

From the Minister of Finance

*First Minister and deputy First Minister
The Executive Office*

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Dear Michelle and Arlene

**DoH EXECUTIVE PAPER - MODELLING THE COURSE OF THE COVID
EPIDEMIC AND THE IMPACT OF DIFFERENT INTERVENTIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

I am writing to ask that the Executive meeting which was postponed yesterday evening is reconvened today as a matter of urgency.

The Health Minister has tabled a paper recommending a two week extension to restrictions. I and my party colleagues are prepared to support that extension on the basis of the medical and scientific advice which states clearly that without an immediate intervention transmission rates will rise and our health service will be overwhelmed. If we do not act we will be back at the Executive table before Christmas putting in place further restrictions.

I note that the Health Minister has circulated a paper to all Executive Ministers in which he states that as of yet the Executive has still not been able to make a decision. I would remind the Health Minister that he had an opportunity to table his paper last night in order to bring about an Executive decision. Indeed he was asked to table his paper, but declined to do so.

Our community and our businesses need certainty. The failure of the Executive to make a decision will inevitably lead to further impasse. We need to show political leadership and face up to making the difficult, but necessary, decisions.

I am copying this memo to Ministerial colleagues.

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**CONOR MURPHY MLA
MINISTER OF FINANCE**