

15-6-20

12.10

DFW

Intro

Welcome Carol Ni Chuilín  
Dharrey unwell.

① Minutes 8 + 11 June

Agreed? Yes

② COVID update.

DOH

2 issues

NISRA update

ONS "

NISRA - continual decrease

19 deaths - lowest no. since  
20 March.

Excess deaths - 30 pweek -  
significant decrease.

ONS - 4 UK nations comparison

deaths per 100,000 of population

- NI lower than other 3 nations.

- highest % of deaths in care homes,  
less deaths in community.

Increase deaths in care homes

comparable to last 5 years -

NI slightly better.

Care homes testing - 12000 staff,

9000 residents

55 outbreaks

90 cleared.

PHA - weekly bulletin on Testing/  
Tracing - will be published on Thurs -  
across all 4 nations.

~~DFM~~ DFM Stephen Nolan - publishing science.

DOH Don't listen  
When to publish scientific guidance  
- considering with EW.  
eg paper on modelling last  
Thurs - published last night.  
How/when we publish - if issue to  
Exec is Exec paper, not just health.

### ③ Actions / Sit Rep.

DFM Sp note.

HOCS Final sitrep for a while -  
published 66 sitreps.  
Hub scaled down.  
[ I will be published on ongoing  
basis, DOH dashboard will be  
published.  
TKS to A Harbison + Team

DFM Concur  
TKS to HOCS, Hub team, CCG

FM TKS to all team for all work.

JMK

Associate with comments.  
Learning shd be codified - some  
upst downs.  
Learning experience - needs to  
become part of institutional memory  
- have document / dossier to  
adapt to other circumstances.

Hocs

Drafting learning doc - will  
give to mins.

④ COVID Manage<sup>m</sup>.

COVID overview

dfw

Sp Note.

Noted?

Yes

Bubbles

DoH.

Update paper following conversation  
last Thurs.

Bubbling - what it means,  
cumulative impact on R.

How it has been utilized elsewhere  
- NZealand, Canada.

How to manage, take responsible  
approach.

Even small breach of bubble brings risk.

Suggested way forward,

- already Phase 1 - single person/household.

Wait 2/3 weeks to see impact before moving to next phase.

CSA

Bubbling useful in other countries with higher  $R$

Appetite for risk.

DS

TKS for paper

While telling people they shouldn't mix they are doing anyway - need childcare + support.

~~But~~ Need to deal with reality - give people a structure for engagement with family.

Re some issues raised - opening B+B sector, can pay to stay in someone's house but not visit family.

Not sustainable.

If can't do both, why prioritize B+B/tourism over families.

We should not be micro-managing people's lives - respect their ability to make choices.

Science - people becoming stressed - no support.

x Have sight of science?

Asking people to self-isolate  
Not out of step in terms of key message  
Can't continue as we are - ignoring  
plight of young families who can't  
access family childcare, but are  
under pressure to return to work.  
Bubbling - simplicity, gives people  
~~the~~ choice in managing own lives.  
Shared custody households, blended  
families already happening.  
Low level of R - bubbles low risk,  
greater rewards.

DFI Realise risks.

Recognize people are already  
making own decisions.

If we say - you can go to bar but  
not visit family - will create  
diffs for us / credibility issue.

dfm We're already doing - now in  
phase 1, single people -  
give people understanding - this  
is where we are moving to -  
dates align with Exec plans -  
mention at media conf today.

DPE Good paper

Does Doh have simpler approach?

Doh No - households joining together

- giving structure.

Health point of view

- Pt 25 in paper - can proceed more quickly, but brings higher risk.

Bubbling can be used - phased approach, measure impact of each phase - measure risk v reward.

dpm

Today @ Press Conf - signpost, mention phased approach.

Note paper? Yes

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## TOURISM

DPE

~~looked~~ Looked at issues previously  
Central premise - ensure safety for customers + employees, build confidence among public, time to reopen.

26-6 Caravans/self-catering

3-7 Rest of sector

Conditional + reversible if anything happens.

Need to sector notice to plan/prepare.

Ability to earn cash in summer season

Hot at home message.

Work on clarification of 2m Vm  
- from financial point of view, shd  
review.

Important to give tourism sector  
confidence to go ahead - work with  
industry

26<sup>th</sup> rather than 29<sup>th</sup> - give people  
an extra wife in caravan.

Guidance for industry will be  
published - will give people few  
weeks to prepare/plan.

Visitor attractions - interdependence

DOF Social distancing - CMO/CSA.  
2m/1m - WHO guidance - min 1m  
CMO/CSA guidance - 2m is better.  
But is guidance not regulation,  
people can decide.

Piece meal approach - tourism  
accom; what about cinemas?

Shops open - what about bookies?

Tourism challenges recognize - but  
other sectors fall between gaps -  
places of worship.

Need more strategic view.

Social distancing - view of CMO/CSA

DOH DFS - working on mitigations paper  
- let Exec see?

Pt 21 - encourage screens etc

- maybe cd be stronger advice.

CMD

Confirm WHO advice - at least 1m.

Paper DFE - early July, carrier risk - spread of virus.

Conditional, can be reversed.

Risks - but also societal costs to economy.

Paras 10 + [ ] mitigation.

Exec wd need to be satisfied with mitigation - 22 June?

Exec - increases risk with more opening.

CSA

Comparative point of view

Risks - opening 3 July - indoor areas - but benefits also greater.

Bigger risk than bubbling households.

SML

Potential for progress

Change reqs to allow more work<sup>m</sup>

Consider Reg 5 as a whole - ?

reasonable excuse to leave home

Include all issues in Reg 5.

Police handling.

DH

Thurs - 3 week review. If depts want to put in suggestions use template.



Issue of places of ~~worship~~ worship will arise.

JMI Working grp - Church Grps.

DOH TEO working with churches.  
Bubbles, tourism open - big steps,  
wait a few weeks before other moves  
to see impact.

DFI Reg 5 - restrictions on move<sup>in</sup>  
Reg 6 - gatherings.  
Concern - not looking at cumulative  
impact. If we open bars etc -  
effect on transport etc, taxis.  
Huge decisions  
Concern - if we open tourism,  
can't move on other issues for  
few weeks (eg families).

DOJ Point of clarification.  
Bars - food; how to distinguish  
between bars / food + bars / drinks.

DOH Defer to DFE.

DFE Talk to industry grps - Hosp/Hotelier  
- food more important to bars -  
can't survive on drink alone.  
Bars/rests with table service -  
main purpose = meal. Bars/tray

to get people in + out.  
~~bars~~ Not considering 'drink only'  
bars - only bars with food.

DOY

Not consistent  
table service - need waiters to  
come to table.

If seated - table service - what is  
difference between bringing food  
or bringing drinks

Not fair on pubs who only serve  
drink.

Need to be clear re risks + what we  
mitigate.

Bringing forward re dates - higher  
risk than bubbling which we are  
deferring.

No consistency of approach  
- estate agents OK, betting shops  
not.

Why ruling out certain categories  
- people will think it's because we  
don't like drink, gambling.

People won't respect rules -  
travel restrictions hard to police.  
Royal Avenue full of shoppers V  
protest @ City Hall.

Have not considered consequences.  
Nervous of accelerating for  
economic reasons when won't  
improve issues for families.

DAERA

What is relative risk of spread  
1m v 2m.

100 people in room, 5 have COVID  
- risk of spread?

CMO

Can provide that level of detail if  
required.

1m - dates from 1930s, relates to  
fln

2m - more recent.

Relative transmission in community  
Scientific/medical advice -  
extremely uncomfortable with  
move to less than 2m.

CSA

Tenfold increase in risk of  
infection (relative risk)

Absolute risk - depends on  
presence of COVID in community -  
currently low.

If virus in community increased,  
1m risk wd be higher.

Super-spreaders - individuals;  
opening indoor gatherings, more  
people, noise - greater risk of  
household bubbling.

DAERA

Restaurant - booths, reduction  
of risk.

Someone at bar, loud music.

Degree of latitude - people

sitting at tables.

CSA

lesser degree of risk - tables.  
Science can't measure degree of risk.

DAERA

Exec following science - currently improved, best guess.  
Major decisions.  
Economy floundering.  
Society not following advice.  
Clear messaging - wd mitigate risks.  
Support DFE.  
Review 1m / 2m.  
Restaurants - back to back tables  
Outdoors safe - relaxations on all outdoor papers.

CSA

Respectfully disagree re science - always based on uncertainty.  
As science evolves, becomes more certain.  
Decisions shd be informed but science, but need to take other considerations into a/c - economy

FM

Papers - tables, servers - not just social distancing but time spent at table.  
Indicative dates only at this

stage

Household bubbling now — but  
indicative dates for tourism

Will look at issues — bubbling, families  
in phased time.

Strategic approach — need to look at  
step by step; stick to plan on how we  
move forward.

Support paper, indicative dates, will  
review closer to dates.

Understood — not noisy bars etc;

dFM Developed plan — stick to plan, work  
our way through it. Strategic  
plan.

Only fair to give indicative dates.

Review Regs this week, another  
review in next 3 weeks;

P21 — not allow live bands, not  
just encourage no live bands.

DDH P21.1 — outside — lesser degree of  
contamination — why not move  
under this.

DFI Write to councils asking them to  
relax planning

dFM Conversation — DFI, DFC + DFE —  
licensing/planning (outdoor  
spaces).

DPE

local govt - cafe / pause<sup>m</sup> -  
bugbear for a long time.  
Councils interpret things differently  
will take forward with DFC/DFI.  
Strategic view - this is the  
thing to do  
Holistic view, fits into plan -  
give dates when appropriate.  
Bookies / churches - not my  
policy remit.  
Church important for me -  
but church working grp to  
take forward.

x FM/dfm - co-ordinate - per  
Thurs gen stocktake?  
tables for food + not for drink  
- industry suggestion - easier  
for them to manage.  
Indicative dates - can come  
forward or go back  
Important guide - position  
of R.

Guidance - working with health  
protection - PHA, Health + Safety  
- review by DfH.

Don't want to do anything to  
set back response to COVID.

Conditional

Guidance being worked on - can  
go to CMO/CSA.

Can put any stipulation into

reqs - can decide 'no entertain<sup>m</sup>'  
We can decide on what reqs look like,  
Reassurance - lot of work, lot of thought,  
lot of expertise across depts,  
Wd like to give indicative dates -  
but set against preservation of life,  
Job redundancies - Titanic Rfs.  
Heavily caveated - safety first.

dfm Make v clear - no music.

DFI Understand intention / rationale re  
giving indication.  
Concern - no grasp of cumulative  
analysis of impacts.

dfm v firm - showing sports events/  
music - otherwise agree recess  
in paper

Agree?

Yes!

DOJ \* If we can do this, shd allow  
households to form bubbles in own  
home  
Relative Risk - shd be moving to  
allow households to form bubbles.  
No rationale for difference

dfm We are moving ahead with  
family support - will highlight

DOH x Put on record - don't see  
review of 2m happening before  
opening/indicative timings.

dFM Indicative - other sectors?

FM Refer to steps in plan

dFM Logical to give people a timeframe.  
Will do on Thurs.

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## Childcare

dFM Sp note,  
FM + 1 + DE spoke on Fri.  
Huge issue with childcare even  
before COVID.  
Opportunity to consider for  
future - encourage more  
social economy opportunities.  
Longer term impacts especially  
for women.

DOH Move immediately, but then look  
at longer term.  
DE - policy  
DOH - regulation/safety,  
3 sectors - TEO, DE, DOH.  
Childcare reference grp.  
Definition of key workers



Streamline [ ] healthboards  
Trusts - receive application, 72hr  
process.

Safety of children - play pods, bubbling  
within system.

Funding - ends this month.

Supporting childcare providers which  
closed / had less children.

Enable now to open up - scale of  
funding.

Reliance on family members.

Bubbles - not just children, but  
adults.

DE ✓ useful conversation on Fri.  
More detailed proposals for Thurs  
- re every map.

Short term - also longer term  
implications.

Immediate work - keep sector  
viable. May not be sustainable.

Critical issue - align<sup>m</sup> between  
childcare + economy (Para 11);

Para 12 - need to ensure informal  
childcare - bespoke arrange<sup>m</sup>  
beyond bubbles.

If we don't make provision for  
family situation - safeguarding

- recovery; informal childcare  
integral - will lead to lot of  
unregistered childcare - protection

issues harder.  
\* Strategic roadmap for Thurl's meeting,

DOF Need to put focus on this issue - welcome.  
Finance - incl in extension of rate relief to end of year.  
£4m rate relief.  
Recognize childcare - same as tourism etc - to end year.  
Not incl in 25  
Try to get some support to childcare.  
Continue to dialogue with DFE.  
Already allocated (£12m) to childcare.  
DSO - how this is being processed/spent - want to have impact  
X DOH to bring info on how £2m is being spent - understand process for distributing money (additional £13m).  
longer term - make real diff.  
Peace Plus coming forward - speaking to SSUPR  
£10m  
Inject into Peace Plus dialogue.

DOY Issue - access to childcare.  
People can't afford rely on

family support.

Parents don't want to leave children with strangers.

Can't afford.

Support sector - but need to look at parents who need to access, but can't afford. Ongoing challenge.

Unite - representing childcare sector - will they be included in conversations? Any additional info? (Dott).

DFI

Shdn't lose sight of need for employers to provide flexibility for parents.

Dott

Initial funding scheme - too cumbersome. DSO has taken criticism for process.

2nd scheme - DSO may not wish to deliver.

Support for industry - not got insurance, some got support.

Unite - DE to answer.

Dott - looking at safety etc.

Childcare - input from lot of depts.

Shd have one lead dept for childcare

dFm

Agree there shd be one lead dept.

DE need exec buy-in for longer term approach.  
Short term recovery,  
Wider policy issues - examine.  
But recovery first.

dFM More detailed paper for Thurs -  
get it out earlier if poss.

DOJ Unite?

dFM DE - include in grp?

DE Stakeholders grp - don't know  
who can give green light.

FM Met with Unite - they say NII  
Childminders Assoc don't  
represent individual child care -  
have asked grp to address/  
include.

dFM Agree reword? (yes)

Another paper on Thurs

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Driving license grp

DPI 7 month extension - just to  
let people know.

DFC will talk to Nicola re guidance

Ad Hoc

Fm Sp note

Small pay<sup>m</sup> / Probate

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Buildings Directive

Irrelevant & Sensitive

AOR  
Medical School

Irrelevant & Sensitive

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

Community Crisis Intervention,

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

DOJ

Bombardier  
Job losses, how to mitigate.

We have looked at airports  
Aeronautics - manufacturing,  
Work with London - national plan.  
Sale of [ ] Belfast.  
Look at potential of sector-specific  
furlough - longer time lag for  
impact of COVID.  
Wd like to know what Gov's role cd  
be in making case for aerospace  
sector - get through crisis.

PM

dFM + I spoke with

Name Redacted

DFE

Happy to meet + talk offline.

Constituents of WLA - concern

large supply chain.

Will talk offline.

I have spoken with Thompson +

Bombardier - Boeing etc - #

reducing require<sup>u</sup>.

Invest xII to bring together large  
players - will establish what we

need to ask national govt

Have spoken to BSI,

Name Redacted

Name Redacted

National UK issue, needs national  
intervention

Happy to take offline.

BMCK

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Irrelevant & Sensitive

~~AFM~~  
FM

Irrelevant & Sensitive and LPP/LAP

Schools

AFM

Need to talk re schools in  
Sept - dedicated conversation,

DE

Wd like to do on Thurs  
Ready to issue guidance to schools  
- wd like exec buy-in.  
Held off - bring short paper  
on Thurs, issue guidance to  
schools on Thurs/Fri.

AFM

Issue paper before Thurs -  
give people time to consider.

DE

Major impact - letter to CMO  
- social distancing - impact  
on schools.

FM

Have full discussion.

JMK

Met INTO, reps from NIASUWT  
- concern re 17 Aug date,  
Feasibility - teachers wd



○

have to start on 10 Aug or before to prepare  
Unions dissatisfied with timing / engage<sup>m</sup>  
Review timing.

DE

specific date.  
Meeting with unions on Wed.  
No teacher will be disadvantaged.  
Was mentioned in Assembly in May, flagged up in Roadmap.  
Compatible with Exec restart plan.

○

DOF

Airports  
significant urgency - Three  
Academy Length Body

○

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

DOF

I was surprised by Airports paper - significant concerns.  
Only saw this paper Sunday pm - will meet with officials later.

○

DOF

continuation of existing funding

- DOF emergency funding package
- responsibility of DFE or DFI.
- CODA issues.

DFE

Need to discuss offline.  
Major issues,

PM

x Conversation DFE / DOF before  
Thurs.

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