[17/04/2020, 21:10:35] CDL PPS JG AH: Messages and calls are end-to-end encrypted. No one outside of this chat, not even WhatsApp, can read or listen to them.
[17/04/2020, 21:10:35] [Name Redacted] created group "CDL PPS HJN JG"
[17/04/2020, 21:10:35] CDL PPS JG AH: [Name Redacted] added you
[17/04/2020, 21:10:39] [Name Redacted] Hi Mg
[17/04/2020, 21:10:56] Will send thoughts on letter shortly
[17/04/2020, 21:11:30] Michael Gove: Vg
[17/04/2020, 21:17:18] [Name Redacted] So my candid thoughts

Mark's reply is warm and helpful. But the idea that he has only just got to emails is an excuse. He has been in the office twenty seconds walk from you all day. His team were alerted to this yesterday night. He isn't gripping it

1) I'm glad he is frustrated this hasn't been resolved but resolving it is literally his job. And we can't fart around anymore. This was supposed to happen a week ago
2) where is JB shortlist? We needed that today
3) On HMT input the issue isn't the Cx only — it's Scholar with whom Mark needs to speak directly (and who is winding up the Cx)
4) We and No10 don't think Sweeney is right for the unit and indeed has been hors deal combat. The unit is being set up precisely because Sweeney hasn't been pulling stuff together properly [however I wouldn't raise that _now_ with Mark].
5) [I&S] is good. But new. He was a director till a year ago.
6) Mark confuses the issue on perm sec — this is not about overseeing JB or indeed any other DG not about management. This is about firepower, clout and gravity. What we need is — on the single biggest and most complex policy question facing the whole of Govt a senior figure who can sit around table with quad, CMO and ultimately PM and really speak to the entire strategy. Not someone like [I&S] who will highly capable won't have lived and breathed the policy. Ultimately [although this analogy isn't for Mark] you need someone like [I&S] who is the key person on this issue. Who can call the shots; lead a discussion; move a room. And the closest to that we can find and available now is [I&S]
[17/04/2020, 21:17:37] [Name Redacted] In terms of next steps suggest you speak to Dom to check a) he agrees push on b) you have support to get this in place. On [I&S] you can reassure him that Shinner thinks it's absolutely right answer.
[17/04/2020, 21:19:07] Michael Gove: [PROVISIONALLY REDACTED]
[17/04/2020, 21:19:11] [Name Redacted] Yes
[17/04/2020, 21:19:50] Michael Gove: 👍
[17/04/2020, 21:19:58] [Name Redacted] Also want to ascertain exactly what he said to Mark and what Mark said to him
[17/04/2020, 21:24:12] Will Burgon: You may know more on this, but Dom C also right avenue because PM evidently on return — sense from No10 private office that he won't necessarily be back working next week but will start being consulted routinely.
[17/04/2020, 21:25:05] Michael Gove: Ok
[17/04/2020, 21:42:21] [Name Redacted] Btw was reflecting more on not

Irrelevant & Sensitive

[12/09/2020, 19:56:41] **Name Redacted** Hi CDL we are still going round in circles on hunting as we don't quite have a policy locked down yet. There is however a new issue – Dom and Lee are minded to not exempt hunting and shooting. I think that's a bad idea. Nick Herbert (now chair of CA) was horrified and said would cause huge issue. I presume you are strongly in favour of exempting but in way that it doesn't appear on face of regs
[12/09/2020, 20:02:40] Michael Gove: Yes
[12/09/2020, 20:03:16] **Name Redacted** I think we need to be VERY careful on how it is presented..
[12/09/2020, 20:03:19] Michael Gove: They're still shooting in Scotland
[12/09/2020, 20:04:16] Michael Gove: Shooting is defensible economically and environmentally

Fox hunting not so much.....
[14/09/2020, 11:43:06] Will Burgon: https://twitter.com/rehman_chishti/status/1305455985058816003?s=12
[14/09/2020, 11:43:40] **Name Redacted** What's FORB? Freedom of Religion ?
[14/09/2020, 11:43:48] Weird acronym to use
[14/09/2020, 11:44:14] Will Burgon: Freedom of Religion or Belief
[14/09/2020, 11:47:56] Will Burgon: https://twitter.com/kate_m_proctor/status/1305458074564653057?s=12

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