

Message

From: PS Minister Education [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=67D79F1E0F58475391A164AC6523703E-PS MINISTER]
Sent: 06/12/2020 2:32:26 PM
To: Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) [vaughan.getting@gov.wales]; PS Minister Housing & Local Government [psmhl@gov.wales]
CC: Orford, Rob (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell) [rob.orford@gov.wales]; [NR] (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell) [NR]@gov.wales; PS First Minister [ps.firstminister@gov.wales]; PS Minister Health & Social Services [psmhss@gov.wales]; PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services [psdmhss@gov.wales]; PS Minister Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language [psmmhwwl@gov.wales]; Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) [frank.atherton@gov.wales]; Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive) [andrew.goodall@gov.wales]; PS Minister Economy & Transport [psmet@gov.wales]; PS to DG for Health and Social Services Chief Executive NHS Wales [pstodgforhsscenhswales@gov.wales]; Runeckles, Jane (OFM - Special Adviser) [jane.runeckles@gov.wales]; Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) [clare.jenkins010@gov.wales]; Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) [chris.jones@gov.wales]; Brindley, Madeleine (OFM - Special Adviser) [madeleine.brindley@gov.wales]; Smithson, Thomas (OFM - Trade Policy) [thomas.smithson@gov.wales]; Special Advisers [ps.special.advisers@gov.wales]; Mason, Toby (OFM - Communications) [toby.mason@gov.wales]; Woodward, Tom (OFM - Special Adviser) [tom.woodward@gov.wales]; [NR]@gov.wales; Bennee, Fliss (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell) [fliss.bennee@gov.wales]; Collins, Brendan (HSS - Finance) [brendan.collins001@gov.wales]; [NR] (KAS); [NR]@gov.wales; [NR]@gov.wales; [NR] (KAS); [NR]@gov.wales; [NR] (OFM - Communications); [NR]@gov.wales; [NR] (OFM - Communications); [NR]@gov.wales; [NR] (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell); [NR]@gov.wales; [NR]@gov.wales; [NR] (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell); [NR]@gov.wales; HSSG.TAC [hssg.tac@gov.wales]; [NR] (OFM - Communications); [NR]@gov.wales; [NR]@gov.wales; [NR] (HSS - Communications); [NR]@gov.wales; [NR] (ESNR-Economy Skills and Natural Resources); [NR]@gov.wales
Subject: Re: TAG - Statement on non-pharmaceutical interventions in the pre-Christmas period - for publication

Please see comments below from the Minister for Education:

Helen please could pass the following comments on. Would be grateful if they could also be copied to Julie James, given then role of Local Government. Many thanks.

Thank you for forwarding the TAC paper and for the opportunity to comment ahead of it s publication tomorrow.

The paper is deeply difficult for education and comes several days after I, the Local Government Minister and the WLGA agreed a common position that schools would remain open. Following that agreement a number of LEA’s have confirmed that positions with parents. It concerns me that we have taken a decision and now publishing data that played no role in making that decision, and in some ways contradicts it. In practical terms, it would be incredible difficult for government to agree a new way forward that would close schools at the end of the coming week.

The position is also contrary to the agreed position of this government that education is a priority and would be disrupted as a last resort. It is also contrary to public staments that I and the First Minister have taken in recent weeks that schools would remain open until the end of term.

The arguments regarding the impact of school closures for in person teaching on vulnerable, SEN and key workers is well known and rehearsed, let alone learning loss for the entire cohort. Why does the paper not take this into consideration nor model different solutions.

This messaging also undermines what we have been trying to do with regards attendance at school, the message here once again opens up the government to accusations that keeping schools open is putting children and the adults that they live with at risk.

It should be noted that neither England nor Scotland will be taking this action.

I would welcome if the paper could include that across the whole term since September, approx. 45% of schools still haven't had an associated case.

With regards to the modelling, can I ask whether it is based on parents and pupils staying at home while schools are closed, as opposed to what many will likely be doing (ie shopping, restaurants, socialising, etc). On previous occasions when we have closed schools the country has been in lockdown, so a different scenario to closures between 14th-18th.

I am also concerned with the binary choice the paper has decided to give us. Why are we being told the estimated deaths due to schools being open for a week, as opposed to the deaths 'caused' by restaurants, hairdressers etc being open?

Sent from my iPhone

NR

I&S

PSME@gov.wales

On 5 Dec 2020, at 15:49, Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) <Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales> wrote:

Thank you Rob. I will circulate through my private office to other ministers and prepare for publication on monday morning. I thain know its especially important that the education minister has time to read and ask questions.

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From: Orford, Rob (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell) <Rob.Orford@gov.wales>

Sent: Saturday, December 5, 2020 2:27 pm

To: NR (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell); Vaughan Gething (Ministerial); PS FirstMinister; PS Minister Health & Social Services; PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services; PS Minister Education; PS Minister Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language; Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer); Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive); PS Minister Economy & Transport; PS to DG for Health and Social Services Chief Executive NHS Wales; Runeckles, Jane (OFM - Special Adviser); Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser); Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare); Brindley, Madeleine (OFM - Special

Adviser); Smithson, Thomas (OFM - Trade Policy); Special Advisers; Mason, Toby (OFM - Communications); Woodward, Tom (OFM - Special Adviser); [NR] (SAED)

Cc: Bennee, Fliss (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell); Collins, Brendan (HSS - Finance); [NR] (KAS); [NR] (KAS); [NR] (KAS); [NR] (OFM - Communications); [NR] (OFM - Communications); Special Advisers; [NR] (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell); [NR] (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell); HSSG.TAC [NR] (OFM - Communications); [NR] (HSS - Communications); [NR] (ESNR-Economy Skills and Natural Resources); [NR] (OFM - Communications)

Subject: RE: TAG - Statement on non-pharmaceutical interventions in the pre-Christmas period - for publication

Dear Ministers,

A slightly revised version of the pre-Christmas TAG summary for consideration at your earliest convenience. The revised version provides clearer sign-posting to earlier TAG and SAGE guidance on the modelling and effectiveness of non-pharmaceutical interventions. With your agreement we would like to publish the paper on the TAC web-pages.

Kind regards
Rob

From: [NR] (TAC – Technical Advisory Cell) [NR]@gov.wales>

Sent: 04 December 2020 18:59

To: Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) <Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales>; PS FirstMinister <PS.FirstMinister@gov.wales>; PS Minister Health & Social Services <PSMHSS@gov.wales>; PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services <PSDMHSS@gov.wales>; PS Minister Education <PSME@gov.wales>; PS Minister Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language <PSMMHWWL@gov.wales>; Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) <Frank.Atherton@gov.wales>; Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive) <Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales>; PS Minister Economy & Transport <PSMET@gov.wales>; PS to DG for Health and Social Services Chief Executive NHS Wales <pstodgforhsscenhswales@gov.wales>; Runeckles, Jane (OFM - Special Adviser) <Jane.Runeckles@gov.wales>; Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) <Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales>; Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) <Chris.Jones@gov.wales>; Brindley, Madeleine (OFM - Special Adviser) <Madeleine.Brindley@gov.wales>; Smithson, Thomas (OFM - Trade Policy) <Thomas.Smithson@gov.wales>; Special Advisers <Ps.Special.Advisers@gov.wales>; Mason, Toby (OFM - Communications) <Toby.Mason@gov.wales>; Woodward, Tom (OFM - Special Adviser) <Tom.Woodward@gov.wales>

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Subject: RE: TAG - Statement on non-pharmaceutical interventions in the pre-Christmas period - for publication

Importance: High

Dear Ministers,

Please find attached report from the Technical Advisory Group statement regarding non-pharmaceutical interventions in the pre-Christmas period. We understand the media is expected the report to be published shortly.

With your approval we would like to publish this paper on the TAC website.

Kind regards

NR

NR

TAC Manager
Technical Advisory Cell
Welsh Government

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