

Offers to/asks of France

Strategic

- ∞ **Agree to work together on a truly joint overarching bilateral joint strategy for the longer term. The Joint Monitoring Committee should commit to discuss this on 9 December.** [*This should provide an opportunity for CCTC to present initial findings of their campaign plan and test with is France, alongside priority asks*].
- ∞ **We should work towards a joint strategy with near neighbours.** Agree what our shared priorities are with France that we can push during meeting with Ministers on Sunday.
- ∞ **Explore how a successful trilateral UK-France-Frontex relationship could assist.** [*N.B. This follows a conversation between Lindsay Appleby and President Michel on the benefits in terms of Frontex capabilities around social media tracking and identification. Whilst we have never been full members of Frontex, the position since EU exit is that we are unable to participate. However, it may be possible to negotiate a 3rd country cooperation model, the Commission would need to endorse this before Frontex entered into negotiations. A further option could be a UK/FR bilateral agreement, of a similar nature to that agreed with Greece for joint operations in the Mediterranean, providing for an element of co-ordination with Frontex*].
- ∞ **A future returns arrangement. We should focus on an interim bilateral arrangement while we wait for an EU wide returns arrangement. It should be agreed that France present proposals at the next JMC on 9 December.**
- ∞ **A bilateral arrangement could include [based on previous ministerial feedback]:**
 - A one for one exchange arrangement that would not undermine EU solidarity given a unique UK-FR issue.
 - Use of current inadmissibility framework as the mechanism for return from the UK.
 - Using family connectivity as a criteria for return to the UK will be difficult to agree with Ministers We should focus on those who “have a good prospect of integrating into the UK” to include those who have English language skills, academic or professional connections to the UK and possibly wider non-nuclear family or friends in the UK. We will need to work with France to agree a clear quota and rank applicants to meet that quota.
 - not offered to anyone who attempts to cross by small boat to disincentivise the crossing and that applications should be made in Paris or elsewhere in France, rather than Calais.
 - | | |
|---------------|---|
| | Public Interest/Operational Sensitivity |
| Public | The UK would prefer not to have a cap given the net flow in a 1:1 exchange arrangement would be zero. |
 - Should a person returned to France comes back to the UK as part of a 1:1 exchange we should be able to return them again.
 - We would suggest implementing the arrangement as soon as possible as a pilot to address the current challenges with a view to establishing a more permeant agreement via the Sandhurst Treaty/MoU in slower time.

∞

Public Interest/Operational Sensitivity
--

Operational**Joint bilateral operations:**

- ∞ **How can we increase French resource on the coast?** We can offer UK resource but understand there may be challenges to this. If that is not possible can we explore contractors? We could offer to pay for more officers. Alternatively, are there ways to explore with Belgium how they could provide support through deployment of their officers [*currently no budget for further UK funding but could explore re-purposing some funding within the existing funding package*]
- ∞ **Can we undertake joint operations to dissuade migrant attempts via engagement in the camps?** This could dissuade migrants but also provide valuable intelligence.
- ∞ **We could also offer body detection dog teams to target migrants travelling along key road routes before they reach the coast.** We know that the A16 is a targeted route for example.
- ∞ **We can also offer officer exchanges in Lille and a UK Asylum Liaison officer to assist in French asylum centres and facilitate day to day cooperation.**
- ∞ **Can we undertake joint lobbying of businesses to track/stop sale of boats?**

Public Interest/Operational Sensitivity

Public Interest/Operational

Intelligence:

- ∞ Push for regular NCA **DG-level Senior Security Dialogue** on small boats / illegal migration with French equivalent. This will improve mutual understanding of capabilities, promotes alignment of sensitive intelligence collection techniques and builds trust
- ∞ **Enhanced Joint intelligence cell: how can we increase capacity** – increased UK, French officers but also near borders.
- ∞ Can we establish a **Sensitive Intelligence Unit** or explore other ways to increase flow of sensitive intelligence and overcome French judicial secrecy barriers?
- ∞ Can we engage in **joint action on investigations**, including financial investigations and joint work on boat supply chains? Is there scope to include near neighbours as well?
- ∞ We are willing to offer officer exchanges and accommodate French intelligence officers in UK Gateway Multi-Agency Hub

Technology:

- ∞ **The Joint Technology Working Group needs to meet as soon as possible** to finalise discussions for the 'smart border' in the medium term but also to agreed what immediate assistance can be provided.
- ∞ We are able to provide **ground sensors** direct to French officers – these could be in place by next week.
- ∞ We can provide a **surveillance aircraft**. We can offer unmanned aircraft immediately and manned aircraft in quick time, subject to agreement from our Coastguard.
- ∞ We can provide UK **ANPR** capabilities and willing to work with France to find a way

Joint work across Europe and upstream:

- ∞ **How can the UK support and cooperation on other serious cross-border crime (non migration).** Potential support to French operations at Spanish border or south coast through further intel sharing.
- ∞ **We should also look to expand operational cooperation expanding the current operational Trilateral** between the UK, France and Belgium.
- ∞ **How can we work together to address the issues upstream?** Our international operational networks stand ready to assist across Europe and further upstream.