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**From:** PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=558FA540EF4544869BC686BF54DBB4C3-PS DEPUTY M]  
**Sent:** 03/04/2020 18:46:39  
**To:** Heaney, Albert (HSS - Social Services & Integration) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=23ace2a067a7469c93430cd18b620f58-Heaney, Alb]  
**Subject:** FW: Council leaders follow up

For info

NR

**Private Secretary to Julie Morgan AC/AM**  
**Ysgrifennydd Preifat I Julie Morgan AC/AM**  
**Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services**  
**Y Dirprwy Weinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol**  
**Cabinet Division, Welsh Government**  
**Is-adran y Cabinet, Llywodraeth Cymru**

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**From:** PS Minister Health & Social Services <[PSMHSS@gov.wales](mailto:PSMHSS@gov.wales)>  
**Sent:** 03 April 2020 18:31  
**To:** PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services <[PSDMHSS@gov.wales](mailto:PSDMHSS@gov.wales)>  
**Cc:** PS Minister Health & Social Services <[PSMHSS@gov.wales](mailto:PSMHSS@gov.wales)>  
**Subject:** FW: Council leaders follow up

For DM's info too.

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**From:** Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) <[Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales)>  
**Sent:** 03 April 2020 18:30  
**To:** Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) <[Chris.Jones@gov.wales](mailto:Chris.Jones@gov.wales)>; PS Minister Health & Social Services <[PSMHSS@gov.wales](mailto:PSMHSS@gov.wales)>  
**Cc:** Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) <[Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales](mailto:Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales)>; Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive) <[Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales](mailto:Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales)>; Heaney, Albert (HSS - Social Services & Integration) <[Albert.Heaney@gov.wales](mailto:Albert.Heaney@gov.wales)>; Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) <[Rob.Orford@gov.wales](mailto:Rob.Orford@gov.wales)>; Brace, Alan (HSS - Finance, Capital, Estates and Facilities) <[Alan.Brace1@gov.wales](mailto:Alan.Brace1@gov.wales)>; Evans, Ifan (HSS - Technology, Digital & Transformation Directorate) <[Ifan.Evans@gov.wales](mailto:Ifan.Evans@gov.wales)>; Gill Richardson (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <[Gill.Richardson2@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Gill.Richardson2@wales.nhs.uk)>; Meirion Evans (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <[Meirion.Evans@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Meirion.Evans@wales.nhs.uk)>; Hayes, Sara (HSS - Population Health) <[Sara.Hayes003@gov.wales](mailto:Sara.Hayes003@gov.wales)>; PS Minister Housing & Local Government <[PSMHLG@gov.wales](mailto:PSMHLG@gov.wales)>; Faye, Sara (OFM - Special Adviser) <[Sara.Faye@gov.wales](mailto:Sara.Faye@gov.wales)>  
**Subject:** Re: Council leaders follow up

Yes that is helpful - thank you Chris.

I've copied in JJ's PS and spad as they are coordinating responses to the leader's conference call.

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**From:** Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) <[Chris.Jones@gov.wales](mailto:Chris.Jones@gov.wales)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020 5:58:09 PM

**To:** Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) <[Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales)>; PS Minister Health & Social Services <[PSMHSS@gov.wales](mailto:PSMHSS@gov.wales)>

**Cc:** Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) <[Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales](mailto:Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales)>; Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive) <[Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales](mailto:Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales)>; Heaney, Albert (HSS - Social Services & Integration)

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**Subject:** RE: Council leaders follow up

Dear Minister,

Following the WLGA meeting this morning, you asked for clarification of community transmission and the priority of care home workers. I have put this summary together after discussion with public health colleagues in WG and PHW.

#### 1) Community transmission

- This is where infection is spreading between people but where the source of the infection is not known
- It is now occurring across Wales and the UK, albeit with different intensity in different areas
- For this reason, Table 4 of the new guidance is relevant.
- Table 4 relates to the assessment of patients/residents with possible symptoms of COVID outside of the hospital setting e.g. primary care or residential homes
- Table 4 does not relate to the routine care of patients/residents with other conditions but no relevant acute symptoms.
- There are also statements to this effect in the accompanying detailed online guidance:
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe>

#### 2) NHS prioritised over care workers

- Guidance on PPE is always decided on the basis of risk assessment
- Risk is greatest when there is direct contact within 2 m of a person with COVID-19 symptoms
- Even within hospitals there will be differing levels of risk and hence different recommendations on the appropriate PPE to use
- The risk to care workers in care homes and other closed communities is likely to be less than in hospital settings since residents are self-isolating and visitors are banned
- The risk to care workers in the community who are visiting people who are being shielded or who are in self-isolation is also low, provided they observe guidance on handwashing.
- Steps have been taken to ensure that all care homes have access to PPE if they have a resident with suspected COVID-19
- Inappropriate or unnecessary use of PPE will mean that there is less available for others

The guidance seeks to set out clear and actionable recommendations on the use of PPE, as part of safe systems of working, for health and social care workers relative to their day-to-day work.

I hope this is helpful.

Chris

Professor Chris Jones

**Dirprwy Brif Swyddog Meddygol/Cyfarwyddwr Meddygol, GIG Cymru**

**Deputy Chief Medical Officer/Medical Director NHS Wales**

Irrelevant & Sensitive

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**From:** Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) <[Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales)>

**Sent:** 03 April 2020 12:37

**To:** PS Minister Health & Social Services <[PSMHSS@gov.wales](mailto:PSMHSS@gov.wales)>

**Cc:** Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) <[Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales](mailto:Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales)>; Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive) <[Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales](mailto:Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales)>; Heaney, Albert (HSS - Social Services & Integration) <[Albert.Heaney@gov.wales](mailto:Albert.Heaney@gov.wales)>; Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) <[Rob.Orford@gov.wales](mailto:Rob.Orford@gov.wales)>; Brace, Alan (HSS - Finance, Capital, Estates and Facilities) <[Alan.Brace1@gov.wales](mailto:Alan.Brace1@gov.wales)>; Evans, Ifan (HSS - Technology, Digital & Transformation Directorate) <[Ifan.Evans@gov.wales](mailto:Ifan.Evans@gov.wales)>; Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) <[Chris.Jones@gov.wales](mailto:Chris.Jones@gov.wales)>

**Subject:** Council leaders follow up

Testing and PPE understandably continue to be the main concerns.

On PPE the obvious question of whether we have enough came up in different guises.

Huw Thomas raised the particular point that he read the guidance suggesting that if we reach sustained community transmission then all health and care workers would need masks and goggles. Can i have some clarity on this today? I think DCMO was on the call.

I will want an update on how our current stocks are being used and how much we have left as soon as we have anything useful about the actual demand and need across health and social care. Council leaders are concerned as expected that care workers are not being prioritised compared to the NHS.

On testing i think it would help to set out our activity on a national level. If we are testing 10-15 Care workers per authority that sounds small compared to a national number.

Rob Orford is working up a public facing document to accompany the plan I signed off last week. It would be a useful place to provide an update on where we have got with testing the public and front line workers and to re-describe the Deloitte centres.

**NR** offered that councils would want to support our call for manufacturers to repurpose and help provide PPE. If they are given a call to put out to their local networks about what is required and who to contact if they can help then they will do so. I'd like that done today.

I spoke to Angela Burns and Rhun ap Iorwerth earlier. They will provide us with examples of where they say that staff have waited a long time for their test result and in some cases have completed their isolation period before the test result has been notified. I'd like some reassurance about how quickly people can expect to have results back.

Angela and Rhun asked a specific point of clarity about Matt Hancock's announcement of 100k tests. Is this an England only figure and if so where are the UK arrangements that should benefit Wales.

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