

Message

From: Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D38A628177A448789839F37A51FAF75-ORFORD, ROB]
Sent: 13/03/2020 09:29:58
To: [NR] (HSS - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b2e36924aa73465dac1e0fb9a183a596-[NR] [NR] (HSS - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=40c77f0762af4d1384ce55ba48c2e380-[Name Redacted] (HSS - DHP Public Health) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=0d99748f68b84528b099b03150b2efaa-[NR]
CC: [NR] EPS - CYP&F) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=dda1b640d6d44c7d92baaad2668d5c30-[NR]; Kamalan, Chrisan (HSS - DHP Public Health) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b4927bdb141044aca5ee696d8e9faeba-Kamalan, Ch]; Holt, Rob (ESNR - Tourism, Heritage & Sport, Tourism & Marketing) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=410069fa141a4f3bb220e0b4a1a4cef0-Holt, Rob (]; Gill Richardson (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) [Gill.Richardson2@wales.nhs.uk]; [NR] (OFM - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f1012c77f6d04e9b84518c361ed6e52c-[NR] [NR] (HSS - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3023c96618944dc3b79c54e4eb16ef69-[Name Redacted] (OFM - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=68aebf47202c42e6a773201814819c4c-[Name Redacted] (HSS - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8c2cd604a0de44329f4aca397e9fa361-[Name Redacted] (OFM - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fe1f1a7226b3461995a2411e83085bd2-[NR] HSS – Social Media / IGC – Cyfryngau Cymdeithasol [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c1aa4bc9dd6c45209a997c476de0ba2b-HSS-SocialM]; HSS Digital Team [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7b1ec82e4ece4579a897c54cb0fe96c1-HSS-Digital]; [NR] (OFM - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=78e80c9861cc40dfb39f4958c8119c80-[Name Redacted] (OFMCO - Communications) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=032173814dba40e0817200ace4b72deb-[NR]
Subject: 20-03-13 0930 - RE: coronavirus and major events

Let me know how I can support. I'm in meetings until 12

From: [NR] (HSS - Communications) <[NR]@gov.wales>
Sent: 13 March 2020 08:35
To: Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) <Rob.Orford@gov.wales>; [NR] (HSS - Communications) [NR]@Gov.Wales>; [NR] (HSS - DHP Public Health) [NR]@gov.wales>
Cc: [NR] (EPS - CYP&F) <[NR]@gov.wales>; Kamalan, Chrisan (HSS - DHP Public Health) <Chrisan.Kamalan@gov.wales>; Holt, Rob (ESNR - Tourism, Heritage & Sport, Tourism & Marketing) <Rob.Holt@gov.wales>; Gill Richardson (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <Gill.Richardson2@wales.nhs.uk>; [NR] (OFM - Communications) <[NR]@gov.wales>; [NR] (HSS - Communications) [NR]@gov.wales>; [NR] (OFM - Communications) [NR]@gov.wales>; [NR] (OFM - Communications) [NR]@gov.wales>; [NR] (HSS - Communications) [NR]@gov.wales>; [NR] (OFM - Communications) [NR]@gov.wales>; HSS – Social Media / IGC – Cyfryngau Cymdeithasol <HSS-SocialMedia@gov.wales>; HSS Digital Team <HSS-DigitalTeam@gov.wales>; [NR] (OFM - Communications) <[NR]@gov.wales>; [NR] (OFMCO - Communications) [NR]@gov.wales>
Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

Morning all

Following the change in advice, our teams have been monitoring a lot of the comments on social media around the Government's response not to close schools and to continue at this stage with mass events like the six nations.

I wonder whether we can start pushing some tweets from the Health and Social Care twitter account around the science – why it's not the right thing to close schools at this stage, and why it's ok to proceed with the six nations games this weekend. Basically a bit of myth busting in plain English.

We can also share this content with colleagues in the central digital team as it will help them respond to misinformation on their twitter and Facebook feed too.

Any pointers you can give us to draft something based on the science will be really helpful and we can get fact based tweets issued today.

Many thanks

NR

Name Redacted

Uwch-swyddog Cyfathrebu | Senior Communications Officer
Y Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol | Health & Social Services Group

Llywodraeth Cymru | Welsh Government

Ffon | Phone: I&S

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E-bost | Email: NR @gov.wales

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

Can I just check on the schools bit?? E.g. not to include at this stage...

[See recipients listed above]

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

Thanks both, this looks good to me.

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

Hi **NR** – I would want to be careful not to include School Closures in the same sentence as mass events as they are different and we will need a different set of lines that use PH advice and considered/cleared by Education colleagues.

Best wishes
Rob

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

I don't know if you have seen **Name Redacted**'s email on this subject – she says the Minister has been clear on this issue, it's the science, but we need something fuller to say in correspondence. I have asked her if she can provide a stock line based on this approach, but we could use your line below as well and agree this as the line?

We [the Welsh Government] are not recommending the cancellation of sporting events or other mass gatherings, ~~or closure of schools~~ at this stage as the scientific evidence does not support this approach. The risk of becoming infected from mass gatherings, such as sports events or visiting a cinema, is low. Advice on good hand hygiene, avoiding handshaking and promoting 'catch-it, bin-it, kill-it' is sensible. As with flu, if you are unwell best stay at home.

NR – do you agree?

Name Redacted

Y Gangen Polisi a Deddfwriaeth Amddiffyn Iechyd / Health Protection Policy and Legislation Branch

Is-adran Iechyd y Cyhoedd / Public Health Division

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Polisi Iechyd / Directorate of Health Policy

Y Grwp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / Health and Social Services Group

Tel/Ffon: ext/est: **I&S**

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

Are we in PHW territory here???

The risk of becoming infected from mass gatherings, such as sports events or visiting a cinema, is low. Advice on good hand hygiene, avoiding handshaking and promoting 'catch-it, bin-it, kill-it' is sensible. As with flu, if you are unwell best stay at home.

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

Rob, we have been advised that there is a lot of correspondence in that the 6 nations should be cancelled, large gatherings banned, schools closed etc. Is there a stock line that HSS correspondence and others can use in relation to why we are not doing this?

The UK Action Plan says this, but our correspondents are asking why this isn't being done now:

Action that would be considered could include population distancing strategies such as school closures and encouraging greater home working to slow the spread of the disease throughout the population.

Can we use the following line (or a version of it) from your briefing paper, or can you point us at some lines on this issue that have already been agreed? Correspondence unit is trying to head off as many of these as possible with a stock line.

Modelling evidence suggests that some interventions such as the restriction of mass gatherings (which includes closure of sporting fixtures, bars, restaurants, cinemas) whilst assumed to be effective, are not supported by evidence.

Rob – you must be getting a number of these too. Do you have a stock line?

Name Redacted

Y Gangen Polisi a Deddfwriaeth Amddiffyn Iechyd / Health Protection Policy and Legislation Branch

Is-adran Iechyd y Cyhoedd / Public Health Division

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Polisi Iechyd / Directorate of Health Policy

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Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government

Parc Cathays/ Cathays Park

Caerdydd/Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: RE: coronavirus and major events

Dear Carys, please find attached a technical briefing on mass gatherings and behavioural & social interventions for the First Minister.

Please treat this information sensitively as it is assimilating advice arising from scientific groups that is not yet formally published and represents our understanding of the evidence that we currently have available. We will monitor and update this advice if more information becomes available.

I hope this is helpful, best wishes

Rob

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: FW: coronavirus and major events

Rob

I spoke to Carys (at the beginning of the email chain), who says that the reason behind the query about mass gatherings is that the FM has asked the question as to why other countries have banned mass gatherings, and on what science the UK government is basing their decision not to ban mass gatherings. He has asked for some background briefing on these two elements of the same subject.

We discussed briefly, and you said that you could provide some background for the FM from the SAGE position on the science behind the UK decision, but why other countries have taken a different

decision would require some investigation. This issue about mass gatherings keeps coming up, so Carys says she would be grateful for some background on this matter.

Name Redacted

Y Gangen Polisi a Deddfwriaeth Amddiffyn Iechyd / Health Protection Policy and Legislation Branch

Is-adran Iechyd y Cyhoedd / Public Health Division

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Polisi Iechyd / Directorate of Health Policy

Y Grwp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / Health and Social Services Group

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From: Kamalan, Chrishan (HSS - DHP Public Health) <Chrishan.Kamalan@gov.wales>

Sent: 09 March 2020 16:07

To: NR (HSS - DHP Public Health) <NR@gov.wales>

Cc: NR EPS - CYP&F) NR @gov.wales>

Subject: FW: coronavirus and major events

By "core brief" they may mean a line to the effect that there is no proposed UK action to restrict Mass Gatherings.

Chrishan

Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr (COVID-19) / Deputy Director (Coronavirus)

Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus / Public Health Division

Grwp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol / Health and Social Services Group

Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government

Irrelevant & Sensitive

chrishan.kamalan@gov.wales

Os hoffech dderbyn ohebiaeth yn yr iaith Gymraeg neu os hoffech dderbyn unrhyw ohebiaeth yn y dyfodol drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, gadewch i mi wybod. If you wish to receive correspondence in the Welsh language, or you wish any further correspondence to be in the Welsh language, please let me know.

From: NR (EPS - CSD) NR @gov.wales>

Sent: 09 March 2020 14:46

To: NR ESNR-OCVO) NR @gov.wales>; Kamalan, Chrishan (HSS - DHP Public Health) <Chrishan.Kamalan@gov.wales>; Trott, Jo (EPS - LGFWP) <Jo.Trott@gov.wales>

Subject: FW: coronavirus and major events

FYI

NR

Deputy Director Community Safety Division

Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr yr Is-adran Diogelwch Cymunedol

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From: Evans, Carys (Office of the First Minister) <Carys.Evans@gov.wales>
Sent: 09 March 2020 14:45
To: Holt, Rob (ESNR-Tourism, Heritage & Sport, Tourism & Marketing) <Rob.Holt@gov.wales>
Cc: Kilpatrick, Reg (EPS - LG Director) <Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales>; Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) <Frank.Atherton@gov.wales>; Kamalan, Chrishan (HSS - DHP Public Health) <Chrishan.Kamalan@gov.wales>; **NR**
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Subject: coronavirus and major events

Hi Rob

We are getting queries about the implications of coronavirus for major events supported by the Welsh Government – whether they should be cancelled etc.

You explained that the advice at the moment is that there is no reason to cancel events, and that people should refer to the Public Health Wales website.

We discussed, and I asked whether it is possible to have a core brief that offers more guidance and you kindly agreed to consider with colleagues.

Many thanks

Carys

Carys Evans

I&S carys.evans@gov.wales

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

Ysgrifennwch ataf yn Gymraeg neu'n Saesneg