

**Support for non-shielded vulnerable groups**

Updates were provided on both the broader mapping work to identify vulnerable cohorts and the support available to them, and the more specific work on ensuring access to food. A GDS portal to signpost individuals to support available to them is due to go live next week. The Committee agreed that we should not seek to identify and provide support at a national level, but should be seeking to support local delivery. Financial support to critical third sector organisations must be considered as part of this. Where possible, we should seek to use GoodSam volunteers and DCMS are working on directing people towards voluntary organisations that need support. DEFRA has a lead Minister and SRO for the food and essential supplies section, and a new SRO will be joining the Cabinet Office to support wider work.