

Northern  
Ireland  
Office

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**For Information - Update on Data Sharing between RoI & NI**

2 messages

NR

@nio.gov.uk&gt;

10 June 2021 at 13:25

To: SOS Lewis &lt;sos.lewis@nio.gov.uk&gt;

Cc: Covid 19 Mailbox &lt;covid-19@nio.gov.uk&gt;, Senior Leadership Team &lt;slt@nio.gov.uk&gt;, SpAds PS &lt;spads.ps@nio.gov.uk&gt;, PS SOS &lt;ps.sos@nio.gov.uk&gt;, Deputy Directors &lt;Deputy\_Directors@nio.gov.uk&gt;

**FOR INFORMATION - UPDATE ON DATA SHARING BETWEEN ROI & NI**

Private Office,

Further to previous correspondence received (attached)- you will recall the NI Health Minister had raised concerns regarding the level of engagement from his counterpart in the Irish Govt and in particular on the **matter of data sharing**.

This issue also came up at the most recent XO- Covid (operations) meeting where an action was agreed for *NIO engage with Cab Office and NICS to request that the Irish Government provides the Northern Ireland Executive the appropriate data on inbound and outbound travel from Ireland to inform approaches to international travel*.

We have been engaging with Cab Office colleagues and NICS counterparts on this matter and are **pleased to note there has been a positive development in this area following a meeting between the NI Health Minister and his Irish counterpart on Tuesday afternoon. The outcome of which is summarised below:**

- The Irish Health Minister restated his commitment to share the data from RoI Passenger Locator forms (PLFs) for those passengers transiting through RoI to Northern Ireland.
- The issue preventing this from being operational is the need to test the RoI's IT solution, which was a daily batch file dropped into a sharepoint. That testing should happen in the next week and will allow the text of the data share agreement to be updated and signed.
- **It is envisaged this process will take no more than 2-3 weeks. There will remain a need for further refinement to permit verification of the data, however RoI have committed to work closely with NI DoH on this.**
- The Irish Health Minister also indicated he would be seeking a reciprocal arrangement in respect of UK PLFs - i.e. for those who indicate they are transiting through NI to RoI. (Home Office lead)

We will continue to work closely with NICS, Cabinet Office, Home Office and FCDO to monitor and will keep you updated as this progresses.

Kind Regards

NR

Head of Constitution and Devolution  
Constitution & Rights Policy GroupT **Irrelevant & Sensitive**

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*Usual working pattern is Monday - Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm*



**SUB-0566-2021 Letter from Minister Swann to Minister Donnelly V2.pdf**  
230K

**Ciaran Hayes** <ciar.hayes@nio.gov.uk>

11 June 2021 at 10:19

To: **Name Redacted** <[redacted]@nio.gov.uk>

Cc: SOS Lewis <sos.lewis@nio.gov.uk>, Covid 19 Mailbox <covid-19@nio.gov.uk>, Senior Leadership Team <slt@nio.gov.uk>, SpAds PS <spads.ps@nio.gov.uk>, PS SOS <ps.sos@nio.gov.uk>, Deputy Directors <Deputy\_Directors@nio.gov.uk>

**Name Redacted**

That's very good to hear.

Thanks,

Ciarán

**Ciarán Hayes**

Principal Private Secretary

**N** **Irrelevant & Sensitive**

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