

FROM: (NR

DATE: 14 MAY 2020

TO: PS/FIRST MINISTER AND DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER

DRAFT EXECUTIVE PAPER - COVID 19 – EXECUTIVE STRATEGY

1. The Executive has agreed a COVID 19 draft Executive strategy and plan which is updated on a regular basis in liaison with Departments.
2. An updated copy of the strategy, plan and associated heatmap is attached. This revised version contains responses from Departments. Amended text is in red.
3. There have been a number of changes /updates to RAG ratings:
 - (i) **1.9 Ensuring Continued Food Supply** – Significant work has been completed to map out the challenges in relation to securing food supply. At present officials have identified no imminent risk to food supply and propose de-escalating this to Amber. Officials are continuing to monitor the situation and will advise if the situation changes. Ownership of this issue has also been assigned to DAERA to reflect the Executive’s decision on 1 May.
 - (ii) **1.10 Maintain and enhance Housing Solutions during COVID 19,**
It is proposed to split this action to reflect the differing positions in the Social Housing and Private Rented Sectors. The situation in Social Housing Sector remains assessed as Red and the Minister for Communities has circulated a paper setting out the necessary mitigations to address this risk. The situation in the Private Rented sector is assessed as yellow.
 - (iii) **2.3 – Maintain supplies of essential items and related supply chains.** – Work has been ongoing to protect supply chains and ensure availability of essential items (for example support package to Ferries). No new concerns around availability of essential goods have been identified. Officials propose de-escalating to Amber and to maintain a

watching brief. If new concerns are identified, or the situation deteriorates officials will escalate the issue and bring forward advice as necessary.

(iv)2.4 Maintain essential transport arrangements and flows of goods

This issue remains assessed as red as a whole, however it is recognised that the position is not the same across all transport modes given the differing support packages in place and the differing challenges being faced within each sector. Officials are considering how best to present this information moving forward and will advise further at the next update.

4. The Heat-map has been update to reflect the proposed amended RAG ratings.
5. The remaining red issues relate to the **immediate/short term economic impact of COVID 19** and on **Planning for Economic Recovery**. The Executive has started work to try and mitigate against the economic impacts, for example the Minister of Finance is considering how best to bring forward Capital Works across all Departments, but this is at an early stage. The Minister for the Economy will be bringing forward a paper on *Charting a course for the Economy* to a future meeting.
6. A point of time review of the Strategy is also underway and a further update will be provided on this in due course.
7. Any further key issues from the strategy for focussed consideration by the Executive will be identified within the context of discussions on recovery which are currently ongoing.

Recommendation

8. It is recommended that the First Minister and deputy First Minister agree to circulate the attached updated version of the Executive strategy and plan to

Executive colleagues for discussion at the Executive meeting on Monday 18 May. A covering paper is attached for that purpose.

NR

I&S

Copy distribution

HOCS

Karen Pearson

Chris Stewart

Anthony Harbinson

Neill Jackson

NR

ECCMC Secretariat

FROM: FIRST MINISTER AND DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER

DATE: 30 APRIL 2020

TO: EXECUTIVE

COVID 19 – EXECUTIVE STRATEGY AND PLAN

1. The Executive has agreed that a COVID 19 Executive strategy and plan and that it should be updated regularly in liaison with Departments.
2. An updated copy of the strategy, plan and associated heatmap is attached. This revised version contains responses from Departments. Amended text is in red.
3. There have been a number of changes /updates to RAG ratings:
 - a. **1.9 Ensuring Continued Food Supply** – Significant work has been completed to map out the challenges in relation to securing food supply. At present officials have identified no imminent risk to food supply and propose de-escalating this to Amber. Officials are continuing to monitor the situation and will advise if the situation changes. Ownership of this issue has also been assigned to DAERA to reflect the Executives decision on 1 May.
 - b. **1.10 Maintain and enhance Housing Solutions during COVID 19**, It is proposed to split this action to reflect the differing positions in the Social Housing and Private Rented Sectors. The situation in Social Housing Sector remains assessed as Red [and the Minister for Communities is bidding for funding to address this. The situation in the Private Rented sector is assessed as yellow.
 - c. **2.3 – Maintain supplies of essential items and related supply chains.** – Work has been ongoing to protect supply chains and ensure availability of essential items (for example support package to Ferries).

No new concerns around availability of essential goods have been identified. Officials propose de-escalating to Amber and to maintain a watching brief. If new concerns are identified, or the situation deteriorates officials will escalate the issue and bring forward advice as necessary.

d. 2.4 Maintain essential transport arrangements and flows of goods

– This issue remains assessed as red as a whole, however it is recognised that the position is not the same across all transport modes given the differing support packages in place and the differing challenges being faced in each sector. Officials are considering how best to present this information moving forward and will advise further at the next update.

4. The Heat-map has been update to reflect the proposed amended RAG ratings.
5. The remaining red issues relate to the **immediate/short term economic impact of COVID 19** and on **Planning for Economic Recovery**. The Executive has started work to try an mitigate against the economic impacts, for example the Minister of Finance is considering how best to bring forward Capital Works across all Departments, but this is at an early stage. The Minister for the Economy will be bringing forward a paper on *Charting a course for the Economy* to a future meeting.
6. A point of time review of the Strategy is also underway and a further update will be provided on this in due course.
7. Any further key issues from the strategy for focussed consideration by the Executive will be identified within the context of discussions on recovery which are currently ongoing.

Recommendation

8. The Executive is asked to note the attached updated strategy and associated heatmap for managing the COVID 19 crisis.

FIRST MINISTER

DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER