

FW: SGoRR(O) Coronavirus - ACTION POINTS and latest comms lines

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Date: Fri, 14 Feb 2020 11:42:08 +0000

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Sent: 31 January 2020 16:41
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Subject: FW: SGoRR(O) Coronavirus - ACTION POINTS and latest comms lines

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All

Thank you to those who joined this afternoon's SGoRR officials' call.

The three main actions to emerge were as follows:

ACTION 1 - Consider how best to engage with trusted partners on scenario planning, including the prudent consideration existing Pan Flu handling material, with an emphasis on ensuring that this is done consistently on an all-sectors basis and that inter-dependencies across sectors are identified. An initial route for this could be through the Scottish Resilience Partnership (a group of senior officers across all Category 1 responders – Police Scotland, SFRS, SAS, SEPA, Local Authorities, Health Boards and MCA):

Resilience Division to pursue with support from Health Resilience and Public Health

ACTION 2 - Share the latest Scottish Government lines. Here's what has been issued this afternoon:

Responding to confirmation that two patients in England have tested positive for coronavirus, Scotland's Chief Medical Officer Dr Catherine Calderwood said: "Our thoughts are with the people who have been diagnosed with coronavirus in England, and their family members, at what must be a very concerning time. Scotland's NHS is well equipped to deal with infections of this kind. We have a proven track record of dealing with challenging health issues, and have been preparing for this possibility since the beginning of the outbreak in Wuhan. All Scottish tests have so far been negative. However, it is highly likely that we will also see a positive case in Scotland in the coming days, and our health service is well prepared for this eventuality. The World Health Organisation has declared a public health emergency of international concern, and in response, the four UK Chief Medical Officers changed the UK risk level from low to moderate. This does not mean that the risk to individuals has increased, and it does not mean that any additional precautions are necessary. The increase to moderate is a reflection of the need for governments and the health service to escalate our planning and preparation in case of a more widespread outbreak."

Background:

Current advice is that all travellers who develop relevant symptoms (one of either fever, shortness of breath or cough) however mild, within 14 days of returning from mainland China, should self-isolate at home immediately and call NHS 24 111. Travellers returning from Wuhan and Hubei Province should self-isolate for 14 days, even if they do not have symptoms, due to the increased risk from that area.

ACTION 3 - [NR] Head of Security and Business Continuity offered for his team to provide support for any business areas wishing assistance in the business continuity planning. Anyone wishing to take up this offer should contact Matthew Allan, Head of Business Continuity matthew.allan@scot.gov

Next Steps

SGoRR remains actively monitoring the situation and is linked to COBR in London and to the Police Scotland coronavirus team. Public Health and Health Resilience officials are heavily involved in a series of daily meetings with colleagues across Scotland and at UKG level. Ministers are receiving daily updates from the Public Health team.

There are no SGoRR(Ministerial) meetings currently planned. It was agreed that a SGoRR(O) with a similar cast list would be sensible next week – timings etc to be arranged.

Any significant development over the weekend or into next week would likely change these arrangements. We will keep colleagues informed.

Kind Regards

Andrew

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