

OFFICIAL – SENSITIVE - CABINET

Cabinet will wish to note that these minutes, except those items in italics, will be published in week commencing 20th April 2020

**The Welsh Government
Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet
10th March 2020**

Present: Rt. Hon. Mark Drakeford AM (Chair)
Vaughan Gething AM
Lesley Griffiths AM
Julie James AM
Eluned Morgan AM
Ken Skates AM
Kirsty Williams AM
Jane Hutt AM

Dafydd Elis Thomas
Lee Waters

Shan Morgan, Permanent Secretary
Des Clifford, Director General
Carys Evans, Principal Private Secretary to the First Minister
Will Whiteley, Head of Cabinet Division
Toby Mason, Head of Strategic Communications
Jane Runeckles, Special Adviser
Dan Butler, Special Adviser
Paul Griffiths, Special Adviser
NR Special Adviser
NR Special Adviser
Clare Jenkins, Special Adviser
Tom Woodward, Special Adviser
Christopher W Morgan, Cabinet Secretariat (minutes)
NR, Cabinet Secretariat
Andrew Slade, Director General Economy, Skills and Natural Resources (item 4)
Marion Stapleton, Deputy Director Foundational Economy (item 4)

Apologies: Rebecca Evans AM
Jeremy Miles AM

Item 1: Minutes of the previous meetings

- 1.1 Cymeradwyodd y Cabinet gofnodion y 25 Chwefror, 2 a 4 Mawrth / Cabinet approved the minutes of 25 February, 2 and 4 March.

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Item 2: First Minister's items

Coronavirus – COVID 19

- 2.1 The First Minister provided Cabinet with feedback from the UK Government's COBR meeting, which had taken place the previous day. The key messages were around the spread of the virus within the UK and when more restrictive measures on movement should be introduced. With six cases in Wales, now was not the time to introduce such measures. If they were used prematurely it would likely lead to the population being less receptive to messages at a time when the spread of the virus was more virulent.
- 2.2 Ministerial COBR meetings would continue on Mondays and Wednesdays and official led meetings would take place on a daily basis, with the possibility of these being extended into the weekend.
- 2.3 It would be important for Ministers to discuss resilience planning matters with their stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, to ensure that they were prepared for their workforce being incapacitated.
- 2.4 Planning for the spread of the virus was now the Government's top communications priority and such messages would need to be clear, concise and simplistic.

Item 3: Government Plenary Business

- 3.1 Cabinet considered the contents of the Plenary grid and noted that the session would start at 1pm that day to accommodate stage three of the Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Bill. It was hoped that stage three could be completed that day.

Item 4: The Foundational Economy

- 4.1 The Deputy Minister for Economy and Transport introduced the paper, which asked Cabinet to consider proposals for progressing the Foundational Economy approach.
- 4.2 Cabinet approved the majority of the paper.