

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and First Ministers Call

Communiqué: 4 February 2021

This communiqué summarises the meeting chaired by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster on 3 February 2021.

The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster chaired a meeting with the First Ministers of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to discuss the ongoing COVID-19 response on 3 February. The meeting took place via video conference.

The attending Ministers were:

For the UK Government: The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Rt Hon Michael Gove MP; The Secretary of State for Wales, Rt Hon Simon Hart MP; The Secretary of State for Scotland, Rt Honourable Alister Jack MP, and The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Rt Hon Brandon Lewis MP.

For the Scottish Government: First Minister, Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP.

For the Welsh Government: First Minister, Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS.

For the Northern Ireland Executive: First Minister, Rt Hon Arlene Foster MLA; Deputy First Minister Michelle O'Neill MLA; Junior Minister, Gordon Lyons MLA; Junior Minister, Declan Kearney MLA

The group discussed the COVID-19 response including health measures for international travel, publication of vaccine supply data, and respective next steps on strategies including opportunities for ongoing and future collaboration.

The attendees agreed to continue discussions on their respective strategies as part of future calls, and that the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster will continue to chair regular engagement via videoconference with the First Ministers of Scotland and Wales and the First Minister and deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland.