

Message

From: [PD] /O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D21258C9254E4E32942F15C21EE78F6F [PD]
Sent: 05/02/2020 13:49:54
To: [PD] [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=99083c93ff754ba5bb9fbfcd4f9c471a [Name] [PD] [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=de217b42bf93443b9ace02930082ad6c-KDodds]; DL - RWCS - WNCov [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2937edcadcc84db8b006dbec366f4c57-DL - RCWS -] [PD] [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0ec6dd97afd94ca7954617810d162314 [PD]
CC: Van Tam, Jonathan [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d29c846fc8fa4678b419c6f0dc3836f3-JVanTam]
Subject: RE: SofS Coronavirus meeting readout 04/02

Chris doesn't want to use the 100k figure. He doesn't want to use any figures at the moment as they are all too soft.

The essence is still the same - severe disruption to people's lives and deaths.

Some bullets here from me:

Common internal position on RWCS

- The Chinese Case data shows that cases are roughly doubling every five days. The R is still between 2 - 3.
- It is likely that there are more cases in China. The Chinese measures do not appear to be bringing down the R significantly enough to contain the virus in China but we are not seeing huge onward transmission rates.
- If the cases continue to rise and the speed of onward transmission stays relatively the same, we would not expect to see significant figures in the UK until the end of February, with the peak unlikely to occur before April.
- The RCWS is that there will be severe disruption to people's lives and deaths.

From: [PD]
Sent: 05 February 2020 12:54
To: Dodds, Kevin <Kevin.Dodds@dhsc.gov.uk>; DL - RWCS - WNCov <DL-RWCS-WNCov@dhsc.gov.uk> [PD]
<[PD]@dhsc.gov.uk>; [PD]@dhsc.gov.uk
Subject: RE: SofS Coronavirus meeting readout 04/02

-----OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE-----

Thanks Kevin, have spoken to [PD] Happy to contribute to any script as required.

Key point re RWCS is that SAGE agreed yesterday (with CMO's attendance) that the RWCS for planning purposes remains that for pan flu, but they (via SPI-M-O) will keep this under weekly review. The pan flu RWC is for 820,000 fatalities in the UK (based on an population from 2016(?), the equivalent would be 840,000 today).

I'm not sure where CMO's 100k figure has come from. I agree that it's important that we speak with one voice on this – SAGE's judgement on the RWCS is the one that I think should be planned for (but I know CMO outranks me).

Vital that everyone keeps in mind in messaging that (as you know) the RWC isn't what we ***think*** will happen, but the ***worst*** that we think could happen.



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From: Dodds, Kevin

Sent: 05 February 2020 11:54

To: DL - RWCS - WNCov <DL-RWCS-WNCov@dhsc.gov.uk> [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk; [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk; [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk

Subject: FW: SofS Coronavirus meeting readout 04/02

-----OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE-----

Dear RWCS team – to see the soft intel below on what the scenarios could be. NB this is not necessary 'RWCS' but perhaps more the central scenario.

[redacted] PD Ursula will be in touch as I'm really keen that we have the latest, and so can speak with a single voice, and perhaps have a written core script, about what the RWCS could be, and also how this could unfold and how quickly.

Kevin

From: [redacted] PD

Sent: 04 February 2020 18:07

To: Reed, Emma <Emma.Reed@dhsc.gov.uk>; Dodds, Kevin <Kevin.Dodds@dhsc.gov.uk>; Sharon Peacock <Sharon.Peacock@phe.gov.uk>; Willett, Keith <keith.willett@nhs.net>; Nick Phin <Nick.Phin@phe.gov.uk>; Whitty, Chris <Chris.Whitty@dhsc.gov.uk>; Reed, Emma <Emma.Reed@dhsc.gov.uk>; Sharon Peacock <Sharon.Peacock@phe.gov.uk>; Yvonne Doyle <Yvonne.Doyle@phe.gov.uk>; [redacted] PD [redacted] @phe.gov.uk; [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk; Thomas, Kate <kate.thomas@dhsc.gov.uk>; [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk; Van Tam, Jonathan <Jonathan.VanTam@dhsc.gov.uk>; [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk; [redacted] PD [redacted] @nhs.net; Permanent Secretary <permanent.secretary@dhsc.gov.uk>; [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk; Baxter, Tim <tim.baxter@dhsc.gov.uk>; Mean, Jeremy <Jeremy.Mean@dhsc.gov.uk>; [redacted] PD [redacted] @dhsc.gov.uk; Baxter, Tim <tim.baxter@dhsc.gov.uk>; Dodds, Kevin <Kevin.Dodds@dhsc.gov.uk>

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Subject: SofS Coronavirus meeting readout 04/02

Dear all,

Please see the below for a readout from this afternoons meeting on Coronavirus. As ever, please treat sensitively.

Any questions do let me know.

Emma/Kevin/Tim/Jeremy – please can you ensure that the below is forwarded on to everybody working on Coronavirus?

- CMO commented that the Chinese Case data is continuing to double roughly every 5 days. We are now beyond the point where we would expect to see an improvement resulting from the measures introduced by China but the R is still not below one. Positive is that we're still not seeing huge onward transmission rates. CMO anticipates that there are many more cases in China.
- Based on our best understanding of the current situation, CMO would not expect to see significant figures in the UK until the end of Feb, with the peak unlikely to occur before April. If true, the positive thing is this would be outside of Winter, where the pressure on the NHS should be less significant that if we were to peak now.
- CMO's current reasonable worst case scenario would be a large epidemic (perhaps not quite a pandemic) with a circa 100,000 death rate. JVT agreed but commented that we could reasonably expect this figure to be higher. SofS did not want to use these death figures publicly.
 - **ACTION:** SofS asked for a comms plan that pre-warns the public of the severity of the risk whilst also being clear on the potential scale up in border and flight policy. *Note I have put the comms note sent up earlier this afternoon in the box.*
- SS commented on the need to look at the NHS in terms of capacity and demand for the reasonable worst case scenario (beds, respiratory services and mortuary).
- SofS agreed to tell suppliers to stop running down stockpiles, and asked that this is handled sensitively with EU. SofS agreed that we need to prioritise critical supplies (face masks etc) for England, but that we should keep this continually under review.
- There was a discussion around the repatriation flight planned on Sunday and the use of the Oxford Holiday Inn. SofS cleared the use of this site but commented that we need to be clear with the public on why we are not using a NHS facility and that we need a clear plan for other persons that return from China.
- There was a discussion on the FCO change in travel advice. Emma Reed commented that the team were working up logistics.
- CMO commented that his scientific evidence was clear that in his view the health rationale for any change in travel advice was due to the Chinese health system being overwhelmed by coronavirus. SofS said our messages must align with FCO, and that the public narrative should focus on the fact that travel is more difficult in China, health services are breaking down and the future risk is going up from Coronavirus.
- SofS commented on the US policy to ask returnees to phone in everyday with a temperature check. SofS asked the team to work up plans to run a similar service in the UK (via email or an online portal). There were two actions to be completed within the next 24 hours:
 - **ACTION:** PHE to work up the introduction of a self-declaration form for travellers travelling from China to complete when landing in the UK (to include the question of providing temperature checks for 14 days).
 - **ACTION:** DHSC to work rapidly with Border Force to work out how we can do this for indirect flights.
- SofS commented that the No.10 view has been to follow the science and to explain this as much as possible to the public without u-turning on any policy. CMO agreed but commented on the need to maintain the flexibility to row back when measures are no longer useful.
- Perm Sec asked for a protocol for where we discover a spike in another country where Coronavirus may have gone unnoticed.
 - **ACTION:** Emma Reed team to work up plans.
- SofS asked Jamie Njoku-Goodwin to review the comms plan for the various outcomes for the those who have tested positive.
 - **ACTION:** comms to share with Jamie
- There was an update on the Wirral facility, with on person who is incredibly keen to leave. SofS view, is if someone leaves, we will absolutely do everything we can to make them stay.
 - **ACTION:** NHSE to ensure that the resident fully understands the implication of leaving the Wirral facility

- It was agreed that the resident should be shown the letter of intent setting out the totality of the cost that he will owe back to the State, he should be escorted home via ambulance into isolation in his own home should he still wish to leave. SoS also agreed that the team should apply for a 2a order via the magistrate. SoS would also like to explore introducing emergency legislation for a quarantine order.
 - **ACTION:** Perm Sec will talk to the HO/MOJ perm sec to quickly include an emergency broad power within the HO/MOJ terrorism bill *Emma Dean has also been in touch*
 - **ACTION:** policy team to go to the magistrate tonight in order to try and secure the Order
- PS(P) commented on the police concern around arresting potentially unwell persons.
- SoS commented that containing this issue is essential for managing the public trust in the Government.
- Emma Reed said that PS(P) would be having a call with DAs tomorrow morning ahead of COBR.

Thanks

PD



Department
of Health &
Social Care

PD

Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)

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