

## Message

**From:** Perelman, Elizabeth - HMT [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FB436D0686D54923A0C5CDA1F9F8F28B-ELIZABETH.P]  
**Sent:** 04/05/2020 23:14:45  
**To:** Director Generals [managingdirectors@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; York-Smith, Dan - HMT [dan.york-smith@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Smewing, Conrad - HMT [conrad.smewing@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Gray, Jean-Christophe - HMT [jean-christophe.gray@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Duffy, Philip - HMT [philip.duffy@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; MacDougall, Vanessa - HMT [vanessa.macdougall@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Henricson-Bell, Olaf - HMT [olaf.henricsonbell@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Jones, Sean - HMT [sean.jones@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Harston, Johanna - HMT [johanna.harston@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Pybus, Tom - HMT [tom.pybus@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Nayee, Dharmesh - HMT [dharmesh.nayee@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Garton, Will - HMT [will.garton@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Davies, Philippa - HMT [philippa.davies@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Poon, Veda - HMT [veda.poon@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Cowan, Johanna - HMT [johanna.cowan@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; **Name Redacted** [redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk]  
**CC:** Covid19Response [covid19response@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Patel, Kunal - HMT [kunal.patel@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; **Name Redacted** [redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk]  
**Subject:** [Readouts] COVID Strategy meeting + PM Bilat [Note- ref to COVID, Recovery, Huawei]  
**Attachments:** Untitled.msg; Scan.pdf

All

Sorry I didn't do this yesterday / earlier. Here are readouts of strategy meeting over the weekend and today's PM meeting.

### Update on Sat Strategy Meeting

- Attached is final plan in CO papers, which as you can see takes on all of our suggestions except gives options on non-essential retail (mid May-early June)
- At the meeting key points were:
  - Announcement at the end of next week (likely Sunday now)
  - Shift from the current stay at home messaging, to balance continued vigilance and gradual easing.
  - Deep dive to be set up to scrutinise the plan on work, including the guidance [likely Wed now]
  - Plan would be presented as 'earliest possible dates' for re-opening conditional on data and enablers being in place
  - Need more detailed work on how to operationalise the opening of schools from 1 June. Favoured re-opening some or all of primary rather than focusing on transition years. Look to do school openings in a phased way. [Work on this is already underway and Sean's team is working closely with DFE/CO]
  - There will need to be an aspirational date for the earliest possible re-opening of non-essential retail. The date of 18 May was discussed but not agreed by all.
  - We need much more detailed work on how to operationalise the transport requirements of this approach, which should be covered in this week's deep dive

So overall: we ended up in same place as our plan on open sectors and schools. But still some uncertainty/push back on non-essential retail. There is also a risk that PM concerns about TTT/testing/surveillance undermines our position. Also PPE as it is one of the five tests.

### Readout of this morning's PM Meeting

- Cx reiterated his message that any softening of the "HMT plan" bakes in hardship. Cx focused in on non-essential retail and hospitality:
  - CMO said that if we don't get things open by Sept, then given winter surge, will need to wait until September
  - If this is the case for hospitality then this sector is "gone"

- Obviously when we say hospitality to open – we mean in new/SD way.
- Therefore need hospitality open in Summer (July), and to his this and to stage things....this means open sectors now, schools early June, and non-essential between the two (mid may)
- Also will make school teachers feel better not to be first.
- PM acknowledged this point but said critical to improve plan on PPE/TTT/surveillance/care homes. It goes to public confidence. We had a long discussion about this. Revisiting responsibilities for TTT/surveillance (pls protect). See attached slides on surveillance.
- PM really keen to have a session on supply side reform in the context of recovery plans. Stuart likely to commission a deep dive in next few weeks.

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

Elizabeth

**Elizabeth Perelman** | Principal Private Secretary to the Chancellor  
HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

| [elizabeth.perelman@HMTreasury.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth.perelman@HMTreasury.gsi.gov.uk)

*Find out more information about the Chancellor and his office - including document templates*

P Please consider the environment before printing this email.

[www.hm-treasury.gov.uk](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk)