

14-5-20

11.45 dFM

Intro.

Not enough time to read papers -
need to arrive in better time.

DFI

Still no agenda

- not enough time to consider papers
- 3 times a week.

dFM

Agree

DOF

Have to go to Ad Hoc Comm - leave
at 1:00 pm

Want to be present for Exec decisions.

dFM

Keep going now

See where we get to.

①

Wintee

dFM

Agreed?

(Yes)

M.A.

dFM

DOH paper =

(K)

②

COVID update

DOH

Flurry of Exec paper - asked for by Exec
on WMon - officials worked hard to get
them on time - need time for officials

to draft/clear.

Info - leaks -

Accepted by official yesterday - SOS asking for update on info I gave to Exec on Mon.

Concern - route of info through NI Hub
No problem with Hub - but shd not go beyond Hub

HOGS

Only aware this am.

After Exec, give recidant to Hub.

NIO official picked up (over-zealous) breached protocol - raised with NIO, I will follow up personally.

Emphasize to Hub - info to be shared sensitively.

DOH

Stopped down Nightingale facility.

Re-engage some elective care.

Decreasing no of COVID ICU + hospital admissions.

Meeting with Comm for Older People - re info DOH release.

Asked for more regular info from NISRA

NISRA - not intending to do that, maintain same set-up / approach as Scotland / England

One-weekly - NISRA. People

think we are hiding info.

Papers - Wbn - Track/Trace

Briefing papers - R, care homes.

J Young available

Did Nolan Show yesterday.

Care homes - move patients/residents into hospitals (suggestion) - homes not willing, not as good care.

Working to dispel rumours eg no GPs visiting care homes

Focus on social care service.

Repram report 3 years ago Power to the people.

Restructure/repurpose staff.

Jan/Michael available.

AFM What is R today?

J Young Can't comment. Varies from day to day, goes up + down - competence interval.

0.7 today - drop in ICU occupancy will stay like that for few days - may go up to .8.

DFI

Care homes.

Infection prevention/control
list of action points

No quantitative info - all staff involved? not clear

DOH Asked RQIA to draft.
Yesterday - 'closed down' 26 homes
- previously COVID, now clear - moving
in right direction.

DAERA No 7 thing for homes - testing.
When will comprehensive test prog for
homes begin?

DOH Some progress this week
3500 residents - 27 ~~homes~~ pos
[] staff positive.
Assign to testing teams dedicated
to care homes.

CMO Testing - part of strategic
response.
Testing more rapidly in care home
sector than any other part of
these islands.
40,000 staff in care sector,
12/13000 residents.
Testing - important, have to
determine how best to use testing.
Cleaning / hygiene / infection control.
Testing alone won't prevent
vIRUS getting into care homes.

DAERA Sick pay - care homes staff
start sick pay; domiciliary care

85% pay.

Need to properly resource care homes in this crisis. Our No 1 focus shd be care homes, this is where $R = 1.5/2$.

People will ask questions re how they handled.

Southern Trust - looking for volunteers.
Staffing crisis.

DH

Stat sick pay - aware of some homes paying above, some paying lower.

6.5m package - v welcome. Arrive in care homes today/tomorrow.

400 - worst case scenario - model.

RQIA - read across and every care home every day - 2 homes - 'red' rating needed support.

11 May - no homes red for PPE.

If care homes not responding - system exists to provide support.

FM

Homes - Mon 10500 residents, CMO says 13000.

Good to hear homes clear of COVID.

Other homes joining COVID register?

Numbers static.

No of care homes - care/nursing.

How many residents

DH

Nos fluctuate

x - we'll get more accurate picture

Care homes
- Suspected cases
- Positive
- Closed out when clear
⇒ moving total.
Figs on daily dashboard.

CMO COVID outbreak
Reduction in []
Appear to be stabilizing.

FM Trend downwards?

CMO Cautions - appeared that way.
Homes - COVID-free
Compared favourably with other parts
of UK
Integrated health/social care
sector in NI - good system
QIA - reduce pothole, training
resources.

DOH Conversation with Welsh Health Min -
asking what we were doing - better
than Wales.

dFM Conversation with Older Peoples
Comm - worry that enquiries
were not being elevated in DOH -
went to media - testing issue.
Max testing for care homes.

Update paper - capacity 2000+ tests
How many actually carried out

DDH 2100 - will increase as capacity increases.

Older People & Comm - disappointed at what he is saying - met with him, hard to hear he is not happy, spent time with him.

Safe at home - pilot, we are continuing. Eddie - critical of us as pilot.

His contribution not helpful.

③ Action log

dFM Sp note.

DFI Action log III - Ed Restart.
Important to work together - school transport.

DE Happy to
Next week
Transport - issue to address.
Happy to work with DFM
Detail re transport
limited ref in paper - lot of
issues to address in more detail.

DAERA R figure
CWO said last week - homes

putting R for up.
Then was told it was ICU measure.
Testing.

IYoung 2 key points - R.
Dependent on model, also variables.
Determine from cases, hospital
admissions, ICU or death.
ICU - 10 day lag on average.
Hosp adm - 4 day lag
ICU admission - shows situation
10/11 days ago
Deaths - situation 2 weeks ago.
Consistently below 1 - .8/.9

DAERA ICU, deaths, hosp - going down, is
R going down?

IYoung Not number, is slope
Removal of restrictions, will
cause rise.

④ Sit Rep

HOLS No new items.
Moving to recovery
CCQ meetings - once a week
Thurs a.m.

DFI Sit Rep - 14 day quarantine from

w/E.

International flight coming into NI
from Lithuania

Who will do checks? Dublin A/P?

HOCS

Reserved matter. PM state^m.

Engage^m between us + GB Govt.

Details not worked out.

K Pearson

Not coming in on Sat.

Working on detail with Whitehall,
+ DFI.

GPS MLG tomorrow.

MKG want to announce on Sat

DFM

British + Irish Govt.

Discuss at nth/sth level

⑤

Reqs Review.

DFM

Issued 5-step plan earlier this

week - good collective effort.

This paper - proposing to move to
Step 1 v early.

Not enough discussion, undermines
work we have done.

DOH

Ref'd conversation earlier.

This is work Exec asked us to do.

Were asked to bring back specific
amends to Exec.

Asked depts for input.

Provided paper based on requests from Exec Wini. -

Recomm's remain same as previous.

We assessed requests in light of Regs, paper does not come from left field, is response to request.

Places of worship - individual prayer; outdoor spaces; recycling centres (council services); gatherings; urgent marriages - all requested by Wini.

Amend regs (marriages)

Drive-through churches - media attention.

Tidying-up amend's - cattle mkt, garden centres.

How to enforce

Some requests - not agreed.

We were asked to review requests - considered from point of view of R impact.

dPM

left field - CMO advice - we can start to move to Step 1 tomorrow.
Impact on change of message - too short notice to turn around.

DFI

FW/dPM message - Tues - based on science, can't move on

reqs.

24 hrs later - DOH suggestion we can relax reqs.

will create expectation - can relax, - not appropriate to use urgent procedure.

Outdoor activity - no shared surfaces;
Churches - indoor, lot of shared surfaces.

Go out with friends?

Public transport - tubes in London.

Between Tues. + today, how has R dropped enough?

DE

Core - danger - get means / ends confused.

Key driver - advance as fast or as slowly as medical evidence allows.

Modest steps

Marriages for terminally ill.

Sometimes can move quickly, sometimes v slow, may have to reimpose lockdown.

Shd be clear we are being driven by science - if CMO content.

Amend^m - package

Individual decisions

Happy to make decision based on science - not based on loss of face.

Happy to support him.

DFW

About public confidence - working

way through it together.

DE CMO advice - central pillar of strategy.
Shan't put barriers

DOJ No objection to measures being
proposed. If are able to move to
Stage 1 for some issues, OK.

Welcome [definitions] issue.
Compliance more difficult.
More freedom, more individual
responsibility - can't legislate for
every situation.

led by [conditions]. Last 36 hrs -
conditions = no change; now we
can relax some things - why so
different?

Consistency - highlight - PM/Cabinet
in a mess.

10 people in church - why safe,
but not a marriage?

Why 10 people inside, but only 6
people outside

Trying to understand

Hard shared surfaces

Explain - why elderly people in
church can touch pews, bibles etc

but children can't touch swings, games etc.

People laughing at PM + UKG.

Good week for Exec - good response, measured approach

X Propose - work with individual sectors to provide detailed guidance on how they can operate (eg churches); say today - we will work with councils to open recycling next week.

Convinced - seeing family/friends will give most hope. We are not offering much hope.

Mental health - we shd indicate to public - how to create bigger bubble but not free-for-all.

Let's own it

limit no of people, keep tight - all isolate if someone gets ill.

People being told - you can go to church, garden centre - but not hug family.

Message

lack of consistency - why do some things + not others.

JMK

Danger - micro-behavioural.

Widespread soundings.

Response to work of this week v good - media manage^{ment}, health message

Risk we cd unravel / muddle up good work

England - how not to do things. Lose public confidence re clarity of message. We shd have had conversation on Mon if these proposals were in system. Cd be misunderstood in wider society.

Balance between DPH paper

- publish [basis] for how we make changes
- shd make announce^m re garden centres + ^{recycling} marriages - from Mon. How to manage marriages?
- avoid confusion re Stage 1 / not Stage 1. - say next Thurs Exec plan for transition to St 1. Give indicative proposals for move to Stage 1
Monday week - reduce some other restrictions

dFM Adjourn? DOP meeting.

Am Short adjourn^m - not tomorrow

Publish matrix - public dialogue.
Q - why not take advice based on use of matrix - why not decide now?
Good decisions.

Point we made - not being restricted by dates.

Not keep reqs in place for 1 day more than is needed.

DOJ - family / friends.

Outdoor,

If we say - CMO advice - we can move to Stage 1 for some issues, + we say no

People want us to make decisions.

If nervous to do today - do on Mon.

In meantime - speak to churches etc.

Partnership - make this happen.

Announce today - say it is coming into effect on Mon.

DOH Ad Hoc for me as well this pm?

dPM Proposal - publish matrix
- garden centres

PM Make announce^m we are moving to Stage 1 on Mon
- legal obligation to follow medical advice.

DOJ ~~to~~ Decision on how we manage.
Have to go to Ad Hoc.
Need to square circle
Maybe do other things - angling, boats etc.
No problem Stage 1 next week

- dFM No prob Stage 1
Confusing
- JWK Propose - Press Conf -
Aay - on Monday, Exec will set out
how to get to Stage 1.
Announce on Mon - Reduce some
restrictions.
Mathematical
Share today matrix for
- DAERA No agree^m.
Said we wd follow science - went
ahead of science for school closures.
Doing again today
Need to follow science, OR ignore
+ follow politics.
- dFM Have heard you giving own
opinion.
- DAERA Follow advice given to us by Science.
- dFM Exec position - hold restrictions.
No input from Doh/CMO - some
poss move^m.
Trying to give people hope, but need
to have joined up approach.
- DPI 11.30 Tues / Today
- restrictions - now can be

relaxed.
Briefing to media - expectation of relaxation.

FM SCLP party - criticism of Exec.

DFI Reflected my issues raised at Exec.

clFM Adjourn - 15 mins.
Find a way forward.

FM Hear from CMO before adjourn^m
DFI has asked - what has changed in medical advice?

CMO Looked at specific proposals using matrix/framework
Assessed against - benefits/risks/
economic impacts as requested.
Relaxation - degree of risk, overall -
small; benefits swayed us to
recommend to Exec as cautious first
steps.
Not advising Exec to move to Step 1
overall - individual issues.
R - stable; R stable is our
require^m, not R fall.
Bank Hol w/e - consistent
message.

UYoung Key no - R below 1; don't expect

it to move

Not proper understanding of R - will not change if restrictions stay.

ICU, deaths, hosp admitt - falling.

R below 1.

Risk assess^m - same today as last week, same as next week.

Scientific advice - lowest level of risk = outdoor

Science - estimate risk, but not benefit.

Exec - qualitative judge^m re churches, garden centres etc.

CMD or I cannot say something is safe - always risk.

DFM

Adjourn

Confusion - strategic approach / Relaxation of some measures.

DFI

Risk assess^m - same last week as this week.

Why Tues - no move^m

Thurs - some relaxation.

DOTA

Some issues in system for weeks - for NICS to advise, for mins to decide.

Difficult

Responding to Qs asked by exec colleagues.

Challenge - communication.
Want to guide people in NI back to normality.

DPE CMO - a low risk in terms of stability of R.
Exec wants to follow science.
CMO + CSA advice - low risk. Why wd exec not take advice?
Relaxations proposed by DPH in response to Qs from Mins.

dFm Meeting adjourned - consult with Alliance.
1.25 pm.

3.40 Reconvene

dFm Way forward - seek endorsement.

DOJ Didn't hear 'consistency' responses - had to go to Ad Hoc Comm.

dFm CSO/CMO gave news

On Mon - set out pathway to Stage 1.
Today - publish matrix
Thurs - garden centres
marriage
⇒ guidance
listened to people - allow time to

plan to open on Mon.

Agree free paper - caveat - no change to messaging.

Agree?

Yes

DFI

Mon - announce areas which will open - why Garden Centres?

dFM

Outdoors, social distancing

DFI

Some garden centres have indoor area.

dFM

Social distancing - make arrangements

DAERA

Cycle shops - all enclosed
Garden centres - mental wellbeing
Product shelf-life - time bound.
Plants wd have to be dumped

dFM

Fashion advice to Edwin

DOF

Deathbed marriages.

DOH - limit 10 people.

5 people legally required

- couple, witnesses + minister.

Stipulated 5.

If allow 6 people outdoors - only need 5 for a wedding.

dFM

Say - we are developing guidance.

Announce^m next week

Updated position paper for Mon

DOJ Clears some inconsistencies.
Shelf life.
Issue - indoors areas. Non-essential retail.
Guidance for retail - don't handle goods on shelves etc; social distancing

DFM Will ask DAERA to clarify
Agreed way forward

JML Urgent Marriage - happy with proposals
(Deathbed)
Other urgent marriages - fiancée guidance - may have to leave country.

DFM Next week - setting out stall. re Stage 1.
TKS for
Agree paper in principle
of centres
recycling
emergency marriage
set out stall on Mon.

UKG - self-isolation.

DFM Sp note.

DFT How will this be enforced?
ROI issues?

DOF Particular sensitivities - pass 2 regimes on one island.
Keep dialogue going to manage sensitivities.

DPE DFI + J - on calls in recent days.
Limits people who can come on holidays travel
Flexibility on how we implement.

DOF Border force rather than police.
ROI - voluntary / suggestive - uptake quite low.
Need to be conscious.
International travel - off limits for long time to come.
Joined up approach across border.

DFW Engage^m with GR + ROI.

Agree recomm?

yes

PM I thought ROI - obligatory.
Karen can update

(6) Ad Hoc Committee

PM Sp note.

DFI

State^m next Thurs

DOF

Poss next week

(7)

Proportionality Test

Irrelevant & Sensitive

At Risk Goods

Irrelevant & Sensitive

FM

Urgent Decision

Noted?

(Yes)

8

AOR

DOF

COVID 19 Spend.

Charities - ring-fenced.

Other bids - collective approach,
oversight

COVID Spend - extension of fuelough
scheme to Oct.

Papers have come in - Teachers,
communities, freight, transport.

Want to bring paper - people to
contact me if required.

Also reprioritization / spends to be
reprofiled or returned to centre.
Paper to outline position - Exec to
make allocations to range of sectors.

DE

DE / DOF

Issue - substitute teachers.

Finance

Treasury

not held to getting anything over
summer

20s / 30s - small families,
mortgages

DOF

Supportive of DE proposition.

Engaging with Treas

DE identified funds

DFI

Paper re Waqee?

PM

Mon next week
