

FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH



From: Robin Swann, MLA

To: First Minister and deputy First Minister

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Date: 27/02/2020

Dear Arlene and Michelle

**ACTIVATION OF MILITARY AID TO CIVIL AUTHORITY (MACA) IN RELATION TO
TRANSFER OF A PATIENT WITH COVID-19 TO A HIGH CONSEQUENCE
INFECTIOUS DISEASE (HCID) UNIT**

I wish to inform you that I have approved a decision to activate Military Aid to Civil Authority (MACA) to transfer a patient who has tested positive for COVID-19 to a High Consequence Infectious Disease (HCID) Unit in England.

Transfer of this patient has been discussed and agreed by clinicians here and in the specialist unit. There are no beds with the agreed specification available in NI and there are no commercial providers who currently have the appropriate equipment to transfer the patient therefore instigation of the MACA is the only option available.

Yours sincerely

Personal Data

**Robin Swann MLA
Minister of Health**

CC: David Sterling, Head of Civil Service