

Message

**From:** Name Redacted  
**Sent:** 09/10/2020 08:42:42  
**To:** Nayee, Dharmesh - HMT [dharmesh.nayee@hmtreasury.gov.uk]; Name Redacted HMT  
Name Redacted @hmtreasury.gov.uk  
**Subject:** FW: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

I think this is a pretty top win

Name Redacted

(she/her) | Economic Risks | Economics Group |

HM Treasury, 1 Blue, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ | Desk line: 638

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Please note my working pattern is Tuesday - Friday.

During this period when many of us are WfH – please drop me a IM, text or call my mobile above if urgent.

**From:** Perelman, Elizabeth - HMT <Elizabeth.Perelman@hmtreasury.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 08 October 2020 21:38  
**To:** York-Smith, Dan - HMT <Dan.York-Smith@hmtreasury.gov.uk>; Name Redacted @hmtreasury.gov.uk;  
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Tarek - HMT <Tarek.Hayfa@hmtreasury.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

Name Redacted and team,

Many thanks for all the work. The Cx in particular wanted thanks you, econ team, health team and COVID team for all the work. The briefs / info meant that cx was well armed to challenge/scrutinise the proposal and had a level of detail beyond the rest of the room which allowed us to make and land our points.....with a great result.

An outline of the wider discussion is below, but afterwards there was a smaller PM/Cx huddle and the upshot is:

- No final decision has been taken on the NPIs

- However the PM steer is that he is not minded to agree to the CO proposal. Instead his preference is either do nothing or close pubs only (in the designated regions).
- The PM also agreed to the financial support package (but **NR** **NR** will pick up separately with policy teams)
- The plan is to announce financial support tomorrow and then the NPIs on Monday (alongside regs).
- On NPIs the plan is to engage LAs and draft regs over the weekend.

Clearly there is a high risk that this unwinds/is unpicked over Friday/Weekend. However as it stands at 21.19 on Thursday you guys have just saved 420k jobs. Not a bad day's work!

Thanks everyone.

Elizabeth

### COVID/NHS discussion

- Patrick/Chris kicked off with data. Explaining how the numbers are breaching the reasonable worst case scenario.
- Simon S then followed up with the discussion on NHS. He said that in 2-3 weeks we could see elective pushed out. But NHS didn't seem to be making the case that NHS about to fall over / capacity is going to be tapped out. But clear once again that NHS do not want to use Nightingales.
- Simon R presented NPI package
  - Aim is to reduce R
  - If do nothing risk exponential....but if go all the way then risk killing economy
  - So pitched this as middle way.
  -
- Some of the points made as part of the discussion were:
  - We got into a long discussion on the TTT data around settings – but ultimately everyone seemed to agree that the data is flawed/ inconclusive (thanks Sarah – great prebrief!).
  - Albeit on data Simon also presented it as: if PM is prioritising education / work etc, then this only leaves hospitality and need PC/leisure to make impact.
  - Cx/Cab Sec were pushing for increase presence of marshals.
  - Talked about sunset clause so default is to come out of lockdown. Cx made points about this not being realistic.
- PM summed up. He noted the push for “short sharp shot” but said that data on sectors is inconclusive. Also realistically this is going to go on for months. Ultimately his preference is to have something simple, de-politicised, at local level (i.e. tiering).

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

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**From:** York-Smith, Dan - HMT <[Dan.York-Smith@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Dan.York-Smith@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 08 October 2020 19:55

[See recipients listed above]

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** Re: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

**Name  
Redacted** All

Am sure Elizabeth will do a full readout, but just a quick note to say thank you to everyone who worked on this briefing, which the CX drew on extensively in a difficult and inconclusive meeting. I'm trying to find out where we go from here, but at the moment I don't think there is an agreed package. Thanks everyone for the speedy work.

Dan

Director - Strategy, Planning & Budget

---

**From:** **Name Redacted** <[\[redacted\]@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:[redacted]@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 8, 2020 4:00:36 PM

[See recipients listed above]



[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

Thanks Elizabeth.

Section B in the attached covers the headlines on drivers of transmission and then we've added in further detail by type of setting in Annex A. There are a couple of sources we've referenced for this:

- NHS Test & Trace data (annexed as the chart the ChX has seen)
- PHE's common exposure analysis (annexed)
- PHE's control group study (annexed)
- PHE's "acute respiratory infection incidents" data
- A paper discussed at SAGE in mid-Sept

Let us know if helpful to add anything else.

Thanks,

**Name  
Redacted**

| Senior Policy Advisor | Strategic Projects | HM Treasury

**From:** Perelman, Elizabeth - HMT <[Elizabeth.Perelman@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Perelman@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 08 October 2020 15:10

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

**Name Redacted**

Many thanks for this – I think the one area that the Cx will want a bit more info on is on sources of transmission.

e.g. I thought we had a table from backward tracing that CMO likely to ref? Also I sent Alex/Jonny a chart that Cx sent me that he has seen. Anything else?

**Are you able to pull together anything else on this that Cx could use as ref?**

Also on economic paper – do you mean national or local recession in first bullet?

Thanks

E

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

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**From:** **Name Redacted** <[Name Redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Name Redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 08 October 2020 13:46

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

And now adding the refreshed note from Econ Group too. Apologies for the double email.

**Name Redacted** | Senior Policy Advisor | Strategic Projects | HM Treasury

From: **Name Redacted**

Sent: 08 October 2020 13:41

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

Elizabeth, all

With huge thanks to everyone for their quick work, please find attached a **near-final version** of a speaking note for the ChX's bilat with the PM. This covers the points you set out below.

We will send across a final version v. shortly – just adding a couple of tables.

Thanks,

**Name  
Redacted**

| Senior Policy Advisor | Strategic Projects | HM Treasury

From: **Name Redacted** <[Name Redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Name Redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

Sent: 08 October 2020 12:32

[See recipients listed above]

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

Thanks Vanessa – agree on the Cx view.

Alex, we're finalising the slides/speaking note today for the PM meeting (tomorrow) so we should touch base separately about the content. We have some maps which demonstrate the regional impacts you describe.

Name Redacted

| Head of Transition Strategy and Delivery |

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**From:** MacDougall, Vanessa - HMT <[Vanessa.MacDougall@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Vanessa.MacDougall@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 08 October 2020 09:52

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

Hi Alex,

You are right that the regions in question here are also those which we expect to be most affected by the end of TP. And that could certainly be bought out in the content on economic impacts. But I'm not sure it works in our favour

INQ000236594\_0007

– people will argue that Brexit impacts are not a reason not to deal with an urgent health issue; and that the answer is for the govt/CX to provide support to mitigate the impacts.

Some of us saw CX on Brexit this morning and he is in (in my view) absolutely the right place in that the govt is already pumping in vast volumes of economic support to deal with Covid, so there isn't a case for more economic support to additional deal with Brexit impacts, as the tools are already there.

Vanessa



Vanessa MacDougall (she/her) | Director | Economics

HM Treasury | 1 Blue

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From: Furse, Alex - HMT <[Alex.Furse@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Alex.Furse@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

Sent: 08 October 2020 09:41

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

One more thing, on which I would appreciate views from those closer to discussions with Ministers (David/ NR on how/whether to play this in, but I think it may be helpful to include a line on the interaction with the end of TP (attached) where analysis shows highly impacted sectors concentrated in the NE and NW and that these areas are economically weaker.

Alex Furse | Deputy Director, Covid-19 Response Team | HM Treasury, 2.22, 1 Horse Guards Road, SW1A 2HQ | Tel:

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From: Furse, Alex - HMT <[Alex.Furse@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Alex.Furse@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

Sent: 08 October 2020 08:15

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

Elizabeth – thank you. Please let us know when you more re timing of the meeting itself.

All, can I suggest we aim to **pull a draft together in one place for noon**, in order to make sure we have the most compelling story. We can then split the economic impacts and alternative proposition into a separate document which we can table at the meeting itself, as per Elizabeth's email last night.

**Name Redacted** will send round a live link idc, but please could this cover:

- What we know about the epidemiological position in these areas (**NR** to lead) – particularly including what we know about the settings in which transmission is taking place, drawing out the best evidence we have, inc. from backward tracing and from the CO paper from over the weekend (second attachment) on possible future interventions. This should draw out particularly the differences between transmission in bars/pubs vs restaurants/cafes, as well as the very limited evidence of transmission in leisure; personal care, and gyms.
- What we know about the position on NHS capacity in these areas (**Name Redacted** to lead) – think this is largely a repeat of yesterday, as we should draw out the point on there being mitigants available – e.g., on how long it would take for the Nightingales to be brought back on-stream, etc.
- Ditto mass testing (**Name Redacted** to lead) – including our views on prioritising areas of lower incidence, noting proposed travel restrictions/guidance and likely exemptions (e.g. for work and schools) the context of Manchester (and potentially other) unis moving to online teaching and dispersal of students, etc.
- The economic impacts (**Dharmesh NR** to lead) – drawing out from the revised version of last night's note (attached) how many jobs are at stake in this package (including a line-by-line table across sector and region); what proportion of total regional employment it is (and proportions of all jobs in England/UK if particularly striking by sector – e.g., in hospitality); what the scarring impacts are; and the latest data we have on jobs that have been furloughed.

- Alternative proposition (**Covid team** to lead) – covering the ban on social mixing; travel restrictions to/from (but not within) the region; closure of pubs/bars (drawing on international comparisons), and a fallback position which keeps leisure and personal care open and doesn't countenance closure of NER. This should also make the point on what the exit strategy will be, given desire to ease around Christmas, and the fact that this shouldn't set a precedent for economic restrictions given approaches being taken overseas (and in Scotland) and the problems with testing data meaning that we are responding later than we would have done with more accurate data. If we need to annex anything, think can cover IG's grid from earlier this week on when other countries have imposed restrictions (in a targeted way) and yesterday's restrictions in Scotland.

All of this should ideally come together in 3-4 sides, so Cx can refer to it easily. Obviously open to views on whether these are the right points and/or can be improved.

Thanks,

Alex

**Alex Furse** | Deputy Director, Covid-19 Response Team | HM Treasury, 2.22, 1 Horse Guards Road, SW1A 2HQ | Tel: **Irrelevant & Sensitive** [www.gov.uk/hm-treasury](http://www.gov.uk/hm-treasury)

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**From:** Perelman, Elizabeth - HMT <[Elizabeth.Perelman@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Perelman@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 07 October 2020 22:51

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [READOUT] Bilat on COVID/NPIs/Financial Support

[copying Olaf]

All

Many thanks for all the products. The meeting ended up being political but at the end we had a de brief with no10 / Cx.

The summary is that the PM/Cx will regroup tomorrow and go through the following:

1. **Health figures**

The cx / pm will get an opportunity to jointly kick tyres on robustness of health data. Specifically: case numbers / the curve / ICU analysis.

Specifically I think the two things that are interesting:

- Extent of trends in the regions they are referring to (which go beyond what we expected) and whether this is driven by positive tests vs hospital admissions (where latter feels more reliable)
- ICU analysis which Philippa kicked tyres on today (Cx got para by the way). Today feels like they are using this demand analysis to basically say that we are 2 weeks away (ish) from NHS collapse. Two points on this i) if we don't think this is the case would we act so quickly / severely ii) if we think NHS are nearing this point we ought to be taking measures not to release capacity or use extra winter capacity in private sector/nightingales that we procured.

Papers: My suggestion is that the taskforce present the analysis and then we are in check/challenge mode. However pls do speak to the taskforce in advance as we should make this collaborative session.

## 2. Mass Testing

Rob – your email is completely consistent with Bilal.

Apparently we are expecting 30m tests next week and 2.5m per day thereafter. Key questions are:

- What is our expedited plan to get mass testing going next week?
- What does the plan look like, what are the options, who/where would we prioritise?

People are advocating for a much more decentralised model. For example apparently DH were stopping units using their own labs and were we sure this is right approach. Dan gave a good challenge earlier – is it right to immediately prioritise the north vs. tier two regions where have a chance of preventing more severe action. I suppose prevent vs exit is point here?

Papers: Again I think taskforce/DH are driving papers and then we are in check/challenge mode. However as you already are, pls do work closely with DH both with spending hat on but also feeding in any views we have on strategy/approach.

## 3. Severity of Economic Restrictions Package

Run through the currently proposed package of economic restrictions, specifically:

- To properly understand the impact of the proposed measures (jobs/businesses/GVA/GDP etc)
- What is the evidence of going beyond hospitality, and if this is not strong why are we extending this into leisure and personal care?
- Should we also go through a more granular breakdown of hospitality and test if there are options within this (i.e. just pubs and bars etc)?

Papers: I actually think there is merit in us producing a paper that we can table which sets out i) total economic hit from proposed package ii) a table that allows us to go line by line and show that a more minimal package which just targets high risk settings would save many jobs iii) linked to this – what is HMT alternative package.

Therefore there is a plan tomorrow at some point to have a PM/Cx meeting to go through these three areas. In the interim it is clear that no decision has been taken on the proposed economic NPI package.

My plan is to ask Stuart to if the following can join via zoom: Dan Name Redacted Jonny – will try to get you guys on too), 1 person from Econ (Clare/Vanessa/Dharmesh?), Philipa and Rob J. This is so that we can have the relevant experts on from each area.

Ahead of the meeting can I just get two things:

Elizabeth

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

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**From:** Medland, Jonny - HMT <[Jonny.Medland@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Jonny.Medland@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 07 October 2020 17:37

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [Commission] Bilat at 5.45pm

Adding rest of the central team and bringing together the various products for sight.



Jonny Medland | Deputy Director, Covid-19 Response  
HM Treasury | Strategy, Planning and Budget | Room 2/22  
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**From:** **Name Redacted** <[@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 07 October 2020 17:25

[See recipients listed above]



[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [Commission] Bilat at 5.45pm

And with thanks to the Covid team, please see attached a core brief. This contains headlines from econ group's note plus the list of restrictions.

Apologies for the delay!

Thanks,

**Name  
Redacted**

| Senior Policy Advisor | Strategic Projects | HM Treasury

**From:** **Name Redacted** <[Name Redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Name Redacted@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 07 October 2020 17:15

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [Commission] Bilat at 5.45pm

Elizabeth,

PSA a note on econ impacts of latest restrictions package for background info for Cx. Plus a 'one pager' of facts for Cx to provide to PM (note we have included a point on the travel restriction in this).

With many thanks to **Name Redacted** for contributing this material at pace.

Best,

**Name  
Redacted**

(she/her) | Economic Risks | Economics Group |

HM Treasury, 1 Blue, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ | Desk line:

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*Please note my working pattern is Tuesday - Friday.*

*During this period when many of us are WfH – please drop me a IM, text or call my mobile above if urgent.*

---

**From:** Nayee, Dharmesh - HMT <[Dharmesh.Nayee@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Dharmesh.Nayee@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 07 October 2020 17:09

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [Commission] Bilat at 5.45pm

Copying **NR** into this chain.

---

**From:** Perelman, Elizabeth - HMT <[Elizabeth.Perelman@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Perelman@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 07 October 2020 16:56

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** RE: [Commission] Bilat at 5.45pm

Copying Beth so she can see what else is being commissioned for Bilat later on NPI restrictions package.

Jonny/Alex

For note later.

- Do you mind including the CO list of regions/stuff being closed per Jonny msg below (just useful to have full list)
- Can you include a 1-pager (which Cx can give to PM in the meeting) with any data you have on economic impacts (per Stuart email/discussion)
  - Number of firms / employees being closed in relevant geography
  - Lost GVA from that closure – through direct effect from those firms being closed, and some sort of estimate on second round effects through the supply chain
  - Fiscal cost of the scheme itself [not sure if can do this]

We can always follow up and sent Stuart something fuller late.

Cx now has premeet with PM at 5.30pm so can you send whatever you have at 5.10pm?

Thanks  
E

## Geography

1. **We recommend** that the package should be applied to:
  - a. North West: all areas (including Merseyside) except Cumbria
  - b. North East: all areas north of Teesside
  - c. Yorkshire and Derbyshire: all of West Yorkshire, all of South Yorkshire, Selby (from North Yorkshire on the grounds it is in the Leeds travel to work area) and High Peak from DerbyshireThe intervention would therefore not capture the West Midlands, Nottingham and Lincolnshire, where numbers are rising quickly. These might need to be included in the next round of intervention.

## Duration

**We recommend** that the intervention should last for 4 weeks. It would come into force on 14 October and run to 11 November. It would therefore encompass half-term. This should be a sufficient duration to see an effect on transmission. The regulations would sunset after 4 weeks. We recommend against a mid-point Parliamentary review.

## Policy package

**We recommend** that the package should involve, in law:

- a. Prohibiting social mixing indoors and in private gardens. The rule of six would apply in open public spaces (i.e. parks, countryside, beaches, gardens).
- b. Closure of hospitality: cafes, restaurants, bars, pubs (takeaway and delivery remain open)
- c. Closure of indoor leisure and entertainment: gyms, casinos, ice rinks, bowling alleys, theatres, museums and galleries etc.
- d. Closure of personal care services: such as barbers, tattoo parlours and nail salons
- e. Weddings and stand-alone ceremonies would not be permitted (unless taking place as a single household), other than funerals (limited to 30)

**We recommend** that the package should involve, in guidance: 'stay local' messaging on travel, encouraging people not to travel more than 5 miles from home other than work.

This would leave open: schools, universities, retail, places of worship, public services (such as libraries) and outdoor leisure venues (such as tennis courts, outdoor gyms, drive-in cinemas/theatres, outdoor zoos and farms).

**There is a choice** on whether to tighten social restrictions further: A) the proposition above applies the rule of six in outdoor public spaces, but B) we could go further and restrict mixing to one other household outdoors, dropping the rule of six, or C) limit mixing to one other person outdoors, or D) prohibit social mixing in all settings. On balance, we recommend against this tightening: outdoor mixing is low-risk, and permitting it will aid compliance over the 4-week intervention

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

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---

**From:** Perelman, Elizabeth - HMT

**Sent:** 07 October 2020 12:28

[See recipients listed above]

**Subject:** [Commission] Bilat at 5.45pm

All

Just bringing this together a bit. PM/Cx are meeting at 5.45pm.

The discussion will be on COVID

- Update on local lockdown
- Financial Support

Eva is commissioning paper on Financial Support on different chain.

However are you guys able to provide **a note by 4pm today** which sets out:

- Any update on potential economic packages for local lockdowns (i.e. latest on option D or whatever etc)
- Local Lockdown analysis from no10
- NHS capacity analysis from no10

Aside from setting out our own views/challenge, great if you could share i) any materials that we think Taskforce are sharing with the PM and ii) where we think taskforce are coming from.

Thanks  
Elizabeth

---

**From:** Stuart Glassborow <[SGlassborow@no10.gov.uk](mailto:SGlassborow@no10.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 06 October 2020 08:33

**To:** Stuart Glassborow <IMCEAEX-

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Cc: Kate Josephs <[kate.josephs@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:kate.josephs@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)>; Jones, Siobhan - HMT <[Siobhan.Jones@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:Siobhan.Jones@hmtreasury.gov.uk)>

Subject: RE: Weekly No10 - HMT meeting on C19 Strategy [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

Thanks for meeting last night.

- Local Lockdown: TF to share summary of data and evidence on what has/hasn't worked – Kate (Weds)
- NHS: TF to pull together simple analysis on trip-wire for NHS capacity based on current or plausible trends region by region, working with Will and Philippa in HMT – Simon / Catherine (Weds)
- Testing and vaccines: TF to pull together shorts notes or slides on each of these in coming months for the Cx, and how this plays into exit strategy – Simon / Kate (this week)
- Financial support: HMT to take us through options/proposal/considerations for financial support package for businesses and individuals that would flow from (something like) Option D in Olly's draft note – meeting noon today

Teams will keep in contact on Gold meetings and tiers proposal.

Stuart

Stuart Glassborow | Deputy Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister | 10 Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA | [sglassborow@no10.gov.uk](mailto:sglassborow@no10.gov.uk)

Meeting  
Password:

**Irrelevant &  
Sensitive**

**Name Redacted**

Diary Manager to Martin Reynolds Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister and Stuart Glassborow Deputy Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister | 10 Downing Street, London SW1A 2AA | Switchboard: **Irrelevant & Sensitive** **Name Redacted** [no10.gov.uk](http://no10.gov.uk) Twitter: @10DowningStreet

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