

Message

From: Whitty, Chris [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=0B3EE62E0CA04E978730B14F9B416A1E-WHITTY, CHR]
Sent: 30/07/2020 12:30:22
To: **NR** [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2ff9661092c5453aa67b231e819b9653; **NR**]
CC: psmatthancock [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8dddc7f87798480280e3a7aa57cb8d62-psmatthanco]; CWP [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cee9a69716524ddfaeb750f9cd118b8d; **NR**]
Subject: national and local messages

Dear **NR**

Just to make sure at a higher level I understand the SofS view, below are what I consider are some logically coherent positions which I've also discussed with Chris Wormald.

Three factual positions:

- 1) There remains significant transmission in the NW and surrounds (JBC/PHE data). This needs local actions.
- 2) There is a small but perceptible national increase in cases more widely (ONS data) nationally.
- 3) We currently have easements taking effect on Sat.

There are two moving parts – what we do locally and what we do nationally. Together these need to add up to both an epidemiologically appropriate response and a coherent understandable message.

I think there are some responses which look both appropriate and coherent.

- a) Double down on local interventions for now, continue with national easements but with clear warnings people need to be responsible.
- b) Make a decision to cancel future national easements, make a national push that we are likely to see a surge in cases unless people pull back socially etc nationally. Still have enhanced local responses.
- c) Continue with national easements as a), but aim to have a serious discussion about what to reverse if/when we see a national surge, before or after schools. Further messaging to occur after this weekend.

There are two which do not look coherent/proportionate.

- d) Simultaneously have a big national push on the dangers of the virus resurging whilst pressing on with national easements. This will look incoherent.
- e) Reimpose national restrictions which have been previously lifted at this point in time. This looks disproportionate now, but may well be needed to allow for school opening in due course.

While it is of course a matter for political judgment and weighing health and non-health priorities, if Chris and I were to choose, we would probably pick (b), but there is a case for any of a-c.

Chris