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From: Siobhan Carey

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To: Robin Swann, MLA

cc. Sue Gray, DoF
Richard Pengelly, DoH
Dr. Eugene Mooney, DoH

COVID-19 Statistics – Further comments

1. We communicated last week on various aspects of publicly available official statistics on the impact of COVID-19 in Northern Ireland. As a result you wrote to me on 18th May for further clarification on NISRA's plans for more detailed statistics relating to the care sector.
2. NISRA understands the user need for further official statistics on deaths relating to care home residents and that ONS has published information relating to residents who die in a hospital setting. These are patients dying in hospital whose usual residence is given as a care or nursing home, but does not include patients transferring to hospital from a care home whose usual address is given as their last known private residence. This gap cannot be determined from the registration data.
3. NISRA is actively working on providing this same analysis, and when we are sure that this will form part of the weekly output, it will be preannounced. I would hope to publish in the next week or so and weekly thereafter. The precise date will be publicly confirmed once we are sure that the preparatory quality work is complete, and you will receive pre-release access to the statistics before publication.
4. NISRA is also developing a less frequent, perhaps monthly, bulletin on other wider aspects of COVID-19 deaths which are of interest to users. This is likely to include analysis by occupation, place of birth, deprivation and age-standardised comparisons between council areas. It is hoped that data up until mid-May will form the first publication in mid-June, but again this will be preannounced once the date is confirmed and I would ask you not to make public at this time.
5. You can be assured that NISRA is committed to meeting user needs concerning death registration statistics where it makes sense to do so and as I noted in my response last week, we are happy to assist where we can.

Yours sincerely,

Personal Data

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