



**Item 1 – Welcome, Introduction, Review of Actions and Progress Update**

1. EMMA REED (DHSC) opened the thirteenth meeting of the Pandemic Flu Readiness Board (PFRB) by welcoming all attendees, and outlining the purpose of the meeting.

1.2. It has been a year since the last meeting. This is as a result of all departments needing to prioritize resource focusing on EU Exit work. However, as Pandemic Flu remains the number one issue on the National Risk Register it is important for the group to convene and reprioritize.

2.3. The new Government arrival of potential new ministers would also represent an opportunity to re-invigorate the board. SheThe Chair noted that the priorities for this meeting were for departments to get provide updates on progress and consider options to prioritize and re-energize work streams and the PFRB.

3.4. Turning to PAPER 1 and 2, EMMA REED asked STEPHEN GROVES (NHSEPHE) to update on Work Stream 1 (Health care).

4.5. STEPHEN GROVES (PHENHSE) informed the board that the triage and escalation guidance is complete. Absence of the PHENHSE lead and the reorganization of NHS England and NHS Improvement has faced a number of medical incidents which has slowed progress, but the group has now been reorganized and reestablished. There is a new SRO going forward, and NHSPHE will be able to refocus efforts on this work stream. As a result of reorganization, the central team has more support and resource.

5.6. STEPHEN GROVE (NHSPHE) KEVIN DODDS (DHSC) also updated on answered for Work Stream 2 (Community Care). Social Care remains under a lot of pressure, and policy activity has mainly focused on Brexit preparedness and contingency planning in the event of a No Deal Brexit. There was a gap between work needed for Brexit preparedness and work on Pan Flu which needs to be bridged.

6.7. Turning to the Excess Deaths work stream, NR (CCS) provided an update. She explained that as CCS sought to update the guidance was out of date, CCS would need cross-government engagement, particularly from MOJ and HO. The reworked framework will be sent out to the Excess Deaths Working Group in the New Year, with the aim of finalizing and publishing the guidance in the next four months.

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