

**FROM: FIRST MINISTER AND DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER**

**DATE: 28 MARCH 2020**

**ROBIN SWANN MLA  
MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

1. You wrote to us on 28 March to seek our agreement to take an urgent decision in accordance with paragraph 2.14 of the Ministerial Code; to make the Health Protection(Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2020.
2. We have seen and carefully considered the comments of Executive colleagues, as have you. Minister Long and Minister Mallon raised a number of important points for clarification, and received a response and explanation from officials.
3. Subsequently, all Ministers have indicated that they are content that the urgent procedure is used, and with the substantive proposal that you make the Regulations.
4. In the circumstances that you describe, we are content that you take this decision, which will be noted at the next meeting of the Executive.

**RT HON ARLENE FOSTER MLA  
FIRST MINISTER**

**MICHELLE O'NEILL MLA  
DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER**