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TO: EXECUTIVE MINISTERS

EXECUTIVE APPROACH TO CORONAVIRUS DECISION MAKING

Following Monday's Executive discussion about the desirability of publishing a clear roadmap for the future lifting of restrictions I am attaching a **draft public facing document** which offers two options to meet the need for a roadmap in relation to relaxing the restrictions. Comments from Ministers are sought by **1400 today** to allow for a revised version to be prepared before Executive tomorrow. This paper has been seen by the First Minister and deputy First Minister but not agreed by them. They have indicated they have changes they will propose.

2. Those two options (at paragraph 4.6 of the attached document) are summarised below:

(i) The first option sets out in a table a three stage **illustration** of the steps to relaxation of restrictions against six key areas of daily activity. While it reflects accurately what Executive Ministers were seeking on Monday, it has not in the time available been through the rigorous medical and scientific checking required. We have had clear advice from the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Advisor in DoH that there is not the time to complete this table accurately and publish it in the coming days. DoH has been focussed on finalising the current review of the regulations and a paper on this will be put to Thursday's Executive. In terms of the table at option 1, they believe a five stage approach would more accurately reflect the number of steps needed to

remove the restrictions and avoid creating unwarranted expectations in the public minds. As part of this work, DoH have now drawn up five stages to inform decision making – these are included as part of option 2. There are also other considerations - once the table is published, there will be lots of questions about issues of detail. More work is needed to be able to answer at least some of these questions and this will take some time to complete. All Departments will have an interest and will need to contribute to guidance and we held an initial meeting at senior level yesterday to start this process. So option 1 would, on this basis, mean a significantly later publication of the 'roadmap' than this week but is included to show how this could be developed.

- (ii) The second option is at a slightly higher level. It takes the five stages set out by DoH and briefly summarises the key areas of daily life against which they will be applied. This is similar in approach to the document published by the Scottish Government yesterday. It avoids the risk of getting ahead of the medical advice and would enable the paper to be published in the coming days.

I recognise that this is short notice but the First Minister and deputy First Minister wanted to give all Ministers the chance to contribute at this stage. Please forward all comments to all copy recipients of this note.

Personal Data

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