

19/05/2021, 23:54 - Humza: Yeah she comes with a high reputation. You, Gregor and the Clinical team are awesome, I will be relying on you a lot i suspect!

19/05/2021, 23:57 - Jason Leitch: We expect you to and we'll rely on you. Each to their own skills....

19/05/2021, 23:58 - Jason Leitch: I'm going to presume you don't need to see every one of my bids for permission? We kind of just do it. And there are often loads. Clearly you need profile and do all the politics.

20/05/2021, 11:29 - Humza: Not for permission no but helpful to know what bids youre doing so i can catch up as I often plagiarise what you are saying - verbatim...just to make it look like i know what I'm actually talking about

20/05/2021, 11:29 - Humza: <Media omitted>

20/05/2021, 11:36 - Jason Leitch: Of course. We'll definitely tell you.

20/05/2021, 11:37 - Jason Leitch: 👍

20/05/2021, 11:39 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

20/05/2021, 11:41 - Humza: <Media omitted>

20/05/2021, 11:42 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

20/05/2021, 11:46 - Humza: Ok that's makes sense. Thank you as always. Expect some more requests for layman explanations!

20/05/2021, 11:46 - Jason Leitch: Easy. It's my only skill. 😊

20/05/2021, 11:46 - Jason Leitch: And I barely understand Gregor either but the boffins like him.

20/05/2021, 11:47 - Jason Leitch: FM at 1015. Glasgow steady, moray down, east ren the tricky one.

20/05/2021, 11:49 - Humza: 😊 It is your super power...!

Unless i am reading the papers in front of me wrong (v possible) i cannot see how we can retain East Ren in Level 3.

Not only from a public health approach but from a 'confidence in the system' approach the numbers tell me we're at 102 cases per 100k a 66 case increase in a week and test positivity at 3.7% - both higher than when we put Glasgow into Level 3. Cant have one rule for the leafy suburbs and one rule for the city.

Unless the East Ren cases are easily contained.

20/05/2021, 11:51 - Jason Leitch: That's the key difference. We're getting local advice that says we're on it. Same public health leaders as Glasgow. She's very conservative. They think they know the cases and have a grip. But that doesn't always work of course. It's what England are doing but we've started with Glasgow not doing it.

20/05/2021, 11:52 - Humza: Okay. I'll be on the deep dive

20/05/2021, 11:52 - Jason Leitch: Good. There was some FM "keep it small" shenanigans as always. She actually wants none of us.

20/05/2021, 13:38 - Jason Leitch: Gregor I&S

20/05/2021, 13:40 - Humza: 👍

20/05/2021, 15:25 - Jason Leitch: Raw numbers between the two LAs.

20/05/2021, 15:25 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

20/05/2021, 15:26 - Jason Leitch: Clearly the populations are very different. But....

20/05/2021, 15:28 - Humza: Thats helpful. Whats the total number of positive cases in East Ren?

20/05/2021, 15:29 - Jason Leitch: I've asked for the table of data they used to make that graph. I'll send on

20/05/2021, 15:31 - Humza: 👍

20/05/2021, 18:01 - Humza: Im possibly not understanding the numbers youve sent but if i was to ask the question; how many people in East Ren currently have Covid (of any variant), what is the answer in raw numbers

20/05/2021, 18:09 - Jason Leitch: I don't know, you can't know. I know how many tested positive every day.

20/05/2021, 18:10 - Jason Leitch: So three days ago, we use three days because we have reliable data by now 28 people tested positive.

16th May 16

15th May 12

on GG&C Board data.

27/05/2021, 13:39 - Humza: At its lowest over the last 7 days we saw Glasgow case numbers dip to around 87 new cases, obviously now seeing an increase over the last two days - test % remaining relatively stable?

Understand FM's worry about losing the dressing room, but cant do anything other than leave Glasgow in Level 3 for now.

Big question (and opposition are asking it, not unreasonably) what is the way out. Are *we* doing enough here to break the community transmission. Instead of just targetting the hotspots does enhanced testing/prioritising vaccines etc need to be done city-wide?

27/05/2021, 13:51 - Jason Leitch: 1) yes positivity stable so finding cases appropriately

2) I think for another week. Then everyone down one level.

3) that's the question she asked. I think the only way out is to take more risk and manage the cases. Vaccination helps but not quickly. I think local PH leaders with central support. They're good.

27/05/2021, 13:54 - Humza: If we're able to signal that if the current trajectory continues then we will move Glasgow down a level, it gives people hope.

Although we aren't seeing huge numbers being hospitalised ---> ICU, if people are still catching Covid there could be a risk of more people catching long covid and other complications?

Very tough balance to strike.

27/05/2021, 14:01 - Jason Leitch: Yep.

Still relatively small numbers and we should prevent Covid of course to stop long Covid but we don't shut pubs for other chronic diseases.

27/05/2021, 14:02 - Jason Leitch: And I agree. If trajectory continues and doesn't accelerate everyone down a level. That would allow EUROS.

27/05/2021, 14:03 - Jason Leitch: Cancelling crowds and the fanzone would be VERY difficult.

27/05/2021, 14:04 - Humza: That's the danger though. Football is on, pubs open, lots of people mingling indoors including in households to watch the game, all the while Glasgow is still picking up 100-odd new cases a day...

27/05/2021, 14:04 - Jason Leitch: 🤔

27/05/2021, 14:04 - Jason Leitch: You're not helping. 😂

27/05/2021, 14:06 - Humza: I know! But if cases surge un Glasgow a few weeks after the 1st match our decision to let fans in to stadiums/moving Glasgow to Level 2 in time for the football, will have come under some pretty intense scrutiny...

27/05/2021, 14:07 - Humza: All that said, we will lose the dressing room. People want to watch the match with friends and family, after waiting 23yrs for Scotland to qualify

27/05/2021, 14:09 - Jason Leitch: And no family in houses since October

27/05/2021, 14:10 - Humza: <Media omitted>

27/05/2021, 14:10 - Jason Leitch: Yep. A week after proposed moves down. Fanzone opens 11th

27/05/2021, 14:11 - Humza: To mitigate the surge in cases we will possibly see as a result of the Euros, not better keeping Glasgow in Level 3 as long as possible before the first game...fanzone makes that tricky right enough

27/05/2021, 14:14 - Jason Leitch: She won't want to use football as the 'guide'. But it's bad timing I agree. I have fingers crossed that we're slowing.

27/05/2021, 14:28 - Humza: Test positivity in NHS GGC 2.8%? Which seems significantly lower than earlier in the week? Unless im reading figures wrong, or is it the Glasgow City figure (as opposed to healthboard figure) that was higher (around 4.1%)?

27/05/2021, 14:28 - Jason Leitch: I think City. I'd have to look back.

27/05/2021, 14:29 - Humza: Yeah i think thats prob right

27/05/2021, 14:29 - Jason Leitch: So more testing. Case finding. Exactly what we want. As trump said, the problem with you public health idiots is if you do tests you find disease.

27/05/2021, 14:42 - Jason Leitch: Inpatients DOWN.

44 GG&C down 10

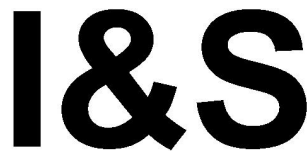
27/05/2021, 14:42 - Humza: Thats positive

10/06/2021, 01:34 - Humza: Sounds sensible. Are most parts of England currently in what would be our Level 2 or 1 ?

Aye, weekend sounds good.

On the plus side - 23yrs wait is almost bloody over. Despite all the Fan Zone pish, am getting quite excited!!

10/06/2021, 01:34 - Jason Leitch: One

A large, bold, black logo consisting of the letters 'I', '&', and 'S' in a serif font, centered within a dashed rectangular border.

10/06/2021, 01:36 - Jason Leitch: 👍👍

10/06/2021, 11:45 - Jason Leitch: And still it goes on...FM wants more advice. Her instinct says cancel fanzone. Her office will write back (which Ken is writing) to ask for more and then Ken will gather legal etc to reply.

10/06/2021, 11:48 - Humza: Yeah she messaged me this morning. Wants more detail from GCC around costs involved if we cancel.

I was saying to her there is little political pressure to cancel it. Everything we do has perceived anomalies because ppl dont (understandably) have the same grasp over the nuances we do.

Ultimately its got to be her call. You cant change the public health advice to suit the question...or at least you shouldn't!

10/06/2021, 11:48 - Jason Leitch: We're not going to. We're going to get her broader advice on comms, money and legal.

10/06/2021, 11:48 - Jason Leitch: £6m to cancel

10/06/2021, 11:53 - Humza: £6m seems cheap for 31days...wonder if that factors in costs the food and beverage suppliers would have expected to make over the course of the FZ (may look for compensation)

Either way. If FM is going to cancel needs to be done soon. She could hold the line and see how we get on and what the scenes on Monday look like. If people behave then that might settle her nerves

10/06/2021, 11:55 - Jason Leitch: Yep. I think that's costs not profit.

10/06/2021, 11:56 - Jason Leitch: She needs to do it before or at FMQs if at all.

10/06/2021, 11:57 - Humza: I'll tell you what, from knowing her for 15yrs, it is not often her instincts are wrong.

10/06/2021, 11:58 - Humza: Agree. I actually feel for the Glasgow Life Team. A lot of work gone into this with public health and theyre on tenterhooks

10/06/2021, 11:58 - Jason Leitch: I agree. I've seen them for 15 months. And she's not yelling at me. She's being considered.

10/06/2021, 11:58 - Jason Leitch: Me too. It's horrible.

10/06/2021, 17:26 - Jason Leitch: Final advice is up. Basically her choice now. It's rounded and balanced. I think it still gets to default is open with review so unless she's spooked then I think we're opening. FMQs helped, no mentions.

10/06/2021, 17:27 - Jason Leitch: Ken is very good....

10/06/2021, 17:39 - Humza: Yes agreed FMQs helped she seemed a little more relaxed after. I told her that clinicians and officials cant give her what she is after. Noone can say if the FZ does not go ahead, here are how many people will go to bars, or each others homes to watch the game.

I think it is now a policy question as opposed to a public health one

10/06/2021, 17:41 - Humza: I still want to push Glasgow Life on what we can do testing wise so there is some kind of offer. Or maybe even the Health Board. How quickly can we get an MTU set up close to the fan zone. We encourage folk to test upon arrival. If anyone wants a test (not a condition) they can get one on site (or close to the site)

10/06/2021, 17:50 - Jason Leitch: 👍👍

10/06/2021, 18:42 - Humza: I think we have the bare bones of a testing package that might give us some additional cover

10/06/2021, 18:44 - Jason Leitch: Yep. FM at 4.30

Irrelevant & Sensitive

10/06/2021, 18:53 - Humza: Yeah noted the 430pm call. She has just sent me a tweet about Lancashire letting their Fan Zone go ahead....

10/06/2021, 18:53 - Humza: Dundee and Lothian still giving me the most worry. I might ask to speak to their Health Boards over the weekend

10/06/2021, 19:03 - Jason Leitch: 😂😂

10/06/2021, 19:03 - Jason Leitch: Some days she'd be delighted to let me go....

10/06/2021, 19:03 - Jason Leitch: Yep. Me too. I'm hoping they're just behind Glasgow and will flatten at the same rate maybe.

10/06/2021, 19:12 - Humza: Hopefully...

10/06/2021, 20:00 - Jason Leitch: Good job. 👍

10/06/2021, 20:01 - Jason Leitch: Comms think Monday might be better. No bulletins on Sunday.

10/06/2021, 20:04 - Humza: We'll need to do it before the game then. Nothing stopping us doing social media/radio reinforcing the msg over the weekend

10/06/2021, 20:14 - Jason Leitch: 👍

10/06/2021, 21:40 - Humza: <Media omitted>

10/06/2021, 21:43 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

10/06/2021, 21:44 - Humza: Agreed. Suspect you're right about Saturday

10/06/2021, 21:45 - Humza: <Media omitted>

10/06/2021, 21:47 - Jason Leitch: Result!!!!

11/06/2021, 18:05 - Jason Leitch: Just done MSP briefing. They were mostly fine. Very reasonable and predictable. Edward Mountain rude and Daniel Johnson a smart arse. Otherwise fine.

11/06/2021, 20:08 - Humza: Doesn't surprise me about Mountain or DJ frankly. Paul Sweeney will also be one to watch, he will tell you how to do your job.

11/06/2021, 20:08 - Humza: I see the Stats authority has given me the wrap on the knuckles i expected!

11/06/2021, 20:19 - Jason Leitch: I've had that exact letter. Lol

11/06/2021, 20:20 - Jason Leitch: He's had a go on Twitter previously. Anas says he's struggling with him and new girl NR

11/06/2021, 20:21 - Jason Leitch: My Mum taught me never to be rude. Mountain was head shaking and harrumphing....like a child.

11/06/2021, 20:38 - Humza: Yes Sweeney will be the new Neil Findlay, dont know Name

Your mum taught you well.

11/06/2021, 20:38 - Humza: What were Mountain and DJs main grumps?

11/06/2021, 20:39 - Jason Leitch: DJ was nurseries

Mountain was "only one person in raigmore so open up" 😞

11/06/2021, 20:40 - Jason Leitch: There was a lot of "why this and not this?" Everyone sees it through their own lens.

11/06/2021, 20:43 - Humza: Yes and everyone is of course a public health expert

11/06/2021, 20:46 - Jason Leitch: You actually are. Three weeks training!

11/06/2021, 21:06 - Humza: I am winging it! And will get found out sooner rather than later 🙄

11/06/2021, 21:14 - Jason Leitch: Me too. That doesn't change.....

12/06/2021, 01:00 - Jason Leitch: Fanzone report:

-1056 on-site

-“Good atmosphere”

-no arrests

23/06/2021, 12:14 - Humza: Where's this from?
23/06/2021, 12:15 - Humza: Can i use it publicly?
23/06/2021, 12:16 - Jason Leitch: <https://twitter.com/VictimOfMaths/status/1407334809052057605>
23/06/2021, 12:17 - Jason Leitch: Yes. But use his tweet I think. He's good. He uses public data to show it. Like travelling tabby.
23/06/2021, 12:17 - Humza: 👍
23/06/2021, 12:23 - Jason Leitch: Just checking. Im going to the Lions on Saturday. Comms want to "talk to me about it". I plan to hold the line and still go but not make any fuss. Happy with that?
23/06/2021, 12:24 - Humza: Yes thats fine. If the event is going ahead having a clinician there is no bad thing
23/06/2021, 12:27 - Jason Leitch: 👍
24/06/2021, 12:21 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>
24/06/2021, 12:26 - Humza: I was certain we'd be well above the 3000 mark...
24/06/2021, 12:27 - Humza: Just doesnt feel right that we aren't effectively able to do anything in the immediate and short term to drive those numbers down, other than imposing restrictions, which as the FM says the public just wouldnt stand for
24/06/2021, 12:32 - Jason Leitch: Keep your fingers crossed it a temporary Euros phenomenon
24/06/2021, 12:32 - Jason Leitch: Test and protect
Comms
Vaccines
Etc.
24/06/2021, 12:33 - Jason Leitch: But at these numbers the system creaks and becomes less effective.
24/06/2021, 12:35 - Humza: Indeed. Test and protect can only do so much. Lockdown/restrictions are the most effective NPIs but we cant deploy them.

Let's hope the next week doesnt see a surge in our hospitals.

Forecast I saw showed our hospital numbers going from 170 yday to 277 over the next 4 days. Seems off (hopefully)

24/06/2021, 12:36 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>
24/06/2021, 12:37 - Jason Leitch: This is being redone today and you'll get it. It's not great. But not catastrophic.
24/06/2021, 12:37 - Jason Leitch: Wrong one.
24/06/2021, 12:37 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>
24/06/2021, 12:38 - Jason Leitch: This one is the changes FM chose.
24/06/2021, 12:39 - Humza: Not great is a bit of an understatement...but perhaps im just panicky being new in role.
24/06/2021, 12:40 - Jason Leitch: Panicky isn't a bad response. 😊
24/06/2021, 12:40 - Jason Leitch: SPI-M is today and our modellers will redo our modelling.
24/06/2021, 12:42 - Humza: This is the UK Pandemic group?
24/06/2021, 12:42 - Humza: I'll get the acronyms one day
24/06/2021, 12:43 - Jason Leitch: Sub groups of SAGE. SAGE is the big boys and girls. Chaired by Vallance. Two crucial sub committees.
SPI-M for modelling
SPI-B for Behavioral science
24/06/2021, 12:45 - Humza: 👍
24/06/2021, 22:10 - Humza: Im pretty sure I heard you and Gregor this morning telling me and the FM Spain & Portugal are a few weeks behind us on the curve...and we now put their Islands on the Green List...!?
24/06/2021, 22:38 - Jason Leitch: You did. I don't really understand it either. JBC, clinical advice and Michael M. I think they have low incidence but it must be a risk.
25/06/2021, 12:14 - Jason Leitch: 1747 today. 🦋
25/06/2021, 12:15 - Jason Leitch: 2 deaths
25/06/2021, 12:17 - Jason Leitch: Apparently there's a lighthouse delay. Feck.
25/06/2021, 12:18 - Jason Leitch: Short by 950 cases probably. Apparels
25/06/2021, 12:18 - Jason Leitch: Apparently *

opposition make. Frustrating as id like to be more open.

Creating bed capacity us going to be the significant challenge. Moving ppl into a temporary care home place if its not their preferred one is going to cause an issue.

22/09/2021, 11:45 - Jason Leitch: I feel that same guarding. I've had to learn it. It makes me sound evasive.

22/09/2021, 11:45 - Jason Leitch: Yep. Delays have to move.

22/09/2021, 14:32 - Jason Leitch: Single day data BUT;

- ICU down 12

- inpatients down 31

22/09/2021, 14:37 - Humza: 🙌

Hospital data fluctuating a fair bit over the course of the last week.

I thought we were seeing a sustained fall only to see an increase over the last couple of days

22/09/2021, 14:53 - Jason Leitch: Yep. It depends a lot on individual clinical decisions.

23/09/2021, 19:50 - Jason Leitch: Are you waiting for the 4 nations call???

23/09/2021, 20:03 - Humza: Its was moved to 1715

23/09/2021, 20:03 - Humza: You deleted this message

23/09/2021, 20:03 - Humza: Am waiting to be let in

23/09/2021, 20:04 - Jason Leitch: Aha. No one told me. I'll rejoin

23/09/2021, 20:04 - Jason Leitch: Waiting again!!!

23/09/2021, 20:19 - Humza: Any particular issue you want me to raise?

23/09/2021, 20:19 - Jason Leitch: I don't think so. COP maybe? Or ask for COP next time?

23/09/2021, 20:20 - Humza: <Media omitted>

23/09/2021, 20:20 - Jason Leitch: Quite....that's my point. 😊

23/09/2021, 20:23 - Jason Leitch: I don't think this is a problem. I'll ask [Name Redacted]

23/09/2021, 20:28 - Jason Leitch: He's worse than Gove. It's as quick as he can get through it.

23/09/2021, 20:28 - Humza: Yeah total tick box

23/09/2021, 20:29 - Humza: [NR] always phones me afterwards to rant 🤔

23/09/2021, 20:29 - Humza: We should be doing a state of the pandemic across 4 Nations

23/09/2021, 21:26 - Jason Leitch: Of course we should. And a winter planning meeting.

23/09/2021, 21:27 - Jason Leitch: I think he feels the NHS is distant at NHS England.

23/09/2021, 21:27 - Jason Leitch: We could have a Celtic one.

23/09/2021, 21:28 - Humza: Yeah though describing the NI are Celtic might get you in some hot water 🙄

Good idea though, would be more productive.

23/09/2021, 21:28 - Jason Leitch: 😊

05/10/2021, 21:13 - Jason Leitch: I couldn't watch but seems to have gone well??

06/10/2021, 19:23 - Humza: Forgot to respond. YeH went well and seems to have been well received, a shot in the arm the service needs. Just need to ensure we can deliver it and actually see positive outcomes.

Btw on this ive asked to speak to the team about cop26 on Friday. My concern is the basis for modelling NHSGGC have used is previous COPs. But the circumstances of this COP are completely different:

1) We don't have the headroom in the NHS we normally would

2) Low population immunity for respiratory viruses

3) Covid

06/10/2021, 19:27 - Jason Leitch: 👍👍

06/10/2021, 19:27 - Jason Leitch: [NR] closest but we also need Glasgow people to provide reassurance. I think they've done what they can but you're right, it's very unpredictable.

06/10/2021, 19:28 - Jason Leitch: We had another COP Covid planning meeting today. They're hard work.

06/10/2021, 19:29 - Jason Leitch: PS - I'd never have got away with these updates. She'd have interrupted me about half an hour ago!!!!

24/11/2021, 20:05 - Humza: 👍
26/11/2021, 15:18 - Humza: Im actually abt to do bbc. I just wanted to check your understanding on what we are doing dor those who have already arrived from those southern african countries in the last 10 days
26/11/2021, 17:28 - Jason Leitch: All fine??
29/11/2021, 22:14 - Humza: I hear you have been doing the media circuit today. Im going to do GMS so will give you a call tonight if you have time just to talk a few things over. Let me know when youre free
29/11/2021, 22:29 - Jason Leitch: Anytime....of course.
29/11/2021, 22:34 - Humza: Gimme 15/20mins
29/11/2021, 22:35 - Jason Leitch: 👍👍
30/11/2021, 13:35 - Jason Leitch: Good job on GMS. I hear Cabinet is brutal....
30/11/2021, 14:26 - Humza: Ugh no isnt that bad. FM in a (justifiably) bad mood as she wasnt kept in the loop about the latest QEUH developments the rest of us were copied in to. So i wouldnt like to be her Private Office.
30/11/2021, 14:28 - Humza: On vaccines she is wanting us to do everything tomorrow...so I was trying to manage her expectations. But look it's her job to be the bad cop on this one and push us hard.
30/11/2021, 14:33 - Jason Leitch: You're nice. Lol
30/11/2021, 14:33 - Humza: Too nice for my own good. Maybe too nice for this job@
30/11/2021, 14:33 - Humza: !
30/11/2021, 14:34 - Jason Leitch: Never.
04/12/2021, 18:01 - Jason Leitch: Hey...I can't do the 5.30, other clinicians will be there. I can talk now or after 8 or tomorrow if you need anything.
04/12/2021, 19:04 - Humza: No probs. We can chat tmrw at the pre-meet before Sunday Politics
04/12/2021, 19:04 - Jason Leitch: Cheers. I appreciate it.
04/12/2021, 19:05 - Jason Leitch: Not much new news. Ireland have taken bold early action. FM called last night and was in thoughtful form but nothing new.
04/12/2021, 19:09 - Humza: Yeah i think its steady just now. On 4 nations call [NR] said in around 7-10 days we might know about vaccine escape.
04/12/2021, 19:09 - Humza: Ireland were in a tricky position even before this new variant
04/12/2021, 19:16 - Jason Leitch: Yep. Agreed.
05/12/2021, 12:45 - Humza: Went fine i think. Mainly on vaccines and omicron, and the assisted dying question. Nothing on qeuh.

Asked me about the hydro event and if they broke the rules on certification, i said from.info we have they would not be eligible. But we keep the scheme abd various thresholds under review

05/12/2021, 12:46 - Jason Leitch: Yep. That's right. They didn't. Fewer than 10k seated.
05/12/2021, 12:46 - Jason Leitch: 👍
05/12/2021, 12:46 - Jason Leitch: Freeman interview on the radio version at 1030.
05/12/2021, 12:47 - Humza: 👍 good. Surprised they didnt go into QEUH. I think it indicates FM lanced the story pretty well
05/12/2021, 12:47 - Jason Leitch: I hope so. It's nonsense.
05/12/2021, 12:48 - Humza: Yeah i just gave the answer i rehearsed on the call. Hard not to have enormous sympathy but concerned about safeguards.

Clinicians dont favour it right?

05/12/2021, 12:49 - Jason Leitch: Clinicians are absolutely ragin' with the whistle blowers and the coverage.
05/12/2021, 12:49 - Jason Leitch: Hence the letter.
05/12/2021, 12:50 - Jason Leitch: Oh. You mean assisted dying?? Mixed views like society. They think mostly we should be left alone and manage it without micromanagement. But some feel it needs more. Most think legislation will just complexify the whole thing
05/12/2021, 12:58 - Humza: Yeah on this issue. Really tough because if something does go wrong theyll be at the sharp end
05/12/2021, 12:58 - Jason Leitch: And to some extent it happens every day. And legislation may make it worse.
05/12/2021, 13:03 - Humza: Indeed

09/12/2021, 23:07 - Humza: Id cancel!

09/12/2021, 23:07 - Humza: We put out a line saying ppl should listen to pbs advice

09/12/2021, 23:07 - Jason Leitch: I can't. It's Call Kaye and been trailed for a week. Declining everything else.

09/12/2021, 23:07 - Humza: And fm will be making a statement later in the day. And just rest it on that.

09/12/2021, 23:08 - Humza: Ooft call [NR]..oh dear. Thatll be fun, best of luck 😊

09/12/2021, 23:08 - Jason Leitch: When the business owners all call in....

10/12/2021, 21:21 - Humza: <Media omitted>

10/12/2021, 21:22 - Humza: Pretty sure the answer is yes as he is a contact of an Omicron case

10/12/2021, 21:22 - Humza: But thought id triple check seeing as its Neil Findlay and he is an arsehole

10/12/2021, 21:36 - Jason Leitch: Yes. Changes at midnight tonight

10/12/2021, 21:43 - Humza: Changes dont affect him though

10/12/2021, 21:44 - Humza: As he is a contact of an Omicron case

10/12/2021, 21:44 - Jason Leitch: What a shame.

10/12/2021, 21:44 - Jason Leitch: Variant doesn't matter after midnight

10/12/2021, 21:46 - Humza: Yeah i just wanted to triple check as he is a twat

10/12/2021, 21:47 - Humza: <Media omitted>

10/12/2021, 21:47 - Humza: Talking of twats 🖕

10/12/2021, 21:47 - Humza: Thought this was pretty self evident

10/12/2021, 22:05 - Jason Leitch: Lol.

10/12/2021, 22:05 - Jason Leitch: That's hilarious

12/12/2021, 23:37 - Humza: <Media omitted>

12/12/2021, 23:40 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

12/12/2021, 23:43 - Humza: Yeah that is quite powerful, ill frame it in the way you have in that voice note. Tmrw GMS will mainly try and get a headline that restrictions are coming.

12/12/2021, 23:45 - Jason Leitch: 👍👍

12/12/2021, 23:45 - Jason Leitch: Need me at 7.30? That's not a trick question. I can if you need it.

12/12/2021, 23:57 - Humza: If youre available given the number of bids you've done. I can ask PO to send you details

12/12/2021, 23:57 - Jason Leitch: I have them. No problem. 👍👍

12/12/2021, 23:58 - Humza: 👍

13/12/2021, 19:56 - Humza: Keep me updated on what comes out FM call. I will be really disappointed if we end up with just window dressing.

13/12/2021, 20:13 - Jason Leitch: It's window dressing. We edged her to limiting households everywhere we could but it's marginal. Nothing significant.

13/12/2021, 20:14 - Humza: Just dont get it. Take it its coming down to finance? So big events can continue, people can meet in as big as numbers as they like in pubs and restaurants? Madness.

13/12/2021, 20:16 - Humza: Working from home?

13/12/2021, 20:31 - Jason Leitch: All about money

13/12/2021, 20:31 - Jason Leitch: Yep

13/12/2021, 20:31 - Jason Leitch: Yes. In regs.

13/12/2021, 20:33 - Humza: Frustrating. Thought Kate might have pulled something out the bag. Was she on the call? I might try and call her tonight will have limited effect i suspect but be helpful to understand the analysis she has done of costs involved

13/12/2021, 20:37 - Jason Leitch: No. She wasn't. There was a vague email earlier to say she would update Cabinet so it might not be a complete list cause.

13/12/2021, 20:37 - Jason Leitch: Lost*

13/12/2021, 20:37 - Jason Leitch: I think she was looking to compensate them for what they've lost from parties already etc.

13/12/2021, 20:38 - Humza: Okay let's see where we end up. Sometimes the days case numbers can focus the mind 😊

13/12/2021, 20:38 - Jason Leitch: They did last week....

14/12/2021, 14:07 - Humza: I took a hell of a bullet at Cabinet (!) But might be able to strenghten the measures, even if its just slightly. We think we can find £100m within the portfolio not sure if thats enough but ive pushed to ask if it is enough to move limits on gatherings in households and hospitality into regs for at least the next 4 weeks.

14/12/2021, 14:08 - Humza: Dont know if itll happen this last minute and FM not remotely happy its at this last stage but let's see if it strengthens a package of measures that are far too weak as things stand.
14/12/2021, 14:08 - Jason Leitch: I was listening. I almost intervned to deflect for you. She was ridiculous. Absolutely ridiculous.
14/12/2021, 14:09 - Jason Leitch: And yes to the principle.
14/12/2021, 14:10 - Humza: I didnt realise you were on the call.

Ack that's just the way it is. Her ranting at me isn't the problem, i can take it its whether the quantum at this stage helps us strengthen they package. Though feel free to defend me at a later stage 🙄

Today's numbers lower than i expected. Suspect some ppl are not testing given xmas round the corner
14/12/2021, 14:11 - Jason Leitch: So...I think that's partly true. But 3000 cases and 28% is not what any modelling said. It should be 10k and 50%. That makes me more hopeful.
14/12/2021, 14:11 - Jason Leitch: Slightly
14/12/2021, 14:15 - Humza: That's your way of saying you need a few more days
14/12/2021, 14:20 - Jason Leitch: It is. England running away today...maybe our fudged comms around CHRISTMAS parties has worked a little.
14/12/2021, 14:20 - Humza: Might have done. Maybe shouldnt have been so hard on phs...
14/12/2021, 14:21 - Jason Leitch: That's never true
16/12/2021, 20:40 - Humza: I think Hancock would be pushing No 10 and Treasury harder than Javid.
16/12/2021, 20:43 - Jason Leitch: He's saying more than I thought.
16/12/2021, 20:44 - Jason Leitch: He was pretty supportive of you but is he pretending?
16/12/2021, 20:45 - Humza: Yeah but he's a banker. Won't want to close down business, also knows how badly it plays with his own MPs and he still wants to be leader one day.
16/12/2021, 20:45 - Jason Leitch: That's new news about Lighthouse extension.
16/12/2021, 20:45 - Humza: I got a note about it yday
16/12/2021, 20:45 - Jason Leitch: Excellent news.
21/12/2021, 12:41 - Jason Leitch: And pantos
21/12/2021, 12:49 - Humza: I will raise theatres and cinemas today. Not sure ill get anywhere
21/12/2021, 13:01 - Jason Leitch: He's right
21/12/2021, 13:01 - Humza: Michael is right. Should just go down the behind closed doors route
21/12/2021, 13:01 - Humza: Great minds...!
21/12/2021, 13:01 - Jason Leitch: We're struggling if we need NR to go first for us. Lol
21/12/2021, 13:02 - Jason Leitch: I'm doing faith leaders tomorrow. I'll be tough.
21/12/2021, 13:04 - Humza: Yeah go hard on them.

I didnt challenge John at Cabinet but we are not doing enough if he thinks that theres not a proportionate case to be made to go to Option C
21/12/2021, 13:05 - Jason Leitch: I was just typing "And for the record, option C is proportionate and required"
21/12/2021, 13:05 - Humza: The only thing that should effectively prohibit Option C is finance. Despite our best efforts there will be a spike in cases post-Christmas. We need to be ready to go with Option C, if (when?) the UK Govt finally gets it act together
21/12/2021, 13:07 - Jason Leitch: Yep. Finance.
21/12/2021, 13:13 - Humza: We have potentially got to a stronger position on the back of that Cabinet than I thought we would...
21/12/2021, 13:14 - Jason Leitch: Yep. She's asking for Gregor and I now.
21/12/2021, 13:14 - Humza: 👍
21/12/2021, 13:14 - Jason Leitch: What fun.
21/12/2021, 13:15 - Humza: Better you guys who can strengthen the measures as opposed to finance 😬
21/12/2021, 13:15 - Jason Leitch: 😂
21/12/2021, 13:16 - Jason Leitch: You're good. You've been doing this a while.
21/12/2021, 13:29 - Jason Leitch: Sorted. Reduce 1000 to 500 and say "this effectively means spectator free sport"
21/12/2021, 13:34 - Humza: Hmmm...so if Stirling Albion in League 2 usually have 400 folk turning up at their games that can go ahead. Suppose answer is yes but it encompasses the big games.

might want to....

29/12/2021, 18:05 - Jason Leitch: <https://twitter.com/jackiebmsp/status/1476153472135446528>

29/12/2021, 18:06 - Jason Leitch: Bit wet in **I&S** but relaxing.

29/12/2021, 18:06 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

29/12/2021, 18:06 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

29/12/2021, 18:09 - Humza: I ignored her as i knew FM was addressing it in her statement. Ive just tweeted about testing. Looks good, just get off your phone and youll be fine! Im doing Drive Time and The Nine, just need GMS for the unholy trinity...!

29/12/2021, 18:10 - Jason Leitch: Lol. Good luck....

29/12/2021, 22:03 - Jason Leitch: And...#GMS. Full house!!! 😊

29/12/2021, 22:10 - Humza: See what happens when youre not here!

29/12/2021, 22:11 - Jason Leitch: 😊

29/12/2021, 22:11 - Humza: Just did a pre-record with **NR** he was okay for the most part. But tricky around the data. What is the hospitalisation data telling you. Asking if anyone has died with Omicron, how many in ICU are there exclusively with Omicron etc

29/12/2021, 22:12 - Jason Leitch: Yep. "Too early". "They're all now omicron". "Hard and fast is always best" "prevention always best" "we're protecting those who will suffer, not you and i"

29/12/2021, 22:12 - Jason Leitch: Etc

29/12/2021, 22:14 - Jason Leitch: "Even if the most optimistic data remains true with bigger numbers omicron is 4 times less severe. We can only manage 4 times the cases, today we announced 6 times the cases"

29/12/2021, 22:14 - Jason Leitch: Etc

29/12/2021, 22:15 - Humza: Thats a good line I'll nick. **NR** basically asked me if you were at it when you described case numbers as terrifying 🤔

29/12/2021, 22:15 - Humza: Anyway off your phone!

29/12/2021, 22:15 - Jason Leitch: That's got some traction. I stand by it. Lol

Irrelevant & Sensitive

30/12/2021, 21:46 - Humza: Some rise in hospital numbers. Has spooked the FM (and me!) Was chatting to her earlier, if that rate continues our hospitals are going to be in serious shit in a week's time

30/12/2021, 21:46 - Jason Leitch: You can't tell her you told her so. If it's any help.

30/12/2021, 21:46 - Jason Leitch: Can*

30/12/2021, 21:47 - Humza: I was tempted...! 😊

30/12/2021, 21:47 - Jason Leitch: No wonder. I'm tempted too.

30/12/2021, 21:47 - Jason Leitch: And they'll still look to us to prep the NHS.

30/12/2021, 21:50 - Humza: I said to the FM we're going to have to push the button on some of the hitherto unpatable options. Basically kicking people out of hospital that dont need to be there, sending folk home with the minimum of care packages i.e. ensuring they are receiving three meals a day and that's about it

30/12/2021, 21:50 - Jason Leitch: Yep

30/12/2021, 21:50 - Jason Leitch: And community and GP service stepping up.

30/12/2021, 21:51 - Humza: GPs especially...honestly they are the bane of my life

30/12/2021, 21:51 - Jason Leitch: Yep. They really are.

30/12/2021, 22:38 - Humza: You reached into your UK Colleagues at all about the Nightingale hubs they are standing up? Do they have anyone to staff them?

30/12/2021, 22:50 - Jason Leitch: No. None. Basically overtime and pleading for those in the buildings. Hence they're local.

30/12/2021, 22:50 - Jason Leitch: Local decision makers etc.

31/12/2021, 21:27 - Jason Leitch: Happy New Year when it comes. It's been a privilege to get to know you and be part of the team. You've done an amazing job since May...it is the toughest job in politics apart from maybe one. Have a great evening and here's to 2022 being slightly easier. 🍷

01/01/2022, 01:36 - Humza: And to you! Likewise, i really have appreciated your advice and wise

counsel over these last 7 months. I look forward to seeing what 2022 has in store for us...might not be too different to 2021 right enough 😊 on that note Happy New Year 🎉

01/01/2022, 01:38 - Jason Leitch: 😊

01/01/2022, 01:38 - Jason Leitch: 👍

01/01/2022, 01:48 - Humza: Do we need to call Gregor Sir now? 🙄🎉

01/01/2022, 01:55 - Jason Leitch: You can if you'd like... 😊

05/01/2022, 01:14 - Jason Leitch: ONS survey to 28/12.

05/01/2022, 01:14 - Jason Leitch: <Media omitted>

05/01/2022, 01:14 - Jason Leitch: It's grim.

05/01/2022, 01:15 - Jason Leitch: 283,000 infected people in the week to 28/12.

05/01/2022, 01:15 - Jason Leitch: 21 weeks and we'll be through the whole 5 million.

05/01/2022, 01:15 - Jason Leitch: 😞

05/01/2022, 01:16 - Jason Leitch: Back from I&S 👍

05/01/2022, 01:18 - Humza: It is grim but FM is right, public aren't with us. They now hear what they want to hear "less severe" "one in ICU with Omicron"

05/01/2022, 01:19 - Jason Leitch: Yep. I agree. And I kind of agree with them. I can't find any evidence of ICU increases or deaths globally. So...it's a health service problem now. 😞

05/01/2022, 01:19 - Humza: So means we have to deal with the consequences, i.e. somehow ensure our NHS doesn't completely collapse. I'm not entirely sure we can deliver on that but I'm going to have to do everything in my power to make sure it doesn't

05/01/2022, 01:19 - Humza: Exactly

05/01/2022, 01:20 - Jason Leitch: Yep. It's a downstream problem increasingly. So community and beds.

05/01/2022, 01:20 - Humza: Graham Ellis is doing a lot of good work on the Covid at home pathway

05/01/2022, 01:20 - Humza: We need to stop finishing each others sentences...

05/01/2022, 01:20 - Jason Leitch: He's excellent. And understands it better than anyone else I know.

05/01/2022, 01:21 - Humza: He is v good

05/01/2022, 01:21 - Jason Leitch: And in only 8 months!!!! 😊

05/01/2022, 01:21 - Humza: 🙄😞

05/01/2022, 01:22 - Humza: We have asked a lot of the public. But we've lost the dressing room on this one. After 21 months "save the NHS" isn't enough to stop them living their lives as close to normal as they can get

05/01/2022, 01:23 - Jason Leitch: Yep. So we have to get them to adapt to living with it, personally and the infrastructure. Local authorities etc. and we need the health and care system to do so too. I said months ago we have a new disease that takes at least 10-20% of our system and we haven't removed anything.

05/01/2022, 01:24 - Jason Leitch: I'm not convinced Local Authorities or private sector have got it....

05/01/2022, 01:27 - Humza: No they don't get it. I'm not sure our nhs gets it either but then how could they, they've been fighting in the heat of battle for almost 2 years without so much as a minute to take breath. That's why Graham Ellis's work is so important, not just for the short term but the longer term.

05/01/2022, 01:28 - Jason Leitch: 👍👍

05/01/2022, 12:14 - Humza: For the self-isolation changes we are proposing, i take it for folk who are already self-isolating, say they are on Day 2 today, the new rules will also apply to them i.e. do a LFD on Day 6&7 and if fever-free then you can be released from self-isolation?

05/01/2022, 12:37 - Jason Leitch: I think so but I actually haven't seen it written down. It makes sense to do it retrospectively.

05/01/2022, 13:14 - Jason Leitch: Name Redacted says not retrospective. Maybe ask PO to ask. We need to know before bids.

05/01/2022, 13:20 - Humza: Yeah it should be. Doesn't make sense for it not to be

05/01/2022, 13:21 - Jason Leitch: I agree.

05/01/2022, 13:37 - Humza: For unvaccinated contacts we are saying 10 day isolation and book a pcr. If pcr is negative then they can be released from isolation if they are symptom free?

05/01/2022, 13:39 - Jason Leitch: Yea

05/01/2022, 13:40 - Humza: 👍

05/01/2022, 13:42 - Humza: <Media omitted>

05/01/2022, 13:43 - Humza: This just came through in the cab sec lines?!

05/01/2022, 13:48 - Jason Leitch: Oh. That'll be right then.