

[12/01/2020, 12:35:08] Michelle O'Neill: Messages and calls are end-to-end encrypted. No one outside of this chat, not even WhatsApp, can read or listen to them.

[12/01/2020, 12:35:08] Michelle O'Neill: Hello Julian. Delighted that we have gotten over the line and the Executive is restored. It was a complex 3 years but we got there in the end with everyone doing their bit so all credit to all.

There is a fly in the ointment in terms of the finances available to make it work. What you suggested is not what is transpiring and we find ourselves with the positivity and deal being undermined by the finances. This needs to be resolved in advance of PM visit otherwise it will be a difficult visit for him as we will have to go public on the British Government not living up to it's part of the deal.

Would like to chat about this. Give me a call.

Regards

Michelle

[12/01/2020, 12:35:45] Michelle O'Neill: Sent this to Julian smith - think you should also put a shout out to him on the finances as they fall far short of what was promised

[12/01/2020, 12:36:20] Arlene: Yes so I understand. I will speak to him later. AF

[12/01/2020, 12:36:28] Michelle O'Neill: 👍

[21/03/2020, 20:32:42] Arlene: I think you public undermining of Robin (after Peter on Yeaterday) today was totally uncalled for. If you want to effect change in a policy you are going completely the wrong way about it. You are playing politics when things are much too serious. It is hugely disappointing but unfortunately I'm not surprised.

[21/03/2020, 20:56:35] Michelle O'Neill: It's too serious to tolerate incompetence. Things are too slow. Lives will be lost. Start listening.

[21/03/2020, 20:57:50] Arlene: I hope you are not calling two of your ministerial colleagues incompetent. Naomi and robin have both raised concerns about your behaviour. You need to be more collegiate.

[21/03/2020, 21:05:46] Michelle O'Neill: The department is not serving Robin well. We are not being served well by the civil service. This is a time to knock heads and to get them to act with haste. Our nurses are crying out for help to do their jobs. I spoke to many from the western trust area over this week and they need us to fight for them.

[22/03/2020, 18:15:20] Michelle O'Neill: I think we did very well on Sunday politics this morning. Hope you felt the same. Huge burden on us in the time ahead. Let's work our way through this in as best a manner as we can. See you in the morning.

[22/03/2020, 18:50:44] Arlene: Yes think it went ok. See you tomorrow when we need to push for more answers around PPE and comms. Hope you had a good day.

[24/03/2020, 12:59:32] Michelle O'Neill: Visiting still permitted but work underway to get an agreed position. Difficulties with people in end of life care, mothers with new babies (ie other parents couldn't get in), and children in the children hospitals...

[28/03/2020, 19:25:52] Michelle O'Neill: Dear David,

Yesterday you informed myself and the First Minister that having heard our concerns around the structure of the existing Executive response to the Covid-19 emergency that you propose bringing a draft Strategy for consideration by Ministers on Monday.

This is welcome and I thank you for your continuing efforts to provide the necessary support as Head of the Civil Service.

Our shared objective is to have a structure which is fit for purpose and which allows the collective Executive to contribute to saving lives and alleviating suffering of people affected by this escalating pandemic.

Failure to adapt will simply hamper our best efforts to respond.

In this context I write to offer some views which I would like you to take into consideration as you develop the new draft strategy.