

Message

From: McBride, Michael [/O=NIGOV/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9999965]
Sent: 10/01/2020 12:14:05
To: **Name Redacted** @health-ni.gov.uk; Redmond, Liz [liz.redmond@health-ni.gov.uk]; Armstrong, Gillian (DoH) [gillian.armstrong@health-ni.gov.uk]; **Name Redacted** @health-ni.gov.uk; Collins, Gerard [gerard.collins@health-ni.gov.uk]; **Name Redacted** @health-ni.gov.uk
CC: **Name Redacted** @health-ni.gov.uk; **Name Redacted** @health-ni.gov.uk; **NR** @health-ni.gov.uk; **NR** @health-ni.gov.uk; **Name Redacted** @health-ni.gov.uk; **NR** @health-ni.gov.uk; **NR** @health-ni.gov.uk; **Name Redacted** @health-ni.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Wuhan Incident

NR

Noted.

Michael

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: **NR** @health-ni.gov.uk>
Date: Friday, 10 Jan 2020, 11:59 am

[See recipients listed above]

Subject: Wuhan Incident

All

To note email from PHA – for info

NR

From: **Name Redacted** @phe.gov.uk]
Sent: 10 January 2020 09:02
To: 'MEDIARELATIONS (NHS NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND)'; 'Daniel.Owens3@wales.nhs.uk'; Chris Barnes; Megan Mason; **Name Redacted**
Cc: **NR**
Subject: RE: Wuhan Incident

Dear all

Please find the release we will be posting on gov.uk shortly below. In the meantime we will circulate to a couple of journalists who have shown interest already (inc BBC).

Wuhan novel coronavirus and avian flu: advice for travellers over Chinese New Year

Public Health England (PHE) is aware of a reported outbreak of a novel coronavirus in China's Wuhan City and is monitoring the situation with international partners, including the World Health Organization. PHE has also issued advice to travellers ahead of Chinese New Year next month.

The risk to the UK population is very low and the risk to travellers to Wuhan is low, but they are advised to take simple precautions such as practicing good hand and personal hygiene and minimise contact with birds and animals in markets in Wuhan as a further precaution.

The Wuhan Municipal Health Commission has reported 59 potential cases of the disease so far, the majority of which appear to be connected to a seafood and animal market in the city. There have been no deaths reported and there is no evidence of significant transmission from person to person or any signs of illness among medical and nursing staff.

Dr Nick Phin, National Infection Service Deputy Director at PHE, said on the reported Wuhan novel coronavirus:

"Based on the available evidence, the risk to travellers to Wuhan from this disease is low and we are not advising them to change their plans.

"In order to minimise the risk of transmission, people travelling to the area should maintain good hand and personal hygiene. Travellers should seek medical attention if they develop respiratory symptoms within 14 days of visiting Wuhan, informing their health service prior to their attendance about their recent travel to the city.

"The risk to the UK population is very low. The UK has robust arrangements to manage emerging diseases, and in seeking to detect the virus in patients we can draw on our experience of pioneering diagnostic tests for the coronaviruses SARS and MERS."

Besides the evolving situation in Wuhan, all travellers should also be aware of the risk of avian flu when visiting China during the Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival, beginning on 25 January 2020.

Human cases of avian influenza have recently been reported in China, and historically there have been more cases at this time of year. Cases have originated from several provinces and municipalities across Mainland China, and there have been a small number of avian influenza cases among Hong Kong SAR and Taiwan residents who have travelled to mainland China.

The majority of reported human cases in China have had close contact with wild birds or poultry. Although the risk is very low, Public Health England and the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) are reminding UK travellers to protect themselves from avian flu by minimising exposure to wild birds and poultry.

Dr Phin added on avian flu:

"Although the risk of avian flu to UK residents travelling to China remains very low, anyone planning to visit China, Hong Kong SAR or Taiwan should minimise their exposure to any birds such as wild birds or live birds in 'wet markets' as a precaution.

"We strongly urge people to avoid touching dead or dying birds and maintain good hand and personal hygiene.

"Avian influenza remains a risk in a number of parts of China and if travellers experience coughing or difficulty breathing within 14 days of returning from China, they should call their GP or NHS 111 and report their recent travel."

Travellers can check [NaTHNaC's TravelHealthPro](#) website for current travel health recommendations for:

- [China](#)
- [Hong Kong SAR](#)

- [Macao](#)
- [Taiwan](#)
- [Tibet](#)

Ends

NR

Senior Communications Manager – National Infection Service
Public Health England
phe-pressoffice@phe.gov.uk

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From: **NR**

Sent: 09 January 2020 12:31

To: MEDIARELATIONS (NHS NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND) <nss.mediarelations@nhs.net>;
'Daniel.Owens3@wales.nhs.uk' <Daniel.Owens3@wales.nhs.uk>; 'chris.barnes@hscni.net' <chris.barnes@hscni.net>;
Megan Mason <Megan.Mason@hscni.net> **NR** <@dhsc.gov.uk>; **NR** (NHS
ENGLAND & NHS IMPROVEMENT - T1520) **NR** <@nhs.net>

Cc: **Name Redacted** <@phe.gov.uk>

Subject: Wuhan Incident

Hi

In light of the evolving situation in Wuhan, a National Enhanced Incident has been established. I will be setting up a comms cell for 1.30 today – I will forward you all and invite and I would be grateful if someone from your respective agencies could join.

Thanks, **NR**

NR

Senior Communications Manager – National Infection Service
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