

TEO Covid Inquiry

From: Hannon, Maria
Sent: 09 May 2023 15:50
To: Griffith, Deirdre; Morrow, Carol
Cc: Holmes, Jane; TEO Covid Inquiry; [NR] [NR] (TEO)
Subject: RE: Covid Inquiry - Ministerial Electronic Records
Attachments: Covid Inquiry - Record Retention - Reminder; UK Covid 19 Public Inquiry - Record Retention; Covid-19 Inquiry - Record Retention and Civil Service Support note from HOCS 14.6.21; (issued to G3s) HOCS Correspondence - Covid Inquiry Planning

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Deirdre

As discussed please find attached correspondence that issued regarding the retention of records.

Mara

Maria Hannon | Head of Branch - Covid Strategy, Recovery and Inquiry

Contact: ✉ maria.hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk | 📞 Tel: [Irrelevant & Sensitive]



From: Griffith, Deirdre
Sent: 09 May 2023 13:24
To: Hannon, Maria <Maria.Hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Morrow, Carol <Carol.Morrow@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>
Cc: Holmes, Jane <Jane.Holmes@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; TEO Covid Inquiry <covid.inquiry@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; [NR] @executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk; [NR] (TEO) [NR] @executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Covid Inquiry - Ministerial Electronic Records

Maria

As just discussed I need to check with [NR] and [NR] so will be end of next week before I can confirm.
Deirdre

Deirdre Griffith | Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

The Executive Office

Room GD11 | Stormont Castle | Belfast | BT4 3WQ

✉ deirdre.griffith@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk | 📞 [Irrelevant & Sensitive]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Private Secretary, or member of the Private Office, to an official must be saved appropriately by the main recipient/Business Area. The Private Office do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

From: Hannon, Maria <Maria.Hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 May 2023 13:03

To: Griffith, Deirdre <Deirdre.Griffith@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Morrow, Carol <Carol.Morrow@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: Holmes, Jane <Jane.Holmes@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; TEO Covid Inquiry <covid.inquiry@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk> [NR] <@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk> [NR]

[NR] <executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Covid Inquiry - Ministerial Electronic Records

Thanks both for speed response.

Deirdre – for FM side of house who wiped the devices was it the same as dFM position that devices returned cleared of data? We need to know as this goes against the direct instructions of Inquiry and we will need to advise them.

Maria Hannon | Head of Branch - Covid Strategy, Recovery and Inquiry

Contact: ✉ maria.hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk | 📞 Tel: [Irrelevant & Sensitive]



From: Griffith, Deirdre

Sent: 09 May 2023 12:50

To: Morrow, Carol <Carol.Morrow@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Hannon, Maria <Maria.Hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: Holmes, Jane <Jane.Holmes@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; TEO Covid Inquiry <covid.inquiry@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk> [NR] <@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk> [NR]

[NR] <@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Covid Inquiry - Ministerial Electronic Records

Maria

Phones, computers and ipads are ready for incoming Ministers and SPADS and therefore were all reset some time ago. This would also have been the case when Ministers or SPADS left during the mandate.

I don't have any WhatsApp's with Ministers or Spads. Whatsapps were used primarily for logistical purposes. Any Ministerial decisions in electronic format ie emails would have been saved in KN for the record.

[NR] and [NR] are both on leave so it will be next week before I can confirm final position.

Deirdre

Deirdre Griffith | Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister

The Executive Office

Room GD11 | Stormont Castle | Belfast | BT4 3WQ

✉ deirdre.griffith@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk | 📞 [Irrelevant & Sensitive]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Private Secretary, or member of the Private Office, to an official must be saved appropriately by the main recipient/Business Area. The Private Office do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

From: Morrow, Carol <Carol.Morrow@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Sent: 09 May 2023 12:01

To: Hannon, Maria <Maria.Hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Griffith, Deirdre <Deirdre.Griffith@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: Holmes, Jane <Jane.Holmes@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; TEO Covid Inquiry <covid.inquiry@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

ni.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Covid Inquiry - Ministerial Electronic Records

Obo the former dFM Office -

iPhone & iPad– Both dFM & JMKs phones have been reset, as have Stephen’s and Johns. They were returned to us reset.

Dara’s iPhone we believe is reset, we need her log in details to confirm this. (I have asked her for these log in details to confirm this but no response yet. Her iPad has been reset.

All laptops are reset but as I understand it this is an IT issue as the accounts would have been closed automatically.

We all hold WhatsApp messages with Ministers/Spads but these are primarily diary related or zoom related messages.

Carol Morrow

Principal Private Secretary | GD.11 | Stormont Castle | Stormont Estate | BELFAST | BT4 3TT

Tel: **Irrelevant & Sensitive** | Mobile: **I&S**

E-mail: carol.morrow@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

From: Hannon, Maria <Maria.Hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Sent: 09 May 2023 11:15

To: Morrow, Carol <Carol.Morrow@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Griffith, Deirdre <Deirdre.Griffith@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: Holmes, Jane <Jane.Holmes@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; TEO Covid Inquiry <covid.inquiry@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: Covid Inquiry - Ministerial Electronic Records

Carol and Deirdre

I understand that Ministerial and SpAD’s electronic devices (Phones, Ipads Laptops) have all been wiped.

Can you confirm who instructed and completed the striping of these devices? Did Ministers and SpADs return Ipads and phones reset?

We will need to inform the UK Covid Inquiry team of the status of these if wiped why that exercise was carried out.

Can you also advise me of the position of officials working within Private Office electronic devices is e.g. Are all WhatsApp messages available?

Regards

Maria

Maria Hannon | Head of Branch - Covid Strategy, Recovery and Inquiry

Contact: ✉ maria.hannon@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk | 📞 Tel: **Irrelevant & Sensitive**

