

From the Minister of Finance

Diane Dodds MLA
Minister for the Economy

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Dear Diane

COVID RESTRICTIONS ON FLORISTS AND GARDEN CENTRES (INCLUDING NURSERIES)

Thank you for your draft Executive paper of 8 March, in relation to your proposal to allow 'Click and Collect' arrangements which came into effect on 8 March 2021 to be extended to florists and garden centres.

I note that your paper does not include advice from the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) nor the Chief Scientific Advisor (CSA) on your recommended option, and since you wrote the Minister of Health has responded indicating that he is unable to support the re-opening of click and collect for florists and garden centres at this stage. The Health Minister also indicates that this position is supported the CMO and Deputy CSA highlighting that each easing of restrictions should not be considered on an individual basis, but as part as a wider cumulative process. As such I agree with the Health Minister's position on this issue.

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Personal Data

CONOR MURPHY MLA
MINISTER OF FINANCE