

**Siobhan Carey CBE**  
**Chief Executive & Registrar General**  
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency  
Colby House  
Stranmillis Court  
BELFAST  
BT9 5RR

Tel: I&S

Email: [Siobhan.carey@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:Siobhan.carey@finance-ni.gov.uk)

To: Conor Murphy, MLA  
Robin Swann, MLA

**Full Distribution List Below**

Sent via E-mail

29 April 2020

**NISRA WEEKLY DEATHS – PUBLICATION ARRANGEMENTS**

All,

I am writing to inform you of the publication arrangement for weekly deaths for this week and next. The next publication will be on Friday May 1<sup>st</sup> for the reference period up to April 24<sup>th</sup>. The following week, Friday is a bank holiday having been moved from Monday 4<sup>th</sup>. Having considered various options we will be keeping the publication as a Friday release and will publish as usual at 9.30am on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

You will be aware that for the past 2 weeks you have been a recipient of privileged access to the weekly deaths statistics from NISRA under the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics legislation. ([http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2009/71/pdfs/nisr\\_20090071\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisr/2009/71/pdfs/nisr_20090071_en.pdf))

Last Friday there was a breach of the legislation. NISRA is in the process of completing the required breach report for the Office for Statistics Regulation which will be published in due course.

As allowed for under the legislation, I have therefore made the decision to remove Pre-Release Access to these statistics indefinitely. Should we significantly change the substance of the data breakdowns included as the weeks go on, I will reconsider. The format of the release will be consistent with the release last week.

This email is to give you advance notice of my decision so that you are not expecting the figures tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon – they will be published on Friday morning at 9.30am on the NISRA website, here:

<https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/weekly-deaths>

Yours sincerely,

**PD**

**SIOBHAN CAREY, CBE**

**Chief Statistician for Northern Ireland, Registrar General & Chief Executive NISRA**

cc:   Conor Murphy (Minister of Finance)  
      Robin Swann (Minister of Health)  
      Eoin Rooney (Special Advisor, DoF)  
      Mark Ovens (Special Advisor, DoH)  
      Sue Gray (Permanent Secretary, DoF)  
      Michael McBride (Chief Medical Officer)  
      Richard Pengelly (Permanent Secretary, DoH)  
      Mark McLaughlin (DoF Private Office)  
      David Gordon (Head of Communications, DoH)  
      Chris McNabb (Deputy Director Info Services, TEO)  
      Eugene Mooney (Head of Information & Analysis Directorate, DoH)  
      Stephen Wilson (PHA)  
      **Name Redacted** (DoH Press Office)  
      **NR** (Minister's Private Secretary, DoH)