

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

Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000280061	Page
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
26.08.20	"PM WhatsApp group kicks off because PM has read in FT that the IFR is 0.04%. Age-related IFR explained and that overall looks more like 0.4 to 1%. He is obsessed with older people accepting their fate and letting the young get on with life and the economy going. Quite a bonkers set of exchanges."	128

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Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000280061	Page
16.10.20	"PM now obsessed with average age of death being 82 (longer than average life expectancy" "Get Covid live longer"	225

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Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000280061	Page
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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Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000303282	Page
13.05.21	"PM meeting - Cx suddenly pipes up on incentives already in place. Argues that we should let this rip a bit."	138

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Date	Extract from Sir Patrick Vallance's Notebooks - INQ000303282	Page
02.07.21	<p>"PM meeting - Cx pushes very hard for faster opening up and fuller opening up, getting rid of all restrictions. Repeats his [...] mantra, 'We either believe in the vaccine or we don't.' I pointed out we would be facing a lockdown now if it were not for the Vx. PM says what will we do if we make masks voluntary, what will ministers say they will do 'Sometimes I will, sometimes I won't wear one.' 'Are we going to encourage people to wear masks?' 'Are we going to continue this bollocks?' he says. Wants everyone back at work. 'We can't have the bollocks of consulting with employees and trade unions. They need to all come back to work.' 'All the malingering work shy people' says how much of CS is back ' how would you be able to tell' he says Saj argues for caution. Basically it is PM and Cx against a more cautious Gove and Saj. PM in a bad mood. Ends by joking ' please record that you have overcome by natural caution + bullied me into opening up' The whole meeting was political posturing. CMO and I made risks very clear. Covid O [...] nearly all of them super keen to remove all restrictions. [...] Barclay says social distancing should also be removed in hospitals."</p>	184-185

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25.10.20	<p>"PM meeting - begins with argue for letting it all rip. Saying yes there will be casualties but so be it. "they have had a good innings" - not persuaded by Edmunds, Ferguson, Farrar. [...] 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. PM suddenly "why aren't we testing people and arresting them if they don't isolate" "they are wrecking our country". DC argued again (rightly) that a lockdown's coming and therefore do it sooner rather than later. [...] PM concludes "looks like we are in 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 it go "you need to tell people - you need to tell them you are going to allow people to die". [...] PM "This is all bad on every level" but "we are not going to be stampeded into a national lockdown"."</p>	238-239