackay, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution

I also propose to appoint the following Members of the Scottish Parliament as junior Scottish Ministers under section 49 of the Scotland Act 1998. In keeping with existing convention, they will in practice be referred to as Ministers.

Jeane Tennent Freeman, Minister for Social Security

Shirley-Anne Somerville, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Kevin Morrice Stewart, Minister for Local Government and Housing

Mark McDonald, Minister for Children and Early Years

The following Cabinet Secretaries have demitted office:

Alexander Neil, formerly Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights

Richard Neilson Lochhead, formerly Cabinet Secretary Rural Affairs, Food and Environment

The following Ministers have demitted office:

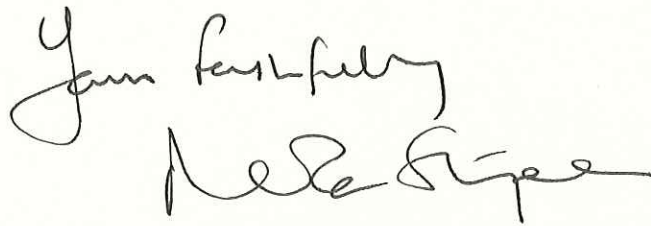
Dr Aileen Joyce McLeod, formerly Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Margaret Jean Burgess, formerly Minister for Housing and Welfare

Marco Biagi, formerly Minister for Local Government and Community Empowerment

The Scottish Parliament has today agreed to my seeking Your Majesty's approval to make these appointments.

I have the honour to be, Madam, Your Majesty's most humble and obedient servant.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Sturgeon', written in a cursive style.

NICOLA STURGEON