



Rt Hon Simon Hart MP
Secretary of State for Wales

22 June 2020

PD

Thank you for your letter of 11 June.

The invitation to Ministers from the devolved administrations to COBR (M), and the related Ministerial Implementation Groups, reflected our decision-making powers in the areas under discussion. This generally worked well, and you will have seen from my letter of 12 June to Michael Gove that I am concerned about the way that machinery is being wound down and the intermittent contact in recent weeks. I hope that last Friday's call with Michael will be the start of more regular communication and it was good to hear your support for that.

The Covid Core Ministerial Group is not a decision-making forum- it was set up to receive updates on operational matters within devolved areas of responsibility. When the agenda extends to reserved matters, it would be useful for you or David to be part of the discussion. I have invited Brigadier Dawes to join on 1 July to update on the military support to civilian authorities in Wales during the outbreak, and would be very happy if you could join for that item.

On the Advisory Group, we are engaging on the recovery work through our many existing stakeholder groups which include the people you mention. Our dedicated email ourfuturewales@gov.wales also provides an opportunity for everyone in Wales to put forward their thoughts and ideas. The purpose of the Counsel General's Advisory Group is to provide external expert challenge to that work, and the outputs will be widely shared.

PD

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Irrelevant & Sensitive

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.