

213373

Name Redacted

**From:** NR  
**Sent:** 07 October 2020 21:45  
**To:** Campbell, Maura; NR; DOJ Minister  
**Cc:** DoJ SpAd; May, Peter; Harrison, Julie; Brown, Deborah; NR NR  
**Subject:** RE: DESK IMMEDIATE: Executive meeting 8 October 2020 at 12.30pm - Members Dining Room, Parliament Buildings- Final Executive paper E (20) 238 (C) Face Coverings in Additional Settings  
**Attachments:** Document1.docx

Minister, see attached lines on fines and enforcement

NR

**From:** Campbell, Maura  
**Sent:** 07 October 2020 21:35  
**To:** Name Redacted @justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk; DOJ Minister <DOJ.Minister@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** DoJ SpAd <DoJ-SpAd@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; May, Peter <Peter.May@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; Harrison, Julie <Julie.Harrison@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; Brown, Deborah <Deborah.Brown@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; NR  
 NR @justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk; Name Redacted @justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk; NR  
 < NR @justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: DESK IMMEDIATE: Executive meeting 8 October 2020 at 12.30pm - Members Dining Room, Parliament Buildings- Final Executive paper E (20) 238 (C) Face Coverings in Additional Settings

Minister,

This looks to be pretty much as expected, though the issue of enforcement could come up again. We'll put up some lines on this tomorrow morning. NR - we should have material on the stocks from orals.)

Maura

**From:** NR  
**Sent:** 07 October 2020 21:30  
**To:** DOJ Minister <DOJ.Minister@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** DoJ SpAd <DoJ-SpAd@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; May, Peter <Peter.May@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; Harrison, Julie <Julie.Harrison@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; Campbell, Maura <Maura.Campbell@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; Brown, Deborah <Deborah.Brown@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; Name Redacted @justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk; NR  
 Name Redacted @justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk  
**Subject:** FW: DESK IMMEDIATE: Executive meeting 8 October 2020 at 12.30pm - Members Dining Room, Parliament Buildings- Final Executive paper E (20) 238 (C) Face Coverings in Additional Settings

Minister,

The attached paper on Face Coverings in Additional Settings will be included on tomorrow's agenda.

Thanks.

NR



## **Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions**

### **Lines to Take – Enforcement of Covid Restrictions**

- With the rate of transmission we are currently seeing, everyone needs to play their part to bring the levels of infection down and protect both lives and livelihoods. It is a matter of both personal and collective responsibility.
- People need to adhere to the restrictions. Where they do not, enforcement does have a role but it should be a last resort.
- Enforcement activity should be proportionate and seen as legitimate. None of us want to see a heavy-handed response.
- Enforcement of Covid restrictions is not solely a matter for the PSNI. Other statutory organisations, such as local councils, also have responsibilities for compliance and enforcement.
- Both the Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Office of Police Ombudsman have been overseeing the enforcement approach by the PSNI.

### **Fines for face coverings**

- Operational decisions on the issuing of fines are a matter for the Chief Constable, who is accountable to the Northern Ireland Policing Board.
- It is for the Chief Constable to determine how best to prioritise the deployment of police officers against competing priorities.
- PSNI is continuing to work with retailers, transport providers, the hospitality trade and others to support compliance with the government regulations by engaging, explaining and encouraging people to make the right choices and this includes the mandatory wearing of face coverings in stores. PSNI will only enforce where necessary. This position is endorsed by the NI Executive and the NIPB and is in line with national police guidance from the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC).
- The absence of fines being issued, at this time, reflects this approach, the reported good levels of compliance with wearing face-coverings in retail spaces and the relatively low level of complaints received from retailers and the public in this regard. It does not mean that police are not taking any action nor have any reluctance to do so

### **Background:**

- The BBC reported from PSNI the following figures on penalties and fines issued by the PSNI:



- There have been 1,156 penalty notices issued since March for breaches of Covid-19 regulations.
- 27 fines have been handed to people who failed to self-isolate, each carrying a £1,000 penalty.
- There have been 800 community resolution notices issued.
- 64 commercial premises and 139 private dwellings were issued prohibition notices by police due to gatherings.
- More than half of the penalty notices were issued in Belfast (615), followed by Derry and Strabane (190).
- No penalties had been issued in respect of masks in shops or on public transport since they became mandatory.

