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**From:** Michael Gravenor [M.B.Gravenor@Swansea.ac.uk]  
**Sent:** 11/11/2020 09:02:51  
**To:** Brendan.Collins001@gov.wales; Rob.Orford@gov.wales; Fliss.Bennee@gov.wales; Craiger.Solomons@gov.wales;  
Dawson Mark. [Mark.Dawson@Swansea.ac.uk]  
**Subject:** Re: firebreak2.0

Brilliant.

Yes, yesterday had a big delay in reports I think so looked a little too positive.

Mass testing ultimately affects the choice of R in any scenario going forward. We have seen from our contact tracing model that if we can identify a relatively small % of additional infectious people and isolate then there is a significant impact on R. If it comes down under the 1.2 range then that buys a lot of time. I think it is what we need to pilot sooner rather than later, as we monitor the timing and extent of increase in a week or so.

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**From:** Brendan.Collins001@gov.wales <Brendan.Collins001@gov.wales>  
**Sent:** 11 November 2020 08:54  
**To:** Gravenor M.B. <M.B.Gravenor@Swansea.ac.uk>; Rob.Orford@gov.wales <Rob.Orford@gov.wales>;  
Fliss.Bennee@gov.wales <Fliss.Bennee@gov.wales>; Craiger.Solomons@gov.wales <Craiger.Solomons@gov.wales>;  
Dawson Mark. <Mark.Dawson@Swansea.ac.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: firebreak2.0

Thanks for this Mike,

We have asked if we can have our second firebreak scenario on the agenda for SPI M, either today, (myself and Craiger will be a little bit late as have got committee til 11) or Graham Medley said might be able to have a special SPI-M meeting on Friday sometime,

Does this include the impact of mass testing?

We are seeing quite a clear signal now where cases and positivity have fallen, yesterday we had 444 cases which is the lowest for a while, but back up to over 900 today,

Best wishes

**Brendan Collins**

Pennaeth Economeg Iechyd - Head of Health Economics

Cyfarwyddiaeth Cyllid - Finance Directorate

Y Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol – Health and Social Services Group

Llywodraeth Cymru – Welsh Government

Irrelevant & Sensitive

E-mail / E-bost [brendan.collins001@gov.wales](mailto:brendan.collins001@gov.wales)

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**From:** Gravenor M.B. <m.b.gravenor@swansea.ac.uk>  
**Sent:** 10 November 2020 23:29  
**To:** Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) <Rob.Orford@gov.wales>; Bennee, Fliss (HSS-Technology, Digital & Transformation Directorate) <Fliss.Bennee@gov.wales>; Solomons, Craiger (KAS) <Craiger.Solomons@gov.wales>;

**Subject:** firebreak2.0

Dear all,

Here is a start on some scenarios for the next couple of months. There are some key unknowns. One is the lockdown R, which we hope is quite low, but we will know reasonably soon. The next is the R in the run up to Christmas. We can make some assumptions that it will be the same as pre-lockdown, but it makes quite a big difference if it is worse. The third, which I hadn't really considered before is Christmas itself. In the standard assumptions this would be reduced transmission due to school holidays, but we have the question over the importance of schools and also whether in peak indoor get-together flu season we need to assume a further increase in transmission. We would hope these somewhat offset, but the assumption is important as the period is 2 weeks.

Given these uncertainties we will likely run quite a wide range of model scenarios and have to organise the output, so the sooner we can define them the better. It would also be very useful to define some 'success' criteria. For example keeping hospital / ICU prevalence below a certain level if you can let us know what that is.

In the example in the file, we run a high transmission scenario, which includes further increased transmission at Christmas (top) panel. And a moderate transmission scenario, with a drop in transmission when schools close (bottom panel). We compare no break, with 1-week in the beginning of December and 1-week in the beginning of January. If we keep monitoring the situation, hit an increase, but miss the boat on pre-Christmas, it is possible we could use the trends to inform length of January action.

If we manage to have a carry over effect from the firebreak and it takes longer to return to moderate/high transmission then we can push the graphs into the future a bit.

Mike

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