

Request for Evidence under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 - Reference for Request - M2C/IPHI/01

I, Suzanne Costello, am making this statement on behalf of the Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPHI), a North-South agency jointly funded by the Departments of Health in Ireland and Northern Ireland. I have held the role of Chief Executive Officer at IPHI since December 2018.

Role and remit of the Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPHI)

1. IPHI was formally established prior to the signing of the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement in 1998. It was set up to foster greater public health cooperation, knowledge exchange and to address the shared challenge of reducing health inequalities and improving health equity on the island of Ireland.
2. IPHI provides support on the health improvement aspect of public health policy development to the respective Departments of Health in both jurisdictions. This means that the work of the Institute focuses on two of the three key strands in public health - health promotion and illness prevention - rather than the third strand of health protection. Health promotion is the process of enabling people to increase control over, and to improve their health.
3. The Institute supports the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals, specifically Goal 3, which focusses on good health and wellbeing for all, at all ages.
4. Today, and prior to the pandemic, preventative health strategies are critical to maintaining a healthy and resilient population and the Institute works to support the public health frameworks in both jurisdictions. In Northern Ireland, Making Life Better is the overarching health improvement strategy; in Ireland, Healthy Ireland is the parallel document.
5. I can confirm that the Institute does not have a role nor holds expertise in health protection, which aims to protect individuals, groups, and populations from infectious diseases and involves disease control and surveillance.
6. Given our role, the Institute works across a range of public health policy areas, including, but not limited to, alcohol harm, tobacco control, loneliness, physical activity, ageing, gambling harm, overweight and obesity, and the wider set of factors that make up the social and commercial determinants of health.
7. IPHI works with a variety of stakeholders at local and national levels to ensure that public health policies are equitable and based on the best available evidence.
8. IPHI has a staff team of 22 people, split between our Belfast and Dublin offices, and an annual budget of just under €2million, of which approximately 25% is contributed by the Department of Health in Northern Ireland.

9. I can confirm that the role or function of the Institute did not change in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. IPHI has never held any statutory responsibility for public health in Northern Ireland or Ireland. When the Covid-19 pandemic unfolded in 2020, the Institute was not invited to join or be part of any of the structures or committees that managed the pandemic response in Northern Ireland.
10. In April 2020, IPHI was named in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on public health cooperation between the Departments of Health in Ireland and Northern Ireland (SC/1 - INQ000236984). The MoU represented a common understanding between the Departments of Health in both jurisdictions. Under the heading of 'Research' the MoU stated: "*The Institute of Public Health, established by the Participants, will consider what practical research it could conduct in the context of strengthening the Covid-19 response.*" IPHI was not involved in the development of the MoU, which was not unexpected given that the health protection aspects of the pandemic response took precedence and given our position, i.e., an external provider of health improvement support to the Departments. At the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Institute engaged at an early stage with senior officials in the Departments of Health in Ireland and Northern Ireland to seek direction on the preferred role of IPHI in the pandemic in relation to the role outlined in the MoU. The Department of Health in Northern Ireland requested that IPHI support the pandemic response by providing evidence on the wider impacts of the pandemic on health and wellbeing and to support the ongoing delivery of strategies and programmes on health improvement (see para 18). All work and engagement in supporting the Department of Health in Northern Ireland is outlined in the chronology and evidence provided. This specific type of monitoring was not requested by the Department of Health in Ireland. As stated, IPHI were not part of any discussions or structures in relation to the design and development of the MoU, and therefore cannot form a judgement in relation to the aspirations and practicalities of the MoU.

How IPHI interacts with governments in Northern Ireland and Ireland

11. IPHI supports the Departments of Health in Ireland and Northern Ireland in the development and evaluation of policy to improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.
12. Health and wellbeing at population level is influenced by the social determinants of health, that is, the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age that can influence their health outcomes.
13. Addressing the social determinants of health requires a 'Health in all Policies' (HiAP) approach and is cross-government in nature. IPHI engages with government through various means, including responding to public consultations on legislative or policy

matters, providing evidence to government committees, and participating in cross-departmental working groups and committees. The purpose of these activities is to promote a 'Health in all Policies' approach to government policy development in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

14. Additionally, IPHI engages directly with senior officials in the Department of Health in Northern Ireland on strategies relevant to health improvement and non-communicable diseases. IPHI also engages with the Public Health Agency, other government Departments in Northern Ireland, and Northern Ireland Assembly Committees in respect of the areas in which we work.
15. The Institute also supports North-South cooperation and East-West engagement across the UK and Ireland. For example, IPHI chairs a North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group on behalf of the Chief Medical Officers of Ireland and Northern Ireland to provide a forum for discussion on alcohol policy developments on the island of Ireland and support wider policy engagement across the UK and Ireland.
16. At the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Institute engaged at an early stage with senior officials in the Departments of Health in Ireland and Northern Ireland to seek direction on the preferred role of IPHI in the pandemic. The Department of Health in Northern Ireland requested that IPHI provide evidence on the wider impacts of the pandemic on health and wellbeing and to support the ongoing delivery of strategies and programmes on health improvement. This specific type of monitoring was not requested by the Department of Health in Ireland.

Relevant advice and guidance provided to the NI Government

17. As the Covid-19 pandemic unfolded, the Department of Health in Northern Ireland requested the Institute to provide regular updates on the potential impact of the pandemic and associated restrictions on a range of health and wellbeing indicators, set out in the Making Life Better public health framework.
18. IPHI provided the following support to the Department of Health in Northern Ireland during the pandemic:
 - Updates on the latest evidence relating to the Making Life Better indicators on health and wellbeing, such as, levels of physical activity and alcohol consumption.
 - As part of this work, we developed briefing notes and summary of evidence documents on alcohol, tobacco, domestic violence, physical activity, homelessness, and home schooling. As data and evidence evolved during the pandemic, these summary documents were collated from existing and emerging data and papers rather than from primary research or analysis undertaken by IPHI.

- As chair of the North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group, IPHI facilitated the presentation of evidence and policy discussion on the effects of the pandemic on alcohol sales, consumption, and harms.
 - We facilitated the *ad hoc* sharing of international evidence, as well as the *ad hoc* sharing of materials published in Ireland relevant to the assessment of the wider impacts of Covid-19 on health and wellbeing.
 - Through our social media channels, IPHI also shared and supported the wider dissemination and communication of public health advice issued by government and lead agencies in Ireland and Northern Ireland, as part of the pandemic response.
19. During the specified time period, in addition to the support work requested by the Department of Health NI, the Institute also contributed to research examining the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on levels of loneliness and physical activity.
- IPHI was part of the international loneliness and social isolation research network (I-LINK), which undertook an online survey of adults on the theme of loneliness and social isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic. The results of the global analysis were published in 2021. (SC/5 - INQ000237033)
 - In addition, IPHI co-authored an editorial in The Lancet in January 2021 entitled, 'Will the pandemic reframe loneliness and social isolation?'. (SC/3 - INQ000237010) Building on this, the Institute hosted a webinar on this theme in February 2021 and presented data on the levels of loneliness in Northern Ireland and Ireland and related risk factors. This evidence was subsequently presented at other fora. The webinar also heard from experts in mental health, young people, and volunteering.
 - In 2020 and 2021, a study conducted by IPHI on promoting physical activity to older adults through routine practice in primary care touched on the impacts of Covid-19 restrictions and public health measures. The research surveyed and interviewed general practitioners, physiotherapists, nurses, and occupational therapists in Ireland and Northern Ireland, and included questions on physical activity and the impact of Covid-19 measures. The results were published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health in 2021. (SC/4 - INQ000237021 and SC/6 - INQ000237046).
 - All work (research, briefings and analysis etc) relevant to the pandemic response undertaken by IPHI during the specified time period which was in support of the Department of Health NI, or in addition to that support, is detailed in 'Appendix A – Timeline and nature of IPHI's role/contribution in the response to the Covid-19 pandemic' with related documents detailed in 'Appendix B - Briefings, advice,

presentations, meeting minutes, submissions or analyses which IPHI provided to the government of Northern Ireland to assist it in making the key decisions in response to the pandemic.'

20. Tackling health inequalities is a cross cutting strategic priority for IPHI work. In this context, IPHI supported the identification of 'at-risk' groups in our work for the Department. This was integrated into our inputs to the Department, including the updates on the Making Life Better indicators and briefings.
21. As previously stated, IPHI was requested by the Department of Health to provide evidence on the potential impact of the pandemic and associated restrictions on pre-determined health and wellbeing indicators, set out in the Making Life Better Strategic Framework (2012-2023). This work was undertaken and is represented in the chronology.
22. I can confirm that the Institute was not involved in any way in the development of Covid-19 Regulations or any decision-making in respect of the Regulations.
23. Additionally, I can also confirm that IPHI had no engagement or discussions with organisations working with or representing the interests of the vulnerable, at risk, disadvantaged groups relating to the impact of Covid-19 public health measures during the specified period, except for the webinar on loneliness and social isolation in February 2021, referenced at paragraph 20 above.

Reviews and lessons learned

24. IPHI was not part of the health protection structures put in place to manage the Covid-19 pandemic response. We therefore cannot comment on the extent, nature, or effectiveness of cooperation between the Northern Ireland, Ireland, and UK governments.
25. As the Institute was not part of the health protection structures established to manage the Covid-19 pandemic response, we cannot provide any insight into the level of cooperation or collaboration between both jurisdictions at the time.
26. In relation to the concept of the island of Ireland as a 'single epidemiological unit', IPHI supports this concept in a wider context that goes beyond responding to communicable disease epidemics. Based on the main indicators of population health, we see opportunities and potential for cooperative approaches to tackle shared public health challenges across the island of Ireland.
27. Both jurisdictions face common challenges in respect of non-communicable disease and may benefit from some degree of harmonisation through a 'single epidemiological unit' or a common approach to specific public health issues.
28. At the same time, in our view, building on the concept of a 'single epidemiological unit' would require significant planning and the necessary structures, frameworks, and

conditions would need to be developed as part of pandemic preparedness planning rather than in the midst of a pandemic.

29. Given that Ireland and Northern Ireland are part of the Common Travel Area for Irish and British citizens, there is also scope to widen the concept of a common epidemiological unit to the five nations to enhance public health cooperation, in particular in response to a pandemic.

30. Developing the single epidemiological unit concept would require a number of structures and systems to be put in place. In our view, it would be beneficial if the following elements could be addressed to enhance all-island cooperation and collaboration from a public health perspective, while not detracting in any sense from the inclusion of Northern Ireland in UK-wide structures or systems:

- Substantive changes would be required to the core design of health information systems and public health data collection. The current lack of comparable data presents significant challenges in designing all-island solutions to key public health challenges. Key differences in available data make public health analysis comparisons between Northern Ireland and Ireland difficult, despite the fact that substantial data are collected, retained, and can be made available on both sides of the border. The development of an all-island public health dataset, populated by indicators from both health and wellbeing frameworks, would provide more opportunities to analyse and evaluate the impacts of government policies and the impacts of future pandemics.
- There is an opportunity to build on the good working relationships that exist between public health colleagues North and South. There were and are strong, established personal relationships between health officials at all levels, North and South, and this is essential to formal and informal cooperation and knowledge sharing. Further, both sets of colleagues engage regularly with others across the UK, albeit NI-based colleagues do so more routinely. There are a number of groups and networks which support North-South contacts. However, in the absence of any dedicated high-level public health governance groups, there is potential to formalise and enhance cooperation to focus on island-wide approaches to population health and wellbeing. At present, there is no overarching strategy or framework to facilitate the expansion of these good working relationships into more formal structures or channels of communication on key public health issues.
- There is broad scope within the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement for North-South cooperation in the area of health. To date, the emphasis has been on healthcare cooperation, such as hospital and treatment services, rather than on public health. The existing cooperative arrangements for healthcare North and South

have been of immense value and illustrate the potential of what could be achieved should this be extended to public health challenges across the island.

- The signing of an MoU for cooperation during the pandemic between the Departments of Health in Northern Ireland and Ireland in April 2020 was indicative of what any cooperative arrangement might look like and could pave the way for enhanced and greater cooperation.

31. In our view, the Department of Health in Northern Ireland demonstrated considerable foresight in its decision to monitor the impact of pandemic measures on health and wellbeing indicators, set out in the Making Life Better framework. This enabled some insight into the impact of non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) on the population, and, as a result, provided insight into the overall health and wellbeing of people, aside from the direct impacts of the Covid-19 virus.

Chronology

32. The Institute was not involved in – or requested to be involved in - or did not engage in any internal or external reviews, lessons learned exercises, or other reports or recommendations relating to the Covid-19 pandemic or pandemic response.

33. The Institute has provided a chronological list of interactions and activities concerning its role and support for the Department of Health in Northern Ireland during the Covid-19 pandemic. See Appendix A.

Relevant briefings, guidance, and other materials

34. The Institute has provided details of any other relevant documents or interactions concerning its role and support for the Department of Health in Northern Ireland during the Covid-19 pandemic. See Appendix B and Appendix C.

Statement of truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief of its truth.

Personal Data

Signed: Suzanne Costello, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Public Health

Dated:13 October 2023

Appendix A – Timeline and nature of IPHI’s role/contribution in the response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Date	Event	Type	Document ref
28 Jan 2020	Query relating to status of the Making Life Better (MLB) Review Group in the context of Covid-19 pandemic	Email	SC/54 - INQ000237040
11 Feb 2020	IPHI attended Making Life Better Review Group Meeting	Meeting	
04 Mar 2020	Sharing of information relating to implementation of the Northern Ireland Substance Misuse Strategy to inform evidence session at UK Commission on Alcohol Harm	Email	SC/55 - INQ000237041
11 Mar 2020	IPHI provided evidence to UK Commission on Alcohol Harm including update on NI strategy	Input into UK Commission	
25 Mar 2020	Sharing of international evidence on the allocation of alcohol off licences as essential retail in pandemic response	Email exchange, briefing from Institute of Alcohol Studies UK	SC/56 - INQ000237042
25 Mar 2020	Communications on scoping IPHI contribution to pandemic response; decision to cancel April meeting of North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group; IPH contribution to review of Making Life Better Framework	Email exchange	SC/57 - INQ000237043
08 Apr 2020	Discussion on scope of IPHI policy support role and work programme in the context of pandemic. Reference to proposed Memorandum of Understanding.	Email exchange	SC/58 - INQ000237044
15 Apr 2020	Email from Department of Health NI to IPHI for Support on the assessment of wider impacts of social distancing measures in the context of the Making Life Better Framework	Email from Department of Health NI to IPHI	SC/20 - INQ000236999
17 Apr 2020	Discussion in relation to support required and format of documentation	Call to Department of Health NI	
17 Apr 2020	Shared IPHI document entitled: The Covid-19 Pandemic – How to stay physically active based on UK and Ireland Chief Medical Officer and World Health Organization guidelines	Email to Department of Health NI	SC/7 - INQ000237050
30 Apr 2020	Shared report on Institute of Public Health Ageing and Public	Email	SC/8 - INQ000237051

	Health – an overview of key statistics in Ireland and Northern Ireland		
01 May 2020	Sharing of insights from meeting with the UK Public Health Network Policy Leads Group on a range of activities including campaigns, surveys, and reporting on wider impacts of Covid-19 pandemic	Email	SC/34 - INQ000237015
05 May 2020	Notification of intention for IPHI to partner on grant application for research project on impact of Covid-19 pandemic on people with alcohol dependence in partnership with University of Sheffield	Email	SC/35 - INQ000237016
05 May 2020	Sharing of resources relating to the Health Service Executive social inclusion response to protect communities in homelessness and those with addiction issues to help inform NI responses	Email	SC/36 - INQ000237017
06 May 2020	Submission of a discussion paper, 'Potential impacts of the Covid-19 public health and social measures (PHSM) on population health and health equity in Northern Ireland', developed by IPHI for the Department of Health in Northern Ireland	Email	SC/9 - INQ000237052
07 May 2020	Sharing of UK Government guidance on alcohol dependence during Covid-19 pandemic to help inform NI response	Email	SC37 - INQ000237018
08 May 2020	Sharing information from the Irish Central Statistics Office 'Social Impact of Covid-19 Survey' and scope of policy briefs being developed for the Department of Health in Ireland	Email	SC/38 - INQ000237019
13 May 2020	Sharing of insights from a survey by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) on service provision and help-seeking by people using drugs during the pandemic	Email	SC/39 - INQ000237020
15 May 2020	Shared report on considerations relating to tobacco use and tobacco control and the Covid-19 pandemic. This report was developed for the Department of Health in Ireland and shared with	Email	SC/10 - INQ000236985

	the Department of Health in Northern Ireland.		
20 May 2020	Clarification on scope of survey work in Northern Ireland relating to pandemic impacts, including the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) Covid-19 Opinion Survey	Email exchange	SC/40 - INQ000237022
26 May 2020	Sharing of insights from the Centre for Mental Health Covid-19 mental health forecasting report	Email exchange	SC/41 - INQ000237023
16 May 2020	Decision to integrate findings from Public Health England 'Wider Impacts of Covid-19 Tool' into IPHI reporting on Making Life Better indicators in NI	Email	SC/42 - INQ000237024
16 May 2020	Sharing of content from UK Association of Directors of Public Health guidance for local councils	Email	SC/43 - INQ000237025
19 May 2020	Phone call to discuss development of work on the Wider Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators document	Phone call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	
21 May 2020	Submission of document in line with the Department of Health NI's Making Life Better framework; requested support on the theme of Covid-19 and physical activity and older adults	Email to Department of Health NI	SC/60 - INQ000237047
26 May 2020	Submission of baseline document on the potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/21 - INQ000237000
4 Jun 2020	Submission of document in line with the Department of Health NI's Making Life Better framework; requested support on the theme of Covid-19 and domestic violence	Email to Department of Health NI	SC/11 - INQ000236986
8 Jun 2020	Submission of document in line with the Department of Health NI's Making Life Better framework; requested support on the theme of Covid-19 and homelessness	Email to Department of Health NI	SC/12 - INQ000236988
18 Jun 2020	Agreement on scope of inputs from IPHI to focus on periodic updates on the potential impacts of the Covid-19 public health and social measures as relevant to	Zoom call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	

	the Making Life Better indicator set		
29 Jun 2020	Email exchange in relation to delivery of IPHI work in line with Department of Health NI priorities and timelines	Email exchange	SC/59 - INQ000237045
8 Jul 2020	Submission of document in line with the Department of Health NI's Making Life Better framework; requested support on the theme of Covid-19 and homeschooling	Email to Department of Health NI	SC/13 - INQ000236989
16 Jul 2020	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/21 - INQ000237000
16 Jul 2020	Submission of evidence brief on Covid-19 and maternal/infant health outcomes	Email exchange	SC/22 - INQ000237001
13 Aug 2020	Meeting to discuss the 'Wider Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic' and provide a periodic update on the Making Life Better indicators document	Zoom call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	
27 Aug 2020	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/21 - INQ000237000
01 Sep 2020	Shared insights from IPHI and Central Statistics Office (Ireland) secondary analysis of the 'Social Impact of Covid-19 Survey' in Ireland relating to alcohol and tobacco use during periods of lockdown and the pandemic	Email	SC/23 - INQ000237002
1 Sep 2020	Publication of factsheet on Covid-19 and tobacco for an all-island audience	Publication of public resource	SC/14 - INQ000236990
17 Sep 2020	Presentation of evidence relating to Covid-19 and alcohol policy to the North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group	Zoom meeting with Departments of Health in Ireland and Northern Ireland, Public Health Agency, Department of Communities, Department of Justice	SC/15 - INQ000236991 SC/16 - INQ000236992 SC/17 - INQ000236993
24 Sep 2020	Sharing of Westminster discussion on the issue of 10pm	Email	SC/44 - INQ000237026

	curfew in hospitality to inform policy leads in alcohol in NI		
05 Oct 2020	Sharing of question posed by DUP representative in Westminster on impact of pandemic on domestic violence, mental ill health, and excess alcohol use, in context of data updates provided in Making Life Better updates	Email	SC/45 - INQ000237027
06 Oct 2020	Discussion on timelines relating to delivery of updates on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/46 - INQ000237028
08 Oct 2020	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/24 -INQ000237003
22 Oct 2020	Webinar held by IPHI with open invite on 'Physical Activity and the Covid-19 Pandemic - lessons for older adults and health professionals'	Webinar	
16 Oct 2020	Sharing resources published by Health Protection Surveillance Centre (Ireland) in respect of responses to protect Roma, Traveller, homeless and vulnerable group populations; people living in direct provision and in refuges during the pandemic	Email and links to resources	SC/47 - INQ000237029
20 Oct 2020	Meeting to discuss IPHI programme of work supporting the Department of Health NI and periodic updates on the potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Teams call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	
09 Nov 2020	Decision to integrate findings from Mental Health Surge Cell into the Making Life Better indicator updates on mental health outcomes	Email exchange	SC/48 - INQ000237030
18 Nov 2020	Clarification on revised timelines and scope of Making Life Better indicators update	Email exchange	SC/61 - INQ000237049
18 Nov 2020	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/25 - INQ000237004

03 Dec 2020	IPHI presented evidence at the Alcohol in the Night Time Economy webinar, including Covid-19 considerations, delivered under auspices of IPHI support for North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group	Webinar	SC/18 - INQ000236994
14 Dec 2020	Meeting to discuss the Wider Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic and a periodic update on the Making Life Better indicators document	Teams call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	
13 Jan 2021	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better indicators	Email exchange	SC/26 - INQ000237005
13 Jan 2021	Overview of main findings and descriptor of new data added to the Making Life Better indicators	Email	SC/49 - INQ000237031
15 Feb 2021	Sharing insights from Scottish study of Covid-19 restrictions compliance in pubs and bars	Email	SC/50 - INQ000237034
24 Feb 2021	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/27 - INQ000237006
08 Mar 2021	Sharing of Welsh study on patterns of violence, including alcohol and drug-related violence and related health service activity during pandemic	Email	SC/51 - INQ000237037
22 Mar 2021	Agreement on format and timelines for updates on Making Life Better indicators	Email	SC/52 - INQ000237038
10 Mar 2021	Meeting to discuss the Wider Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic and a periodic update on Making Life Better indicators document	Teams call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	
20 Apr 2021	Meeting to discuss the Wider Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic and a periodic update on Making Life Better Indicators document	Zoom call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	
10 May 2021	Submission of summary document in line with Department of Health NI's Making Life Better framework; requested support on the theme of Covid-19 and physical activity	Email to Department of Health NI	SC/19 - INQ000236995

	Submission of summary document in line with Department of Health NI's Making Life Better framework; requested support on the theme of Covid-19 and domestic violence		
26 May 2021	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on the potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC28 - INQ000237007
28 Jun 2021	Submission of summary document in line with the Department of Health NI's Making Life Better framework; requested support on the theme of Covid-19 and educational attainment	Email to Department of Health NI	SC/29 - INQ000237008
7 Jul 2021	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/30 - INQ000237011
27 Jul 2021	Meeting of North South Alcohol Policy Group with discussion on Covid-19 and alcohol policy matters	Meeting - IPHI and Departments of Health in Ireland and Northern Ireland, PHA, Dept of Communities	SC/31 - INQ000237012
27 Aug 2021	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/32 - INQ000237013
6 Sep 2021	Meeting to discuss the final Wider Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic and a periodic update on Making Life Better indicators document	Teams call between IPHI and Department of Health NI	
20 Dec 2021	Submission of update to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/33 - INQ000237014
11 Feb 2022	Agreement to stand down provision of document updates to the Department of Health NI on potential impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	Email exchange	SC/53 - INQ000237039

Appendix B - Briefings, advice, presentations, meeting minutes, submissions or analyses which IPHI provided to the government of Northern Ireland to assist it in making the key decisions in response to the pandemic.

Title	Dated	Document ref
The COVID-19 Pandemic – How to stay physically active: advice for adults and older adults	17 April 2020	SC/7 - INQ000237050
Ageing and Public Health – an overview of key statistics in Ireland and Northern Ireland	30 April 2020	SC/8 - INQ000237051
Potential impacts of the COVID-19 public health and social measures (PHSM) on population health and health equity in Northern Ireland	06 May 2020	SC/9 - INQ000237052
SARS CoV-2 and tobacco control in Ireland – evidence and policy option	15 May 2020	SC/10 - INQ000236985
RE: Briefing Note on COVID-19 and Domestic Violence	04 June 2020	SC/11a - INQ000236987
Homelessness and Covid-19	08 June 2020	SC/12 - INQ000236988
COVID-19 and home schooling - The impact of the extended closure of schools (June 2020)	08 July 2020	SC/13 - INQ000236989
FACTSHEET: COVID-19 and tobacco	1 September 2020	SC/14 - INQ000236990
Alcohol and COVID-19: Highlights from an upcoming policy brief and factsheet	17 September 2020	SC/15 - INQ000236991
16th Meeting of the North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group Agenda	17 September 2020	SC/16 - INQ000236992
16th Meeting of the North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group Meeting Notes	17 September 2020	SC/17 - INQ000236993
Alcohol and the night-time economy – policy context across the island	December 2020	SC/18 - INQ000236994
Summary paper - MLB Phys Activity Summary 010421.docx (30.15 KB)	10 May 2021	SC/19a - INQ000236996
Summary paper - MLB Domestic Violence Summary	10 May 2021	SC/19b - INQ000236997

Assessment of Wider impacts of social distancing measures - request for IPHI support	15 April 2020	SC/20 - INQ000236999
Potential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Making Life Better Framework indicators	26 May 2020	SC/21 - INQ000237000
COVID-19 and the Public Health and Social Measures: Implications for pregnancy, infancy, and the postnatal period - Evidence and policy options	16 July 2020	SC/22 - INQ000237001
Factors associated with changes in consumption among smokers and alcohol drinkers during the COVID-19 'lockdown' period	01 September 2020	SC/23 - INQ000237002
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 3rd Update October edition	08 October 2020	SC/24 - INQ000237003
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 4th Update November edition	18 November 2020	SC/25 - INQ000237004
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 5th Update January 2021 edition	13 January 2021	SC/26 - INQ000237005
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 6th Update February 2021 edition	24 February 2021	SC/27 - INQ000237006
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 7th Update April/May 2021 edition	26 May 2021	SC/28 - INQ000237007
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 8th Update July 2021 edition	07 July 2021	SC/30 - INQ000237011
17th Meeting of the North South Alcohol Policy Advisory Group Agenda	27 July 2021	SC/31 - INQ000237012
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 9th Update August 2021 edition	27 August 2021	SC/32 - INQ000237013
Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators – 10th Update October/November 2021 edition	20 December 2021	SC/33 - INQ000237014
Update from UK Policy Leads Network - for your information and not for circulation	01 May 2020	SC/34 - INQ000237015
IPH update	05 May 2020	SC/35 - INQ000237016

Briefing document for Dept of Health on PHSM	05 May 2020	SC/36 - INQ000237017
UK government guidance on alcohol dependence and COVID-19	07 May 2020	SC37 - INQ000237018
CSO Covid 19 social impact survey	08 May 2020	SC/38 - INQ000237019
New report on drug services in COVID-19	13 May 2020	SC/39 - INQ000237020
Update on data collection in NI in context of COVID-19	20 May 2020	SC/40 - INQ000237022
New estimates of impact of COVID-19 on mental health in the UK	26 May 2020	SC/41 - INQ000237023
Wider impacts of COVID-19	16 May 2020	SC/42 - INQ000237024
Link to ADPH report as discussed	16 May 2020	SC/43 - INQ000237025
Alcohol debates on 10pm closing	24 September 2020	SC/44 - INQ000237026
Written Answers — Department of Health and Social Care: Health Services: Coronavirus (5 Oct 2020)	05 October 2020	SC/45 - INQ000237027
FW: Written Answers — Department of Health and Social Care: Health Services: Coronavirus (5 Oct 2020)	06 October 2020	SC/46 - INQ000237028
FW: New COVID-19 guidance RoI - may be of interest	16 October 2020	SC/47 - INQ000237029
FW: Wider Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic - periodic update on Making Life Better indicators	09 November 2020	SC/48 - INQ000237030
FW: January 2021 update - Making Life Better Indicators update from IPH	13 January 2021	SC/49a - INQ000237032
FW: Managing Covid-19 transmission risk in Bars	15 February 2021	SC/50a - INQ000237035 SC/50b - INQ000237036

FW: Welsh study on impact of pub closures on presentations of violence to emergency departments	08 March 2021	SC/51 - INQ000237037
IPH support on summarising impacts on MLB indicators	22 March 2021	SC/52 - INQ000237038
Update from IPH - general	February 2022	SC/53 - INQ000237039
Making Life Better review group Query	28 January 2020	SC/54 - INQ000237040
FW: Invitation to provide evidence to Commission on Alcohol Harm	04 March 2020	SC/55 - INQ000237041
Alcohol news	25 March 2020	SC/56 - INQ000237042
IPH Update	25 March 2020	SC/57 - INQ000237043
IPH Follow up	08 April 2020	SC/58 - INQ000237044
Update from IPH	29 June 2020	SC/59 - INQ000237045
Briefing Note on Physical Activity	21 May 2020	SC/60a - INQ000237048
November update - wider impacts of COVID-19 - Making Life Better Indicators	18 November 2020	SC/61 - INQ000237049

Appendix C – Other materials relevant to IPHI's engagement in response to the pandemic.

Title	Dated	Document ref
Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Health NI and Department of Health Ireland	April 2020	SC/1 - INQ000236984
Why physical activity matters for older adults in a time of pandemic	23 Sept 2020	SC/2 - INQ000236998
Will the pandemic reframe loneliness and social isolation?	1 Feb 2021	SC/3 - INQ000237010

Healthcare Professionals Promotion of Physical Activity with Older Adults: A Survey of Knowledge and Routine Practice	4 June 2021	SC/4 - INQ000237021
Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Loneliness and Social Isolation: A Multi-Country Study	23 Sept 2021	SC/5 - INQ000237033
Healthcare Professionals' Application and Integration of Physical Activity in Routine Practice with Older Adults: A Qualitative Study	26 Oct 2021	SC/6 - INQ000237046