

3-12-20

12.25 FM Intro

Welcome J Pyper - Interim HCS

JMC DM - 2.00pm - break to
3.30pm.

DOH - 3.30pm tomorrow.

① Minutes
26-11

DOF query - content with clarification?

④

② COVID update - DOH.

DOH

Welcome Lenny,

Announce^m yesterday a.m.

Accreditation Pfizer vaccine

Good to go when vaccine arrives.

Concerns re speed - MRHA

assurances - all necessary steps
taken.

Not easy for care home settings -

Health workers / care home workers.

Get to residents a.s.a.p.

Initial batch 800,000 - 24/25000

for NI - 2nd dose. 11/12000.

Start prior to 14th.

R pyper - cases, hospitalization

- stubbornly high.

Able to get surgeons to transfer

to []

Elective Care Hub - Lagan Valley -
exceeding expectations - Need another
theatre - good capacity.

CSA

Presentation - R

Average new cases per day - continues
to fall, plateau in last week.

Increase in no of cases - last 2 days.

Impact of last week's relaxation

- cafes, close contact open.

- Nbs - local GPs Districts

- increase - East Antrim - clusters
being addressed PHA Agency.

8 local GP districts - increase.

- Testing - changes not related to
testing.

This week, increase in transmission
in community - reflects relaxation.

- lower than England/Wales, higher
than ROI

- Decline in hosp. admissions -
may plateau next week.

- No of patients in hosp falling.

- Critical care 30-40 (was 50).

Deaths in hospitals beginning to
decline.

R - 0.8

Paper say 0.9/1.1

Has risen, now = 1.2

Fragile - transmission rises from
modest easeth.

Expect - R will fall next week - current restrictions.

Mobility paper - google data, Rfs traffic data.

Cafes etc - open - evidence of big rush. Mobility has now fallen - restrictions. Not like reduced mobility of 1st lockdown - 'stay at home' message not working.

NI/England - reduction in mobility. Wales - normal mobility, more cases - result = more restrictions. Little attention to Stay at Home message.

PM AM witnessed rush to retail, incl rush when retail was expected to close.

DOSS Vaccine

Worry - previous Sec.

Anti-vaxers / COVID deniers.

Headcases saying - injected microchips.

Twitter

Research - $\frac{1}{5}$ of people sceptical - beyond anti-vax lobby.

People worry - how can it be safe, developed quickly.

Need strong messaging/reassurance. Concern re level of anti-science.

nonsense. People frightened;
lot of research, strong messaging
- crucial strategy.

CSA Public communication campaign re
vaccine.
Won't make COVID disappear, but
to halt pandemic need 50-80%
of people to take up.
Side effects - 2.8% of participants
- headache/fatigue 1-2 days.
Safe vaccine.
Long term research on impacts of
vaccine.

CMD Vaccine normally decades - 10
months - credit to scientists
MRHA - world renowned
Independent scientific advice
Speed of approval - process in
place.
Rapidly review - not short
circuiting.
Clinical data, pre-clinical trials
quality control.
MRHA advice - vaccine safe,
satisfied with their review.
Airwave.

PM MRHA press conf - v good.
Addressed issues.

DS

[]

Roll-out

1st 6 months

Some people watching refs to [],
- don't want one type of vaccine,
want other.....

level of flexibility

Issue - exposure

[]

DAERA

How far does vaccine need to roll
out to save NHS?

If elderly/vulnerable done,
impact on hospital admissions.

Take to middle of next year to
stop COVID.

How long to save NHS?

DOH

13th April.

JCVI - priorities - most
susceptible / highest mortality
rate.

1st vaccine - welcome -
logistical challenge.

Deputy CMO - keep in fridge,
is not yoghurt.

Need to get to care homes,
elderly population

2nd vaccine - 28 days after
1st, then 2 more weeks to be
effective.

FM 21 or 28 days?

DOH JCVI still considering - min 21 days

CMO Balance to be struck
[]

Choice of vaccine - any vaccine approved by MHRA will be effective.
Medicine coverage []

Keen to ascertain []

Production/supply.

Vaccinate those most at risk -
other health issues, may still need hospital.

May begin to see impact on NHS
Feb / April, summer.

DAERA Foyle Meats closing tomorrow -
outbreak.

ASK for meat workers to be
considered essential workers -
food on tables a priority.

FM Priority Groups set by JCVI.
Riskier workplaces?

DOH JCVI guidance across all 4
nations.
Control over our own testing
process.

FM Useful meeting Scotland/Wales +
MCare - good testing strategies
will take up

DFI Take up of vaccines by Health/
social care staff?

DOH Good uptake of flu vaccine -
shd follow on.

CMO [I less impactful than
COVID 19 - high take-up of vaccine
- health care workers.
Don't envisage same [I for
health care workers.
Vaccination centres.

FM Email sent last night at
10.30
- ref to 2.00pm / 3.30pm
stop.
- confusion - DO S.

FM Actions
Sit Rep.

FM Task force
Sp Note.

DOH

wd like further discussion among ourselves

- purpose

Will come support for work

Para 4 - how specifically - current dept responsibilities / dept structures?

Test / Track / Trace - remit of my dept

Not criticism - just looking to see where responsibilities lie.

Streamlining without duplication of roles.

Mass Testing - working with QUR.

Trying to prevent duplication of purpose as well as roles.

Technicalities, details

Para 8 - workstream leads responsible for delivery - my dept / ALB - accountability.

Establish^m of TForce - welcome but need to consider detail / structures.

Not being negative - move to take some responsibilities away from DOH;

Are not confident in DOH? Don't think it is that.

FM

Clear wish to help + support DOH. Outstanding work in DOH. But want to be more

co-ordinated

Need whole exec approach - not one sector acting alone (letter 18 Nov).
listening to Sit Rep yesterday -
coming to end of year, BREXIT,
weather events, COVID - need
co-ordinated approach to all.
Good faith on our part.

DOH

1st opportunity to raise concern -
welcome, but some issues.

Para 6 - [] - don't want
to have duplication.

Just need some clarification -
sequencing rather than anything
else.

FM

Important to bring TOR to exec.

JP.

Purpose of task force - not a
takeover, build on existing
groups, create forum.

Provide reassurance.

Paper - rough + ready, needs
refine^m.

Para 4 - Manage^m

Keen to put arrange^m in place
- ~~at~~ make sure people have
assurance

Civil service process.

Confidence re working out.

Have not identified leaders of

workstreams.

Not TEO Taskforce — Exec Taskforce
Move forward to recovery —
Comments helpful.

FM HOCs to meet with DoH — Mon.

DOF Wrote — agree to Taskforce.
Outcomes — DoH review / restrictions
— impact on R no / transmissions
Businesses to get support —
identify impact of individual
restrictions on individual
businesses.
Escape rooms — open / closed —
different dates.
Over course of 2 months — large
no. of open / close / sectors etc.
Taskforce — needs to be done —
may need further restrictions.
Attempt to [] certain
sectors of business — chance to
get money to businesses quickly.
Credibility of Exec — who is in /
out — not very exact science.
Happy to have LPS on task force
— match businesses to categories
— get money out quicker.

DOJ Sympathy for DoH concerns —
some issues directly for DoH.
Welcome strategic approach —

recovery, also more targeted restrictions. Happy for DOJ to be part of discussion - penalties etc. Min/dept accountability - v important relevant min needs assurance - address in TOR.

Email - a.m. - reconvene tomorrow - from En Exit Secretariat.

FM Apology again.

DOJ Need to resolve - meeting I can't move.

AFM Purpose of taskforce - to be helpful, more communication. Welcome JPayee - HACS. 1st female HACS. - congrats.

FM HACS to take forward - TOR.

X was bubbles.

FM Sp Note.

EMO Para 5, 1st bullet pt
1+1

Middle option (1+1) + (1+1) + (1+1)
- b house holds - greater risk, more mixing.

CSA + 1 room

3rd bullet pt

$$(1+1) + [] = 4 \text{ households}$$

No room re max no of people

- w/ impact on larger families.

After X max [7

Room 3rd option - 1 bubbled household + 2 other households, no max no.

CSA

No wrong or right answer -

Smaller no of people / households, lower risk

If people wish to avail - OK.

Avoid

Strict option or less strict -
Exec to decide.

FM

Lack of understanding - staying in bubble.

Christmas bubble - have to stay in bubble.

CMO

Bubble loyalty - no double-dating

dfm

Supportive of 3rd option -

need plain, understandable language - human way to explain

No limit on nos - media may present as free-for-all.

JML

Individual in support bubble -
can't join because bubble is
with someone else - when can
rejoin? 14 days?

CSA

Yes 14 days - but self isolate
time may reduce to 10 days.

JML

May cause confusion.
3 households - may have to
break existing bubble to join
Xmas bubble
Need clear info before Press
Conf.

TOH

Better to have examples.
SIS - Xmas calendar - how
many days

CMO

Escape mother-in-law
May go over people's heads
- need way to explain clearly.

JML

Change bubble - 10 days
before + 10 days after?

CMO

14 days, not 10.
Current advice.
Qualify for Xmas period.

FM

SIS working on graphics/
Q+A - sent to officials -

FM Put on screen for Exec?

Chen Will speak to Blair

DFI New Year - extend bubble?

FM 5 days - compromise for Xmas.

CSA Generation time of virus.

FM. ^{Reasons}
(1+1)+2

Have Got graphics

- Note Case home etc

- WMS / Press Conf.

(Yes)

DOJ Charitable orgs - run Xmas
dinners for people alone -
just deliver, or small grps?
x Guidance available?

End of current restrictions

- Hospitality sector - preparations

When will we advise re restrictions

- end 11 Dec.

FM Restr - next agenda item.

DFC - giving funding to Salv.

Army / SVP.

x CMO - look at charities advice?

JML Need guidance on charity.

Chlch - Graphic re household bubbles
Xmas
- Also social media graphics.
Will look at examples,
developing booklet.

FM - DH - to develop guidance for
charities?

CWO - Yes
Small I I.

FM Homeless - no home to deliver
to..

DFC Lot of young people need care,
asking re I I.
X Homeless shelters - asking
for definition.

FM Will take forward.

Restrictions from 11 Dec.

FM Sp Note.

offm DH view of paper?
Need decision today - people need
info in advance.
DfE, DH, TEO officials - lot of

info
look at CMO advice re each
restriction?

Fm General discussion, reach consensus

DOH Useful paper.
Consensus.
CMO/CSA advice - Paras 19/20.
Also advice on each restriction
from 18 Oct.
Set out where poss - impact.
Our Recomm - other depts left
to pick up pieces, financial
support etc.
CMO/CSA advice / concerns re
return to 15 Oct.
Hospitality - lot of engage^m.
2m safer than 1m - but policy
decision by Exec may be
different.

dFm Always guided by DOH, ~~DES~~ CMO, CSA
No of issues - Qs.
Find consensus.
Go through issues.

CMO Advice to Mins
Contextual issues.
Fragility of situation, close
contact services
Any relaxation - impact.

Unpredictability - return of students
across NI + from other parts of UK.
Inter-generational mixing.
All will cause upward pressure on R.

D28 Lot of info in paper - next few weeks.
If people go out for meals - next
few weeks, then Xmas bubbles -
impact on older relatives.
How to fit in with 25/28 time
period.
Dinner with family - restrictions.
Dinner in hospitality setting -
doesn't break bubble, but can
spread virus.
Need clear messaging

FM Take Annex A + consider, come
back to discuss at 3.30.
Need to communicate today?
All content?

DFS Rise of R to 1.2 - result of
coffee shops / close contact.
Also result of rush to shops
ahead of closing?
Take context into account.

CMO Shorthand.
FM comments on R paper.
Fair idea of human behaviour
before Xmas.

All things come together.
Contacts outside - queuing etc.
social distancing - less risk
than indoors

CSA Totality of interactions led to
rise in R.

Fragility of situation - R will
rise with easements after
11 Dec.

R will rise.

Allow people to interact -
societal advantages, but R will
rise.

CMD Vaccine - no impact for few
months, but reflect on position.
Significant trajectory of R
upwards - will advise mins.

PM Sold 2 weeks as circuit
breaker - will expect to come
out of restrictions.

\$ SMC - come back at 3.30.

SMK Approach of CMD + CSA - focus
on fragility - impact of
schools?
Sensitivity of R rate - schools
closed alongside other issues.

	CSA	If schools closed, beneficial impact on R. [] before Xmas - unpredictable
	JWK	Can cut both ways?
	CSA	Wd depend on behaviour of children young people out of schools.
X	PM	Adjourn - 2.00pm.
4.00	PM	Reconvene. Annex H of Exec paper Indoor gatherings - private dwellings - B+B can't open?
	CMD	Anomaly B+B / Scatering - current regs silent
	PM	Can stay in B+B - but not with another family?
	CMD	Same restriction for households + S/C.
	PM	Household gatherings outdoors - maintain current position 6 / 2 households (Different for Xmas)

Indoor Gatherings eg Halls.
Sport - elite - maintain current
Indoor position

Outdoor gatherings - 15 Oct position
- 15 organized = 200
Indoor arena - not across over
5000

Indoor sport - gyms.
Content - personal training OK

Outdoor sport
spectators - 200
no inter-school sports

DFI Wee sports/ Gaelic clubs?

PM Can play among selves

CMO No inter-school sports
clubs

CSA Other types of clubs?
Covered elsewhere - allow to
take place.

DAERA IFA events - previously 500?

PM Thought it was based on how
many cd fit in stadium.

CMO C'd increase no - need limit/
control / mitigation
200 - 500 acceptable.

CSA 200 arbitrary - limits
opportunity for mixing pre/post
event.

K Pearson Based on venue/risk assess^m
IFA - used 500.
Now stat limit to be agreed
by Dec.

FM Risk assess^m.

KP Risk assess^m - smaller cap,
bigger no - bigger
stadium.

DAERA Risk assess^m best way.

FM Set cap - can't go above,
but c'd be lower

DOF Risk assess^m - within stadium
can't govern outside stadium.

FM cap 500 + risk assess^m

DFT Guidance on travel to/from?

FM Other outdoor events. - 500?

CMO Yes

PM Place of worship - no limit on nos -
face coverings

DFC Sport - vans, burger vans -
guidance?

Also access / egress?

Safety cert - access / egress
criteria - add to guidance?
mitig reqs

CMO Valid points - mitigation of
risks.

Extreme - to ban burger van
Guidance - broad, generic,
social distancing.

DFC Need generic guidance -
ice-cream vendors - not
part of club, don't want
club punished.

CMO X Will engage with other depts
to address, also access / egress

JML Outdoor events

CMO - Green arm Xmas

Experience, one way, timed
200 - for whole event, OR
individual grps.

CSA

Don't want to ban Santa!
Event permissible subject to mitigations - social distancing, Organizers responsible - marshalling etc.

FM

Blive - disbuen.

churches - face coverings in place of worship - some denominations already do - mandate - all times within place of worship.

CSA

Recognize sensitivities - but added as option.

CMO

[]

Mandatory or not [].

Up to him - support for that.

Accept sensitivities.

dFM

Event - no limits on nos.

CMO

Outbreaks/clusters related to interactions around churches

FM

JMs to meet with churches + communicate with them.

Funerals - 15 Oct.
Inc - risk assessm

Marriages / Civil Partnerships
15 Oct position - 15 people?
Not right?

Business required to close - as 15 Oct
- Night clubs
- Concert Halls.

KP Will check concert halls -

dFM 3rd column - pre 15 Oct
PM Night clubs, concert halls closed
except for rehearsals.
Clarify weddings.

dFM Play areas, etc - all open

CSA Intention to option.

DOF Incl gyms - personal
training only?

CSA Yes

EMO Outbreaks - gyms. Reasons
close - but recognize other
benefits - risk - mitigations

PM Visitor attractions - open with
mitigations.
Off sales, private members clubs.

CSA - Discuss in context of wet pubs - private members clubs serving alcohol - close.

dfm
CSA Minimum - wet pubs close.
If Exec wish to keep R below 1, maintain current restrictions - minimum keep wet pubs closed.

dfm Support for wet pubs?

DFE Have scheme developed - waiting for data.
Retrospective help - closed since March.
Compensation outside local restriction scheme - need more funding.
Cd work with retrospective scheme

Fm DOF - intend to run on local Restr. Scheme.

DOF ~~£~~ Roll on pay^m or acknowledge long shutdown - spoke of £5,000 per pub, cd increase to £10,000 per pub.
Desn't differentiate on size.
Then continue pay^m.

Clubs required to close - same position at wet pubs.

DFE Give pubs same as current scheme - [NER]
Paper to go to you soon.

PM £800 p.w.

DOF Over £10,000
10.6 million

DFE Retrospective scheme - up to 15 Oct.
£800 pw not a lot for a business.
Fuelough costs £30-40 pp. pw

PM DOF/DFE to liaise.

DOF Give restaurants cash amt,
but not weekly pay^m.
Need to compensate.

PM Agree - wet pubs/private clubs closed

dfm Compensation - media?

DOF Scheme being devised for period of closure.

DFI Pay^m - closure + period time up

to now - get more money for closure pre - Xmas?

DOF Amt fixed in reg - if have to change reg, stops pay^m in short term.
Compensate for year so far.

FM Hotels / guesthouses - pre 15 Oct.
- no room service after 11.00pm.
Open?

CSA Yes, open subject to mitigations.
Curfew - alcohol - consistent across sectors.
Sector asked for relaxation of curfew - previously 10.30, leave at 11.00pm.

FM Restaurants within hotels?
Anyone can use?

DFI Alcohol after 11.00 - in lobby, not rooms.

CSA Need decision re curfew generally + also for hotel residents.
Residents - room service alcohol.

FM Previous - curfew 10.30, leave at 11.00
Room - drink for residents.

dfm Hotels open
o/night stays (household guidelines)
After curfew, alcohol in room.

DFI Alcohol with meal?

CSA Yes.

FM Unlicensed hosp premises
- open, table restrictions
b/2, mitigations.

dfm 6 people per table, max 2 households.
Un-policeable.
Why 2 households
Rationale?

CSA Need to reduce mixing -
6 separate people - cd spread
to 6 households.
Policing/enforce^m - challenging.
Ask public to do right thing.

DOH Details of all customers at
tables - test / trace,
Hosp sector suggest.

CSA Big shift, challenge for
cafes - faster turnover of
customers.

PM Content - unlicensed hosp venues.

2009 W - 152 Venues - alcohol served/restaurants

OT CSA Minimum - wet bars closed.
Mitigations - outdoors as much as
poss.

2009 PM Reference to what?

CSA Restaurants, bars which serve food
Prefer outdoors, prefer 2m
distance - between people, not
just tables.
Social distancing.
Contact details of all people.
Curfew

DFE Advice rather than reqs?

PM Restaurants

DFE Minutes
Advice OR reqs?

CSA Advice

PM Wet pubs closed.
Curfew - content to continue
10.30, out at 11.00 ?

Yes

	Outdoors preferred 2m distance Details of all customers - in reqs.
KP	Already in reqs - but want to clarify all people in grp. Also - main meals issue.
dfw	Pubs closed, restr open next week - curfew, 2m distance
DFI	Restaurant - can't operate with restrictions?
FW	Will cover Retail - open, flow manage ^m - etc.
	Close contact - as during Nov - in reqs?
KP	Yes
FW	Libraries - open.
POST	Gyms - private training? Yoga studios?
FW	Gyms OK Yoga - indoor gatherings - 15 limit.

CSA Cd incl explicitly

DOH Gyms - keep details of p.t. attendees.

FM Restrictions - pubs/restaurants which can't operate in those circumstances - compensation?

DOF How to police - say they are closed but actually open. Layers of complication.
60 people in LPS - not enough. Local council ~~to~~ to check?
Complex.
Need clarity on who we are shutting down + when.

FM Accept.
Assume wet bars can run off-licence but get DOF payⁿ.

DOF Those can continue.
Verification of those who say they can't open - difficult.

dFM We should try to compensate.

Yoga - class up to 15, why not gym class up to 15

CSA Cd specify - aerobic or non-

aerobic,
Out of breath - shd not do indoors.
Gentle yoga - OK

dfm Restrictions in place for how long?

CSA Open ended

dfm Outside gatherings - households
- 6 people, 2 households.
- not specify no of households,

CSA Private gardens - not so strict
re behaviour.
Bring views back to 6 households

dfm Hotels - wedding receptions

CSA Subject to limitations/mitigations
Relying on sector to take
responsibility - no music.

KP Weddings
15 Oct - 15 limit, higher with
risk assess^m.
16th - 25

Previous - venue to decide on
limit based on risk assess^m

FM Funerals - risk assess^m
Weddings - " " + hotel
mitigations

CSA Not 'content' - but reasonable approach.

JMK Not all yoga - non-sweat.
Vikram - cardio-vascular in nature.

Differentiations in yoga.

Pilates - depends on nature of exercise.

If we give permission to yoga, will be open to challenge by other sectors.

CSA Consider solution - form of words in regs - non-contact []

PM Strenuous exercise groups - outside OK?

CSA Understand intent - gentle yoga - will find form of words.

PM Pubs closed - a la carte?

CSA Looking at definition of wet pub - pub with kitchen to open - prohibit premises with pizza van parked outside.

PM Give people clarity for next week - won't change mind by next week

CSA A little bit of headway - but nervous re last week in Dec.

DOSS Contact from garden centres - outside Santa grottos.
Covered by restrictions - if use social distance, hygiene wd be OK?

CSA Covered similar situation - relatively low risk, outdoors, mitigations, OK.

dfm Individuals can go to gym?

CSA Yes, but not train in groups.
1 on 1 personal training - OK, close contact
Grip training outside.

dfm Q+A, booklet

RAPM Things reopening
Reopening - some change
staying closed.

KP Lots of issues - guidance
funerals, bubbles, travel to events, equestrian/sports, hospitality outdoors - 2m;
Street manage^m - venues opening on same day. PSNI.

JMs - COVID aware" local govt
Retail

JMs - faith.

lot of work with sectors to engage.

DEF Those who chose to stay closed.

LPS - lot of issues.

Careful what we say - limited
chance to get pay^m out before Xmas

FM DEF speak to officials.
KP - speak to SOLUS

DFE Using public money to keep
businesses closed when cd be open.
Need to think carefully - poss
repercussive actions.

FM Do more work + come back.

DFI Already took that approach? Last
restrictions?

DOF Easier to keep paying - too hard
to stop + restart.

FM Look at how to present -
written State^m
- have come to determination
on issues.

COVID Heating

DPC

Criteria - in addition to Winter Fuel Pay^m.

Personal Indep Pay^m, DLA.

320,000 people.

Make pay^m through existing pay^m channels - no application required.

Legis - Fin Assist Act.

Seek designation under Fin Assist Act.

Pay^m made to individual - not means tested.

FWI

Agree recomm? (Yes)

Vitamins

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Urgent Decision

Newly Self-Employed.

dfm

Noted).

(Yes)

DOF

New scheme - 50% of income over past year - only newly self-employed, puts barrier in place. DFE to reconsider limit to make more accessible?

DFE

50% - stop people from applying who are eg teacher by day, photographer by night - need to be fully self-employed.

DOF

If only became self-employed during year - issue.

DFE

Will bring back to officials - managing risk, dealing with HMRC

x Will look at.

DOH

Person - self-employed since 2018 - not eligible - timeline for eligibility.

DFE

Will ask officials to check - give more details

self-employed - eligible, but may not be newly self-employed?

dfm

DFI query

Reimbursed^M

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Domestic Abuse

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Irrelevant & Sensitive

BIM

DOF

Airports

State
Aid

Pay^m to A/R - straddle pre +
post 1 Jan (Brexit)

£8 m to Rfs Int + Rfe City.

3 depts in frame

DFI - 1

DFE - air connectivity

DOF

Need exceptional circumstances -
need PM/dPM to designate
dept

Min Direction required

Send paper to Exec for next
week, or urgent procedure.
Decide on lead dept.

dPM

Go through urgent procedure?

DOF

Can wait to next week, but can
go with urgent proc.

Need to identify dept.

Communication

dPM

Process?

Chen

- Written Min State^m

- media interviews 3

dPM

Will look at media handling



