

From: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
To: Cole Justin T; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C); Bish Rebecca M; Winston Remi N; (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Update to plans for OCIF announcement
Date: Sunday, June 26, 2022 3:09:52 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thanks Justin

I'm with you and am comfortable with the second option too.

From a UK/my perspective there are 2 angles

1. The power of the J5 as demonstrated by what is being announced
2. A chance to talk about large number of UK taxpayers' involvement, our UK response (investigations) and to ask people to voluntarily come forward using our disclosure facility

Both can be done without the OCID and J5 Chiefs appearing together, although the first would benefit from at least 1 Chief being able to sit alongside OCID to visibly signal the importance of our involvement

So, I am comfortable with option 2 and even if OCID end up wanting to do it alone it wouldn't be the end of the world.

Simon

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From: Cole Justin T <Justin.Cole@ci.irs.gov>
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2022 2:50:22 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) Rhodes, Jon (HMRC Comms)
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 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) Bish Rebecca M (b)(6); (b)(7)(C); Winston Remi N
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 (b)(6); (b)(7)(C) Cole Justin T
 <Justin.Cole@ci.irs.gov>; York, Simon (FIS Director) (b)(6); (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Update to plans for OCIF announcement

Hi Guys,

A quick update after speaking with the OCIF team – it appears our plans may be altered for this coming week’s announcement – they might not, but they might. Let me explain.

OCIF is walking a very fine line making this public announcement. Their lawyers are getting a bit nervous about the J5 participation. They understand the details and reasoning behind it, but it still makes them nervous as there are quite a few legal hurdles they must undertake to even get to the announcement. Discussing the potential for 3 J5 Chiefs to speak compared to the 1 OCIF Director, they are now concerned about the optics among other things. We would be here if there were 2 Chiefs speaking also –

There is a meeting with the powers that be on Monday to make the final decision. I see two options being discussed – one, we move ahead as planned. Two, they split the event up into two events. So the OCIF Director would speak and then Jim would speak. Will and Simon would be on camera on the screen and introduced, but they would not have speaking roles. Then when the OCIF event is over, we would retire to a different room and dial-in to a J5 conference call line. Media would be alerted ahead of time. Will and Simon would give their remarks and then all three Chiefs would be available for questions.

Honestly, I don’t hate the second option. But we have to remember that this is OCIF’s event. They can’t tell us what to say, but they can have a lot to say about who gets to speak at their event. More to come, but based on time changes, I wanted you to be aware of this as soon as possible. By the time the decision is made Monday, our Australian colleagues will not find out until Tuesday morning their time, less than 48 hours from the event.

Happy to chat offline. I plan to send the updated press release sometime Sunday.

Thanks and talk soon,

Justin

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Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 7:37 PM