



HM Government

GENERAL PUBLIC SECTOR MINISTERIAL IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2020

ATTENDEES

Ministers

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP (CO)
The Rt Hon Priti Patel MP (HO)
The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP (DHSC)
The Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng (BEIS)
The Rt Hon George Eustice MP (DEFRA)
The Rt Hon Brandon Lewis MP (NIO)
The Rt Hon Alister Jack MP (SO)
The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP (WO)
The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP (MHCLG)

The Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey MP (DWP)
The Rt Hon John Whittingdale MP
(DCMS)
The Rt Hon Robert Buckland MP (MOJ)
The Rt Hon Gavin Williamson MP (DfE)
Helen Whately MP (DHSC)
James Heappey MP (MOD)
Andrew Stephenson MP (DfT)

Officials

John Manzoni (CO)
Jessica Glover (CO)
NR (No 10)
Luke Graham (No 10)
NR (No 10)
NR (No 10)
Munira Mirza (No 10)
Simon Ridley (CO)
NR (CO)
Colin Dingwall (CO)
Sharon Sawers (CO)
Natasha Grant (CCS)
Rupert McNeil (CO)
Gareth Rhys Williams (CO)
Ed Green (CO)
Sam Rowbury (CO)

Name (CO)
Redacted (CO)

Secretariat

Name Redacted

- The Committee may wish to scrutinise the upcoming emergency COVID-19 legislation; (Priti Patel)
- MHCLG were developing a volunteer-based support model for vulnerable people through the HMIG, which would need to work together with this committee's volunteer model in order to support people; (Jenrick)
- Northern Ireland was challenging as their healthcare system provided a poor service, but healthcare was devolved. Certain sections of Northern Ireland would push to link up with the Irish healthcare system, even though their system was worse. People of Northern Ireland were British citizens, so the government needed to ensure that Northern Ireland was provided with good expertise from UK professionals, especially once they hit capacity, which would happen soon; (Brandon Lewis)
- A lot of work was underway on supporting people who would lose their jobs as a result of the pandemic. DWP dealt mainly with Great Britain but had good links with Northern Ireland. The key issues were keeping buildings open, as there were issues with trade unions, and determining how social distancing applied to DWP's 85,000 employees; (Therese Coffey)
- It was important that rules and regulations on data did not impede communications or the volunteer effort, including health volunteers; (Whittingdale)
- The Government should monitor how those who lost their jobs were redeployed and where there were gaps, such as delivery drivers and in hospitality, and make the connections quickly. Work was ongoing to investigate whether the Government could create a hospitality labour agency; (Eustice)
- One of the new committees should consider some intelligence briefing on the possibility of adversaries using information manoeuvre with the UK public on how the Government was dealing with COVID-19, as