

Message

From: PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=558FA540EF4544869BC686BF54DBB4C3-PS DEPUTY M]
Sent: 07/04/2020 8:25:10 PM
To: Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) [vaughan.getting@gov.wales]
CC: PS Minister Health & Social Services [psmhss@gov.wales]; Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) [clare.jenkins010@gov.wales]
Subject: Fwd: Council leaders follow up to note feedback from Chris Jones

You may wish to be aware of exchange also

NR

Office Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services

I&S

From: NR (OFM - Special Adviser) NR @gov.wales>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 8:18:49 PM
To: NR HSSG - Specialist Policy Advisor NR @gov.wales>; PS Minister Housing & Local Government <PSMHLG@gov.wales>; Faye, Sara (OFM - Special Adviser) <Sara.Faye@gov.wales>; Griffiths, Paul (OFM - Special Adviser) <Paul.Griffiths003@gov.wales>
Cc: PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services <PSDMHSS@gov.wales>; Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) <Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales>
Subject: RE: Council leaders follow up to note feedback from Chris Jones

NR

do you know when this guidance went to WLGA and on to LAs? Will leaders have likely seen it? If it hasn't gone out I very much think we should revise it in light of current circs. I simply don't think we can hold the line on social care as crudely depicted in the outline below – the guidance was discussed with health and PHW – what about our SS officials? Given the way Covid roared through res homes in Italy/spain the idea that they are or can be made somehow secure places is clearly contestable. Staff can unwittingly bring it in be it res care or dom care and they know that. I think care staff will simply reject the idea that they are operating in either closed communities or low risk settings when community transmission is ever increasing. The issue is more one of what type or lesser grade of PPE might be best for non-clinical settings, but these staff clean, bathe, dress, feed, change dressings and all manner of close up activity and the idea that district nurses will enter the same premises fully equipped (as is often observed) and they do not, continues to simply jar. I really do think we need to tread carefully tomorrow and explore some of this further with Chris and colleagues unless it has all gone out already? Sorry I didn't raise this earlier, welcome your view and colleagues. Best,

NR

From: NR (HSSG - Specialist Policy Advisor) NR @gov.wales>
Sent: 07 April 2020 18:55
To: PS Minister Housing & Local Government <PSMHLG@gov.wales>; Faye, Sara (OFM - Special Adviser) <Sara.Faye@gov.wales>; Griffiths, Paul (OFM - Special Adviser) <Paul.Griffiths003@gov.wales>
Cc: NR (OFM - Special Adviser) NR @gov.wales>; PS Deputy Minister Health & Social Services <PSDMHSS@gov.wales>
Subject: FW: Council leaders follow up to note feedback from Chris Jones

Dear all

Did a note go to the WLGA after last Friday's call between ministers and council leaders? If so can the DMHSS please see it? I'm thinking in particular about the tricky issue of when PPE is needed,

which is covered in the thread below. The DMHSS will have to deal with this tomorrow in the absence of MHSS.

Many thanks

NR

From: Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) <Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales>

Sent: 03 April 2020 18:30

To: Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) <Chris.Jones@gov.wales>; PS Minister Health & Social Services <PSMHSS@gov.wales>

Cc: Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) <Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales>; Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive) <Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales>; Heaney, Albert (HSS - Social Services & Integration) <Albert.Heaney@gov.wales>; Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) <Rob.Orford@gov.wales>; Brace, Alan (HSS - Finance, Capital, Estates and Facilities) <Alan.Brace1@gov.wales>; Evans, Ifan (HSS - Technology, Digital & Transformation Directorate) <Ifan.Evans@gov.wales>; Gill Richardson (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <Gill.Richardson2@wales.nhs.uk>; Meirion Evans (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <Meirion.Evans@wales.nhs.uk>; Hayes, Sara (HSS - Population Health) <Sara.Hayes003@gov.wales>; PS Minister Housing & Local Government <PSMHLG@gov.wales>; Faye, Sara (OFM - Special Adviser) <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>

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

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

Cc: Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) <Clare.Jenkins010@gov.wales>; Goodall, Andrew (HSS - DG - NHS Wales Chief Executive) <Andrew.Goodall@Gov.Wales>; Heaney, Albert (HSS - Social Services & Integration) <Albert.Heaney@gov.wales>; Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) <Rob.Orford@gov.wales>; Brace, Alan (HSS - Finance, Capital, Estates and Facilities) <Alan.Brace1@gov.wales>; Evans, Ifan (HSS - Technology, Digital & Transformation Directorate) <Ifan.Evans@gov.wales>; Gill Richardson (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <Gill.Richardson2@wales.nhs.uk>; Meirion Evans (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <Meirion.Evans@wales.nhs.uk>; Hayes, Sara (HSS - Population Health) <Sara.Hayes003@gov.wales>

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

I&S

E-mail/E-bost: chris.jones@gov.wales

From: Vaughan Gething (Ministerial) <Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales>

Sent: 03 April 2020 12:37

To: PS Minister Health & Social Services <PSMHSS@gov.wales>

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

Name Redacted 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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