

UK COVID-19 INQUIRY: EXTRACTS FROM SIR PATRICK VALLANCE'S NOTEBOOKS

Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000280061	Page
25.05.20	"PM seems very bullish and wants to have everything released sooner and more extremely than we would. Wants to divert from the DC fiasco (caught having gone to Durham - clearly against the rules). All very worrying [...] Not a single mention of DC at Cabinet!"	45

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11.06.20	"Actually having a discussion [Meeting with PM] about "letting it rip"."	62

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Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000280061	Page
19.09.20	"PM [...] He is all over the place and completely inconsistent. You can see why it was so difficult to get agreement to lockdown 1st time."	167

Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000280061	Page
15.10.20	<p>"PM Covid-O. Data presented on how bad things are. He knows he needs to do something. They are still in reactive mode rather than getting ahead of it. PM blaming Burnham for resisting further changes in Manchester. Cx getting very agitated about the cost of all this...</p> <p>Everyone now calling this a "public health emergency" - CDL</p> <p>They are worried that mayors are holding them to ransom and trying to dictate national policy. Why oh why didn't the government take a leadership position and get ahead of all this? We could have clamped down 3 weeks ago and got ahead of the whole problem.</p> <p>"Cummings says "put the data out there. Say that Burnham won and engage [...]. He will crumble."</p>	224

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25.10.20	<p>"PM meeting - begins to argue for letting it all rip. Saying yes, there will be more casualties but so be it - 'they have had a good innings.' Not persuaded by Edmunds, Ferguson, Farrar . PM says "the population just has to behave doesn't it! Heat maps "I have the necrotising maps" so depressing. DC says trajectory will leave us in Nov - much as where we were in 1st week of April. Chris quite bullish about being able to take the brakes off more in April.... Goes on about Gulf War Syndrome again [...] PM getting very frustrated - throwing papers down. PM then back on to 'Most people who die have reached their time anyway.' DC arguing we need to save lives - it is not democratically possible to follow another route... [...] DC argued again (rightly) that a lockdown's coming and therefore do it sooner rather than later. PM concludes, 'Looks like we are in a really tough spot, a complete shambles. I really don't want to do another national lockdown.' PM told that if he wants to go down this route of letting go, 'you need to tell people - you need to tell them you are going to allow people to die' [...] Conclusion - beef up the Tiers - consider a national lockdown - decide by when. DC says 'Rishi thinks just let people die and that's okay.' This all feels like a complete lack of leadership."</p>	238-240

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12.07.20	"PM still wants to push opening too fast."	88