

**MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING: 1 MAY 2020**

**MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA VIDEO LINK**

**Present:** First Minister (Chair)  
deputy First Minister (Chair)  
Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs  
Minister for Communities  
Minister for the Economy  
Minister of Education  
Minister of Finance  
Minister of Health  
Minister for Infrastructure  
Minister of Justice

**In attendance:** Junior Minister, TEO (Mr. Lyons)  
Junior Minister, TEO (Mr. Kearney)  
Secretary to the Executive  
Head of Executive & Central Advisory Division TEO

**INTRODUCTION**

The deputy First Minister chaired items 1 – 4.

**AGENDA ITEM 1**

**E (M) (20) 23      Minutes of Executive meeting of 29 April 2020**

1. The minutes of the Executive meeting of 29 April 2020 were agreed.

**Matters Arising**

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

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### **AGENDA ITEM 2**

#### **COVID-19 Report by the Health Minister**

3. The Minister of Health provided updates on, and the Executive discussed, developments and current issues in the COVID-19 pandemic, including modelling, on which a slide presentation by the Chief Scientific Adviser had been circulated; ICU bed capacity and usage; NISRA methodology; adherence to current measures; support for care homes; and re-engagement of other non-COVID related health services.

### **AGENDA ITEM 3**

#### **Actions from previous meetings**

##### **Action Log**

4. The deputy First Minister advised that the Action Log from the previous Executive meeting had been circulated to Ministers.

### **AGENDA ITEM 4**

#### **CCG Sitrep**

5. The Secretary to the Executive provided a read-out of the CCG meeting and the Situation Report which had been circulated to Ministers. He advised that a paper on traffic volumes was being developed; and that in addition to the

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measures announced for airports, potential support packages for councils and the Haulage industry were being developed.

**The First Minister chaired the remaining items on the agenda**

### **AGENDA ITEM 5**

#### **COVID-19 Management**

##### **E (20) 85 (C)      Food Security during COVID - 19**

6. The First Minister introduced this paper.

7. The Executive

- (i) noted the issues outlined in Executive Memorandum E (20) 85 (C) – Food Security during COVID-19;
- (ii) agreed that the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs would be the lead Department on food security, on the clear understanding that other Departments had strategic and tactical roles to undertake to support food security. (The key activities undertaken by Departments would continue – as at paragraph 8 of Executive Memorandum E (20) 85 (C) – unless the lead Department indicated the need for changes);
- (iii) noted that a data approach would be developed to provide the Executive with early warnings of real world impacts on all supply routes relevant to NI food security and that alongside the production of a dashboard, further research would be undertaken on the food supply routes on which NI relies; and
- (iv) agreed the importance of public information to avoid and manage real world impacts.

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### **E (20) 87 (C)      COVID-19 – Executive Strategy and Plan**

8. The First Minister introduced this paper.
9. The Executive noted the updated strategy and associated heatmap for managing the COVID-19 crisis, as attached to Executive Memorandum E (20) 87 (C) – COVID-19 – Executive Strategy and Plan.

### **AGENDA ITEM 6**

#### **Schedule of Events/Media/Ad Hoc Committee**

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### **AGENDA ITEM 7**

#### **Other Matters requiring Executive agreement**

11. There were no papers under this agenda item.

### **AGENDA ITEM 8**

#### **Any other business**

#### **PSNI / Garda Síochána engagement**

12. The Minister of Justice provided an update on engagement between the PSNI and An Garda Síochána in relation to co-ordination of messaging on cross-border travel over the forthcoming weekends.

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**Recovery**

14. The Executive discussed potential approaches to planning for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the public health, mental wellbeing and economic aspects which needed to inform this. The Secretary to the Executive advised that a paper was in preparation.

**Coronavirus Regulations**

15. The Minister of Health advised that he would circulate a paper on the review of the Regulations for Executive decision at its meeting on 6 May and announcement of the outcome on 7 May.