

Devolved Administration (DA) Modelling Meeting (Skype, 15:30, 24th April 2020)

Attendees

- **Chair:** Brendan Collins - Welsh Government(WG)
- [NR] Scottish Government (SG)
- Mel Giarchi (MG) - Scottish Government (SG)
- Declan Bradley – Northern Ireland (NI)
- Craiger Solomons – Welsh Government (WG)
- [NR] – Welsh Government (WG)
- [NR] – Welsh Government (WG)
- [NR] Cabinet office (Uk Gov)

Apologies

- [NR] – DHSC & SPI secretariat
- [NR] – Welsh Government (WG)
- [NR] PHW Observatory
- [NR] – Northern Ireland (NI)

Minutes (actions) from previous DA meeting

The group agreed the minutes of the previous meeting which took place on 20th April 2020.

Outstanding actions from previous meetings were discussed:

SPI-M outputs and meeting

- [NR] to share github for Oxford model and paper as well. Ongoing.
- CS and BC to discuss seeding with [NR]. Complete
- [NR] to send around the paper SG have put together listing requirements to send to SPI-M, and others to review. This action is to be kept ongoing for the next few meetings.

Calculating and monitoring R_0 for devolved nations

- [NR] to circulate the paper from the LSHTM on R_0 and its relationship to other factors. Complete.
- Mel to share link to the Edinburgh University calculation. Ongoing - BC to follow up

Round table

- [NR] to ask [NR] about deprivation and long term conditions. Ongoing.

Agenda Items

1. RWCS model for the UK government – Planning presumptions

[NR] was invited to set out the policy presumptions that are to be fed in to the reasonable worst case scenario for the UK up until the 7 May. At which time, social distancing measures would be lifted that would see the R value increase to 1.7 in a matter of weeks. Lockdown would then be brought back in for the following three months.

[NR] asked to see sight of the planning presumptions document, but [NR] confirmed it was yet to be cleared by Westminster (due Monday 27 April 2020) but were aiming to share it at a local level. [NR] also had concerns that if any of the DA's and [NR] had concerns and wanted to make changes any delays would be hard at local levels. (The first planning presumptions was released at the start of March)

[NR] raised concern that the previous RWCS model didn't incorporate the DA's and [NR] data and that each nation may need to take different approaches as each epidemic seeded differently than in London. [NR] agreed, however this would be a policy decision.

[NR] confirmed her role is not as a policy official, nor a modeller, so would not be able to contribute to any discussion on how 4 nation data, or modelling capability would be incorporated in to the modelling process but agreed to work more closely with the group moving forward.

[NR] has had reassurances that SPI-M have included the DA data in this latest model.

2. Providing advice on amending lockdown measure

Scotland Wales and NI are having the same questions asked of them on providing advice on amending lockdown measures.

NI are working with a company that is similar to ONS – looking at estimating R and different social distancing measures.

Action NI to share findings with the group.

Scotland are using the imperial and a seeded model (which runs data for 30 Countries in Europe) to calculate up the R values based on what's happening in the Scotland. The data extraction can take hours.

Scotland have looked at different scenarios of what R1.1-12 etc would look like, but is dependent on where in Scotland it occurred and the outcomes.

3. AOB

Nowcast People Tree infographic

[NR] circulated a Nowcast People Tree infographic on the estimated number of active cases at home, in hospital and in the ICU, broken down to Susceptible, Infected, Recovered and Fatalities (total population). The numbers are a total per week and max per day.

It's been developed free of charge by a company called DSTL.

The company have offered to provide this visualisation to all four countries at 9.30am on Monday and Fridays. Wales and NI both agreed they would welcome this short term forecast for their respective DA's.

Action – **NR** to confirm with DSTL to provide data for Wales and NI as well as for Scotland.

NR has asked PHE for the code on nosocomial infection and asked for all nations to be factored in. All members agreed with this

Private consultancies

NI have multiple private consultancies being uses. There are none in WG but LA's have been using a company called LightFoot and Deloitte. There are none being used in the Scottish government but are receiving help from academic groups.

Next meeting Monday 27 April – Scotland agreed to chair and take the note.