

Name Redacted

From:

Campbell, Maura

Sent:

01 October 2020 10:52

To:

DOJ Minister; DOJ Assembly Section

Cc:

DoJ SpAd; May, Peter; Harrison, Julie; Galway, Cathy; Taylor, Katie; NR

Name Redacted Name Redacted Name Redacted

Subject:

Quick advice - Non-Pharmaceutical Options for the Northern West region.docx

Attachments:

Quick advice - Non-Pharmaceutical Options for the Northern West region.docx

Importance:

High

Minister,

Some quick lines on the paper from the Minister of Health on additional non-pharmaceutical interventions for the North West region. I'm working on a draft letter now, which can take account of the meetings happening this morning.

Maura

Quick Advice for Minister – Additional non-pharmaceutical interventions for the North West region

1. EXP No: N/A

2. Issuing Department: Department of Health

3. DoJ Implications: The proposed restrictions will place additional

requirements on PSNI.

4. Financial Implications: None identified at this stage.

5. Formal response required: A written response is being drafted.

6. Lines to take: Lines to take are attached at Annex B

7. Any other relevant information: PSNI have not, as far as we are aware, been engaged

on the proposed additional restrictions in the North West. The Chief Constable has been invited to join a meeting with the Junior Ministers, Derry City and

Strabane Council and you at 11.30am but is unable to

attend since he is with the Policing Board today.

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ADDITIONAL NON-PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS FOR THE NORTH WEST REGION

LINES TO TAKE

- The impact on justice of these proposed restrictions in the North West will depend on the enforcement expectation and how much of a role other partners, including local councils, will be asked to play.
- Great care is needed in calibrating the enforcement approach as we are closer
 now to 'civil disobedience' than at any stage. We need to think about a refresh of
 the way the message is delivered if we want to drive more compliance. New and
 different channels targeting those we need to connect with is the key to
 persuading people these measures are legitimate, proportionate and necessary.
- The learning from the first phase of the pandemic was that it is difficult to enforce
 travel based restrictions in any meaningful way. It is challenging to establish what
 genuinely constitutes 'essential travel'. Rather than the focus being on whether
 people travel, it should be on what they do when they get to their destination.
- It is also extremely difficult to 'police' what happens in people's homes.
- The prioritisation and deployment of PSNI resources would remain an operational matter for the Chief Constable, who would be accountable to the NI Policing Board for those decisions. The more complex and varied the restrictions, the more important it will be for the PSNI to be informed of where the main public health risks lie, given they are acting in support of health. The PSNI would favour a health-led tasking model being put in place within a civil contingencies framework.

Maura Campbell
1 October 2020