

A: TEO Proposals for 15 April Review:

TEO have explained that there were 31 proposals put forward for consideration and not everything could reasonably be put forward for the upcoming review on 15th April. Two bundles were put forward by TEO and they are currently draft and seeking feedback from Departments. Within the two bundles, at the Covid Cross Departmental Working Group meeting this morning, the TEO presented the following proposed sequencing for the relevant DfE Templates which were lodged, and which TEO have bundled for presentation to the CMO/CSA subject to Departmental feedback:

- **DfE** - Reopening of unlicensed premises
- **DfE** - Reopening of outdoor visitor attractions

- DfC – Return of squad training for outdoor sports for organisations and clubs
- DAERA – Equine assisted Therapy and Learning (EATL) to resume on an outdoor basis in gatherings of up to 10 persons
- DfI - Resume driving instruction and theory tests and driving testing)

- **DfE** - Reopening of close contact services
- **DfE** - Reopening of all non-essential retail

- DfC - Return of individual activities in controlled gyms, swimming pools and other large venues
- DfC - Return of competitive outdoor sport
- DAERA - Equine Assisted Therapy and Learning (EATL) to resume on an indoor basis in gatherings of up to 10 persons)

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The Minister will recall that the dates proposed in the DfE templates were as follows:

Non- Essential Retail from 22nd/23rd April pending the making of required Regulations or 29th at latest;

Close contact services – opening date also the 22nd April;

Hospitality – A phased approach to enable coffee shops to re-open in or around 23 April) and to enable the conditional re-opening of licenced premises (meal indoors and alcohol outdoors) two weeks after coffee shops re-open, namely a conditional date would be 7 May 2021;

Tourism - conditional enabling date of 7 May for the re-opening of the categories of tourist accommodation; and

Outdoor visitor attractions to re-open on the same date as Non Essential Retail leading to a proposal for a conditional enabling date of 7 May being proposed for the re-opening of indoor visitor attractions.

We would be grateful for an urgent discussion to take the Minister's views on these developments and next steps. Two key issues:

ISSUE 1: Size of the Bundles – we suspect that the size of the packages will disappoint you and industry, and you'll need to consider what action you may want to take. It is our assessment that any realistic action will be political action rather than action by officials through the Cross Departmental Working Group. For discussion.

ISSUE 2: Sequencing of the DfE proposals within the Bundles. While this is a no win situation we need to consider if the TEO proposal of Unlicensed Premised & Outdoor Visitor Attractions first with then Close Contact Services and All Retail following later (circa 3 to 4 weeks) is the right order or sequencing. For consideration and happy to provide advice and pro and cons of each choice, otherwise by default the priority order will be that as set out in the draft proposals from TEO.

B: Early Proposals On Outdoor Retail and Wedding Venue Viewing:

TEO have sought feedback from CMO / CSA on the two proposals. The upshot of their advice is that these two proposals should be held back until the 15th of April Review. However, our steer to TEO is that your expectation has consistently been that these should be looked at early by the Executive and so, with no such mandate to withdraw these proposals, they should proceed on the basis that these are tabled tomorrow at the Executive. TEO are preparing papers in line with this steer.

Regards

Shane