

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE - COVID-19- Note of SGoRR(M - Monday 2 March

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Date: Mon, 02 Mar 2020 18:55:36 +0000

Attachments: Coronavirus Action Plan - template - v5.3 (final with logos).docx (341.14 kB)

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OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

NOT FOR ONWARD DISTRIBUTION WITHOUT AUTHORISATION OF HEAD OF SGoRR

SGoRR (M) Monday 2 March - 1530 hours

Chaired by First Minister

Please find below a note and **ACTION POINTS** from this afternoon's Coronavirus (COVID-19) SGoRR(M) meeting.

The Chief Medical Officer gave an update on the latest health situation in Scotland and globally. The situation in Scotland remains one confirmed case. The meeting was told the headline details from the Press Conference held by FM, CMO and Cab Sec Health at lunchtime, where more information about the Reasonable Worst Case Scenario were provided. FM said that it would be important to keep putting the numbers into context, that they are RWCS and that the vast majority of cases would be mild.

This was followed by a discussion around the issue of 'social distancing' and the development of scientific advice and modelling around the potential of taking decisions around 'mass gatherings'. This wasn't in relation to any immediate concern but was prudent to consider on a Scotland-wide basis ahead of any change in the spread of the virus and update in scientific advice. SAGE will be starting deeper consideration of social distancing this week, and the Head of SGoRR described a Deep Dive workshop event that has been scheduled for Wednesday to look at the range of events and powers that might need to be considered in the case of a worst case scenario.

The Health Cabinet Secretary and Health Officials provided an update on the NHS and Social Care escalation plan.

Issues relating to advice to the business sector, the economic impact and the effects on vulnerable people were discussed. It was stressed that urgent work was needed to look at key issues like advice to businesses and employees around issues like sick pay, benefit claims etc. It was agreed that officials should look at the Fair Work protocol on Severe Weather, signed jointly with STUC, might prove a framework for further advice.

Cab Sec Transport updated that the Action Point on stepping up effective public health comms at airports had been progressed.

FM reported back from COBR(M) that a 4 Nations Action Plan had been agreed for publication tomorrow. This will provide a framework on which to anchor decisions going forward. A Scottish summary doc is being prepared to publish alongside the Action Plan.

COBR(M) had also signed off the urgent draft Bill content and timetable – Cabinet Secretaries were asked to ensure they were fully engaged with issues around their clauses, including engagement with key stakeholders.

It was agreed to bring key external partners into at least one SGoRR(M) per week, including Police Scotland, Cosla, Solace and Scottish Parliament.

On comms and marketing, the media plan for the next few days was set out. On marketing, the UKG will be issuing new material this week. Ministers would like to ensure that we can issue our own SG branded versions as it was important that the Scottish public understood that the advice was from SG as well as UKG.

No date or time was agreed for a next meeting, but it was likely that SGoRR(M) would need to be stepped up from the current once a week schedule.

Action Points

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1. **ALL** - to consider what social distancing would mean? What would travel restrictions look like for example?
2. **Health** – Need to step up work to assure there is suitable Public Health capacity across all Boards
3. **Health** – Need to consider carefully the handling of confirmed cases going forward, especially in relation to hospital admissions.
4. **Health** – work to be done around available option for short and medium term with regards to beds
5. **Economy/Finance** – some quick work to be done on advice to business e.g. on self-isolation
6. **Fair Work** – to consider the possibility of a joint protocol with STUC similar to the Severe Weather agreement
7. **Health/Transport** – to work together on process to strengthen handling of passengers who arrive at Scottish airports who have been declared unwell by the captain on arrival
8. **Welfare** – discuss with UKG and DWP about benefit claimants and consider if any additional measures might be required
9. **Health** – to circulate final version of action plan today
10. **SGoRR** - to adjust the Scottish supplement to the action plan to make it a bit clearer and tighter. Needs to be circulated tonight (Monday)
11. **Legislation lead** – Work with all policy leads to identify stakeholders that need to be consulted and help ensure a synchronised approach to contacts
12. **DFM** – to open conversations with Local Government on plans
13. **SGoRR** – to include partners, such as COSLA, SOLACE, Police Scotland and Parliament, at future meetings

