

## Message

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**From:** **NR** [/O=NIGOV/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=1184563]  
**Sent:** 22/06/2020 12:21:36  
**To:** NIHUB Chief of Staff [cos@nihub.gov.uk]; Stewart, Chris (TEO) [chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk]; Jackson, Neill (TEO) [neill.jackson@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk]; **Name Redacted** [redacted@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk]  
**CC:** Clydesdale, Alison [alison.clydesdale@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk]; McGuicken, Mark [mark.mcguicken@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk]; NIHUB Deputy Chief of Staff [deputycos@nihub.gov.uk]  
**Subject:** FW: DESK IMMEDIATE: Briefing for Junior Minister Lyons for Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee 23 June (Inv-1312)  
**Attachments:** PACAC Briefing 23 June 2020.docx  
**Importance:** High

Anthony & Chris – pl see draft for ques 1 and 9 – grateful for views including if we mention DOH as LGD. Thanks J

### Part Input to Briefing for JM Lyons

#### Question 1

##### Lines to Take

- The Civil Contingencies Group (NI) was convened to manage the wider NI response [with Department of Health acting as the Lead Government Department].
- NI participated in a range of '4 Nations' emergency co-ordination meetings led by Cabinet Office.

#### Question 9

##### Lines to Take

- NI has well established, tried and tested emergency response arrangements in place which have been used to support the co-ordination of various civil emergencies during recent years.
- At strategic level, arrangements known as the 'NI Central Crisis Management Arrangements' (NICCMA) are used to co-ordinate the response to the most serious emergencies impacting on NI.
- More detailed C3 arrangements (Command, Control and Co-ordination), supporting the operation of NICCMA, were developed to support EU Exit preparedness and have been used to co-ordinate the response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- These arrangements dovetail into the U.K. crisis management and C3 arrangements led by Cabinet Office.
- To facilitate joint working across the 4 nations NI has representation on both Ministerial and Official level COBR meetings. NI also participates in the various Ministerial Implementation Groups (MIGs) set up to deal with various elements of the COVID-19 response.

##### Background

The **Civil Contingencies Group (NI)** is the principal emergency preparedness body for NI. During emergency preparedness it is led by the Head of the NI Civil Service with a membership comprises senior representation for the NI Departments, emergency services, local government and other civil contingencies stakeholders. During emergency response it may be chaired by First Minister and deputy First Minister and facilitates strategic decision making and strategic co-ordination of the public service emergency response.

The **NI Central Crisis Management Arrangements (NICCMA)** provide for the strategic co-ordination by government of the most serious emergencies impacting on NI. These arrangements are supported by a suite of Protocols which are jointly operated by emergency responders to support co-ordination and communication from the local to the strategic level as required by the circumstances of the emergency being faced.

More detailed **Command, Control and Co-ordination (C3)** arrangements were developed in conjunction with Cabinet Office to support the UK wide response to a 'no deal' EU Exit. These arrangements (which in NI support the operation of NICCMA) were designed to be scaled and adapted for use in any civil emergency and have been used to support co-ordination of the response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

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**From:** Harbinson, Anthony <[Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Friday, 19 Jun 2020, 5:28 pm  
**To:** **Name Redacted** <[\[Name Redacted\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[Name Redacted]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, [mark.mcguicken@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mark.mcguicken@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk) <[mark.mcguicken@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mark.mcguicken@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, NIHUB Head of Secretariat <[Head.Secretariat@NIHUB.gov.uk](mailto:Head.Secretariat@NIHUB.gov.uk)>, NIHUB Deputy Chief of Staff <[deputycos@nihub.gov.uk](mailto:deputycos@nihub.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** 'Chris Stewart' <[chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, 'Neill.Jackson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk' <[Neill.Jackson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Neill.Jackson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** FW: DESK IMMEDIATE: Briefing for Junior Minister Lyons for Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee 23 June (Inv-1312)

**NR**

Could you help Mark with a response to question 9. I have copied Jane into this note as i am aware that she already has some information on the stocks re the role and functioning of the Hub which may be of assistance. Chris and **NR** may also be able to provide some guidance on this area.

Many thanks

Anthony

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**From:** Gallagher, Patrick <[Patrick.Gallagher@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Patrick.Gallagher@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Friday, 19 Jun 2020, 4:43 pm  
**To:** DoH Private Office <[Private.Office@health-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Private.Office@health-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, TEO HOCS (DS) <[HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, Jackson, Neill (TEO) <[Neill.Jackson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Neill.Jackson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, **Name Redacted** <[\[Name Redacted\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[Name Redacted]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, McNabb, Chris <[Chris.McNabb@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.McNabb@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, Stewart, Chris (TEO) <[chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, Rooney, Bernie <[Bernie.Rooney@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Bernie.Rooney@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, Harbinson, Anthony <[Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk)>, May, Peter <[Peter.May@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.May@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk)>, Toogood, Peter <[Peter.Toogood@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Toogood@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, Private Office DE <[Private.Office@education-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Private.Office@education-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, Clydesdale, Alison <[Alison.Clydesdale@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.Clydesdale@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, **Name Redacted** <[\[Name Redacted\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[Name Redacted]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** **Name Redacted** <[\[Name Redacted\]@health-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[Name Redacted]@health-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, **Name Redacted** <[\[Name Redacted\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[Name Redacted]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, NIHUB ECCMC Secretariat <[eccmc.secretariat@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eccmc.secretariat@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, Kerr, Kevin <[Kevin.Kerr@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Kevin.Kerr@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, **NR** <[\[Name Redacted\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[Name Redacted]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>, **NR** <[\[Name Redacted\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[Name Redacted]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** DESK IMMEDIATE: Briefing for Junior Minister Lyons for Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee 23 June (Inv-1312)

All

Junior Minister Lyons is giving evidence to the House of Commons Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee (PACAC) on Tuesday 23 June.

We had a call this afternoon with PACAC officials who have helpfully provided information on the themes of the session and the likely questions. I would be grateful if you could provide lines to take and any relevant background information for the themes assigned to you in the attached document.

In advance of this afternoon's session with PACAC officials, colleagues in TEO and DoH have already been working with us on lines to take on the legislative process. I would be grateful if you also could review your lines in light of the questions identified in the attached document.

Apologies for the short turnaround on this but I would greatly appreciate if all responses could be back with me, copied to [eccmcc.secretariat@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:eccmcc.secretariat@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk), by **12noon on Monday 22 June**.

Happy to discuss should you have any questions.

Many thanks  
Patrick

**Patrick Gallagher**  
The Executive Office  
Stormont Castle  
Belfast, BT4 3ST  
[patrick.gallagher@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk](mailto:patrick.gallagher@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk)

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

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