

Message

From: Cleo Watson [CWatson@no10.gov.uk]
on behalf of Cleo Watson <CWatson@no10.gov.uk> [CWatson@no10.gov.uk]
Sent: 30/04/2020 10:05:18 AM
To: Helen MacNamara [helen.macnamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk]
Subject: Re: PPE& women

Astonishing. 2 weeks later and finally raised in one of these meetings.

On 30 Apr 2020, at 09:39, Helen MacNamara <helen.macnamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk> wrote:

		<p>Helen MacNamara Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet E: Helen.MacNamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk T: Irrelevant & Sensitive Private Office: PSHelenMacNamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk</p>
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Helen MacNamara <helen.macnamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk>
Date: Thu, 16 Apr 2020 at 09:28
Subject: Re: PPE& women
To: Simon Ridley <simon.ridley@cabinetoffice.gov.uk>
Cc: Mary Jones <mary.jones@cabinetoffice.gov.uk>

Thanks both. I do think it's important that this is raised in the new supply. Article [here](#)

If you haven't read invisible women it's a bit of an eye-opener on this sort of thing.

H

		<p>Helen MacNamara Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet E: Helen.MacNamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk T: Irrelevant & Sensitive Private Office: PSHelenMacNamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk</p>
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On Thu, 16 Apr 2020 at 09:05, Simon Ridley <simon.ridley@cabinetoffice.gov.uk> wrote:

Helen - many thanks for raising this. I will be honest: it is not something that's been in conversations I have had thus far. That's not to say it isn't in thinking, but I will assume not really and take it up.

The broader diversity is really important. When they work we have a different sort of conversation in the health mig. It's far from perfect, but Therese Coffey, Helen Whately (and Kit actually) brought quite different issues into the health impacts conversation.

Simon



Simon Ridley
Director General, Cabinet Office
E: simon.ridley@cabinetoffice.gov.uk
M: Irrelevant & Sensitive

Name Redacted	Head of Office) (Diary Manager)	Irrelevant & Sensitive
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On Thu, 16 Apr 2020 at 08:22, Mary Jones <mary.jones@cabinetoffice.gov.uk> wrote:
Hi Helen, I have not heard it discussed at all at the top level meetings. But Simon will be much better informed than me on whether it's being picked up in reality?

It's good to see this - I was making a lot of arguments yesterday on the need to bring different ministers (as well as officials) in to conversations to test & challenge and open things up in new lines of scrutiny. I think this endorses the need for that and that we're still not getting that right, seeing as this was not mentioned in the top level discussions I have witnessed.

Deputy Director, Cabinet Secretariat

Irrelevant & Sensitive

On 15 Apr 2020, at 22:57, Helen MacNamara <helen.macnamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi Simon and Mary

Just when you thought you were out of the woods on annoying emails from me....Has the PPE conversation picked up the fact that most PPE isn't designed for female bodies and yet the overwhelming majority of people who need PPE are women (77% of NHS staff are female, 89% of nurses and 84% of careworkers). There has been quite a bit of commentary on this. To state the bleeding obvious women's bodies are different and particularly face shape with masks. If you need more on this let me know! But would reassuring to know that it is being taken into account in this new supply.

I didn't know who to annoy with this so chose you. But by all means tell me where to better direct my questioning.

👊 (that's a fist bump not a punch)

H