

COVID 19 workstreams update

But 4 issues where we need to crystallise our approach:

- And 2 issues that need more work:

1. Digital exclusion- many covid initiatives rely on digital access not available to most vulnerable – how to mitigate
2. Possibility of redeploying Welsh Government staff to help wider effort outside government.

CG will be meeting officials to pursue these and update dashboard in light of discussions.

Actions: FM asked CG to focus on the first (vulnerable groups) as the most urgent priority, and the second, key workers. CG to take work forward on all of these issues as a priority over the next week.

Domestic violence

DMCW reported on work across government to respond to the increased risk posed to victims in lockdown situations.

Agreed approach was to revive the ‘Don’t be a bystander campaign’, raising awareness amongst people who could offer support, including potentially pharmacies and supermarkets, as well as public services and volunteers.

An update letter would issue shortly to AMs, police, health authorities, local authorities and other partners.

DMCW also flagged the vulnerability of ethnic minority communities, gypsy and traveller communities and others.

Actions:

- **MEERA to raise with supermarkets their potential contribution to the Don’t Be a Bystander Campaign**
- **MHSS to pursue role of community pharmacies.**
- **Comms officials to consider how WG comms could contribute to messaging on DV**
- **Minority communities to be considered in the CG work on vulnerable groups.**

Older people

Deputy Minister HSS underlined vulnerability and isolation of older people, many digitally excluded and at risk of scams etc. Not in contact with eg Facebook groups.

Actions:

- **DMHSS and DMCW to discuss with Ruth Marks, WCVA and the Older People’s Commissioner what more can be done to protect and support older people, including leafletting etc to raise awareness of support available.**
- **Comms officials to consider making more use of local press.**

Budget

FM underlined that the funds identified for the COVID 19 response nearly all used up – and this before meeting big pressures like Field Hospitals. We have made excellent use of these funds but new demands continuing. He asked Ministers to renew their scrutiny of existing commitments – will be coming back to them after Easter to identify what can be freed up for new COVID response demands.

Action: Note to be produced from the ‘Star Chamber’ to be circulated to all Ministers as soon as available.

Easter

FM confirmed daily Ministerial calls will continue tomorrow and Monday, and all of next week. No Cabinet on Monday. He encouraged Minister to make arrangements so that they can take one day off if possible.

Key points from today’s call as follows;

COVID 19 workstreams update

CG reported on his discussions with Ministers – this demonstrated that some challenges (PPE/excess deaths) are well understood with process underway to deal with them.

But 4 issues where we need to crystallise our approach:

1. How to support vulnerable people, including children
2. Definition and application of ‘key workers’ in different contexts – salience with the public re fairness of treatment
3. Social care generally – capacity/workforce retention/PPE – very important to generate a clear sense of cumulative effort to support the sector
4. Prisoner release- complex cross cutting issues and political risk.

And 2 issues that need more work:

1. Digital exclusion- many covid initiatives rely on digital access not available to most vulnerable – how to mitigate
2. Possibility of redeploying Welsh Government staff to help wider effort outside government.

CG will be meeting officials to pursue these and update dashboard in light of discussions.

Actions: FM asked CG to focus on the first (vulnerable groups) as the most urgent priority, and the second, key workers, as the key issue for next week.

Domestic violence

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Agreed approach was to revive the 'Don't be a bystander campaign', raising awareness amongst people who could offer support, including potentially pharmacies and supermarkets, as well as public services and volunteers.

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Carys Evans

Prif Ysgrifennydd Preifat Prif Weinidog Cymru Principal Private Secretary First Minister of Wales

Irrelevant & Sensitive

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Ysgrifennwch ataf yn Gymraeg neu'n Saesneg

[See recipients listed above]

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: Ministerial call - 9am Thursday 9 April

All

Agenda for tomorrow's Ministerial call at 9am.

AGENDA

1. Counsel General – COVID 19 workstreams update
2. Deputy Minister and Chief Whip – Domestic Violence

Best wishes,

NR

NR

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Hapus i gyfathrebu'n Saesneg neu yn y Gymraeg/Happy to communicate in English or Welsh