

CMO – 11/3

SK – priority unified messaging based on expert advice

CMO – is going to be a global pandemic

- N. Italy; bad place: tourist/industry hub
- Great maj of UK cases are Italian in origin
- On ways of picking up: GP
 - Surveillance on ICU
 - GP network
 - All pneumonia; all hospitals just started
- Think actual UK number 5-10k; London lead as transport hub and density; no more than 2-3 weeks
- Doubling time 3-5 days
- If did nothing peak in 10 weeks, but trying to delay into summer
- Expect to peak 10-14 weeks; London and other dense areas
- Commuter belt say 5 days behind London
- Expect 50% of cases in 3 week period
- Priorities next week: 2-3 weeks
- Too much circulating to identify people and contain from mid next week
- Next week: even if minor symptoms to stay at home [beyond shopping] wait try to test 7 days
- Will try to test quickly in hospitals
- In 2-3 weeks, out of winter season, most people with cough/fever will be COVID-19
- Vulnerability;
 - extreme, underlying conditions “cocooned”
 - moderate, fit but old; mild asthmatic; some degree of separation 10-14 days after symptoms
- Whole family switch on afterwards based on situation
- Get timing right for London; too early for others but regional approach is too confusing
- Danger is London switched on too long – may be able to switch off earlier
- Italy has seeded widely across country; so no point isolating [in one country?]
- Also want to be consistent across 4 nations (ideally +RoI)
- Stopping major events – v small benefit; political judgment
- When switched on, 13+ weeks stay stopped – challenging
- Mass outside gatherings, low impact but public confidence
- More likely to switch off indoor things / where meet lots of people
- Election: healthy people no substantial increase in risk
- For those self isolating, critical to take PV seriously; cocoon but don't imperil democratic right

Transcript of David Bellamy handwritten notes of SK meeting with Chris Whitty 11 March 2020

- Logically no reason to cancel election; no significant risk to those staffing polling stations; could equip with masks (risk incredibly small – even smaller)
- Plan on lots of people coming/self isolation, so not dangerous but difficult to run
- Will follow same trajectory as Italy, think 4-6 weeks behind them (follow death numbers)
- Rough sleepers – hostels (as nursing/residential homes) are high risk, may not increase rough sleepers risks highly (already high)
- Will give specific advice ('do your best')
- London younger demographic and healthier so deaths proportionately
- Public transport: will recommend not making unnecessary trips- spacing people out
- Don't expect to advise not to use Underground
- Encourage walking and cycling
- Next week: delay, planning to mitigate
- Trying to improve website, data coming through too slowly, going to resource up
- School closures less attractive than [?] don't expect to recommend for [?] closure for quite a while if at all – issue is teachers self-isolating/caring; bill relaxes rules on teacher/pupil ratios so best to operate at 4-5 weeks peak, but will be some closures, won't recommend closing