At the moment there's an inconsistency: if a kid does a lateral flow at school, it *can't* be overridden by a PCR. But if a kid does a lateral flow at home, it *can* be overridden by a PCR. It's the unfairness of the at-school situation which concerns the author of that message.

The immediate fix is that at-school testing ends after next week, it all switches to at-home testing, and so we can then use PCRs to override a positive lateral flow. So the specific circumstances giving rise to that unfairness cease to apply.

And then the substantive fix is that test and trace will get rid of the inconsistency altogether. So that in *any* circumstance a negative PCR can override a positive lateral flow. But that last bit isn't public yet.

[13/03/2021, 14:59:12] Henry Cook: We pushed test and trace hard on Monday to change this sooner but they said it was operationally impossible—we can push them again

[13/03/2021, 21:08:22] Jack Doyle: https://twitter.com/keir_starmer/status/1370843855428419584?s=24

[13/03/2021, 21:09:17] Jack Doyle: I think Vicky Atkins would appreciate a steer on how we approach this in the morning.

[13/03/2021, 21:09:25] Decklan Lyons: He's not wrong. Moronic from met

[13/03/2021, 21:12:33] Ben Gascoigne: Yup. We stood by whilst BLM rioted

[13/03/2021, 21:16:48] Munira Mirza: I know someone who was there. The protest was infiltrated by BLM/Trot types who started goading the police. When the police moved in they were attacked — mainly by men. I think it was a hard job for the police, given that they had to also enforce covid regulations.

[13/03/2021, 21:18:36] Jack Doyle: Something like — I've seen the same reports and footage that you have and some of those were concerning. I have asked the Met for a full update on how this vigil was policed.

[13/03/2021, 21:22:19] Lord David Frost: Truth is the rules on outside gatherings are close to unenforceable and are evidently being widely ignored in all kinds of contexts now.

[13/03/2021, 21:25:41] Ben Gascoigne: At the minimum I would say. Last year the same police bended the knee. It's one of their own that killed this poor lady

[13/03/2021, 21:26:06] Jack Doyle: Do we think Priti has to call Cressida tonight and tweet the above?

[13/03/2021, 21:32:59] Jack Doyle: Home office are speaking to the Met now should have an update shortly

[13/03/2021, 21:40:41] Munira Mirza: Let's see what they say, but I would be v cautious about criticising the police on this.

[13/03/2021, 21:43:05] Decklan Lyons: Disagree. Think we will be caught on the wrong side of this one if we aren't careful. It isn't left/right. Lots of our MPs texting to say as much and some are tweeting too. The reality is we should have got on the front foot on this one earlier than now, but we should now lead and come out and say something which demonstrates PM's emotional intelligence on this [13/03/2021, 21:43:32] Jack Doyle: Priti tweet something like

Some of the footage circulating online from the vigil in Clapham is concerning. I have asked Scotland Yard for a report on what happened.

[13/03/2021_21:43:34] Henry Newman: I broadly agree with

Irrelevant & Sensitive I think we need Priti to say she has spoken to the

Cress and that people should be able to mark this in the appropriate

way

[13/03/2021, 21:44:10] Jack Doyle: Papers changing up fronts I don't think we can say nothing

[13/03/2021, 21:45:21] Jack Doyle: We shouldn't play the pm in but have proposed the above to Priti's lot

[13/03/2021, 21:49:17] ~ Allegra: This is good

[13/03/2021, 21:51:41] Jack Doyle: Home sec is looking at it

[13/03/2021, 21:52:54] Lord David Frost: I agree with Henry, we have to show some emotional intelligence on this.

It is certainly true that the police are in an impossible position in many ways because of the impossibility of enforcing current rules. We certainly should not throw them under the bus.

That doesn't mean we should commit to defending specific handling tonight — it already clear public criticism is coming from all sides in the party and beyond.

[13/03/2021, 21:57:22] Jack Doyle: https://twitter.com/pritipatel/status/1370856092062912512?s=24

[13/03/2021, 22:01:49] Ben Gascoigne: Shaun Bailey tweeted on it as well as Sadiq

[13/03/2021, 22:19:49] Boris Johnson MP: Unless anyone strongly disagrees I think it should be Priti who tweets tonight [13/03/2021, 22:23:40] Jack Doyle: Agree. She tweeted in time for the ten o'clock news and I think we got the tone right [13/03/2021, 22:25:43] Boris Johnson MP: Feels odd to weigh in as pm and bash the cops when all I have seen is footage of some argy bargy without knowing what happened or whether Munira is right

Think starmer looks a bit opportunistic and anti police [13/03/2021, 22:26:47] Boris Johnson MP: But no doubt that female MPs feeling strongly

[13/03/2021, 22:26:54] Ben Gascoigne: And male [13/03/2021, 22:33:27] Ben Gascoigne: I genuinely think cress is gone now. It isn't about whether lefties occupied this event. BLM literally rioted and we did nothing. We can't be in a position where cops are hugging women and then dragging them off the next. It's not about saying the police are perfect, it's about whether we police events like this or we don't. It was so damn obvious this would happen.

We are now in a perverse position where the images of women being dragged off is the image that has cut through. Not whether they were infiltrated. The protests in the capitol of America were infiltrated. Didn't stop us tweeting to say the truth must emerge.

This will have cut through