

Message

**From:** DoH Minister [/O=NIGOV/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=54255FDD4A3D4E5985B7431A9CC9673A-DOH MINISTER DOH-M]  
**Sent:** 13/01/2021 20:38:11  
**To:** [NR] [NR] @health-ni.gov.uk  
**CC:** DoH Private Office [private.office@health-ni.gov.uk]; DoH SpAd [spad@health-ni.gov.uk]  
**Subject:** MIN CLEARANCE RE SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI

Hi,

Content to issue as drafted with an electronic signature, but can we add a final para: copying to Executive Colleagues, our AG & NISoS, thanks.

regards,

Robin Swann MLA  
Minister of Health.

---

**From:** [NR] [NR] <[NR]@health-ni.gov.uk>  
**Date:** Wednesday, 13 Jan 2021, 7:48 pm  
**To:** DoH Minister <[NR]@health-ni.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** DoH Private Office <[NR]@health-ni.gov.uk>, DoH SpAd <[NR]@health-ni.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI

Minister

To see attached sub from CMO which includes a number of recommendations and also includes a draft response to the latest letter from Minister Donnelly.

Grateful for consideration and if agreed we can issue the letter with electronic signature.

[NR]

-----Original Message-----

**From:** McBride, Michael  
**Sent:** 13 January 2021 19:00  
**To:** [NR] [NR] @health-ni.gov.uk; Pengelly, Richard <Richard.Pengelly@health-ni.gov.uk>; DoH SpAd <[NR]@health-ni.gov.uk>; DoH Private Office <[NR]@health-ni.gov.uk>; Gordon, David <David.Gordon@health-ni.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Colgan, Elaine <Elaine.Colgan@health-ni.gov.uk>; Dooley, Bryan <Bryan.Dooley@health-ni.gov.uk>; [NR] [NR] @health-ni.gov.uk; Redmond, Liz <Liz.Redmond@health-ni.gov.uk>; Geoghegan, Lourda <Lourda.Geoghegan@health-ni.gov.uk>; Chada, Naresh <Naresh.Chada@health-ni.gov.uk>; Young, Ian (Prof.) <Ian.Young2@health-ni.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI  
**Importance:** High

[NR]

For the Ministers consideration

Given: the passage of time; the increasing importance given public health consideration and emergence of new variant; the seeming intractable nature of the issue and lack of progress, the Minister will wish to note that this is a fairly direct response which also proposed escalating to wider UK consideration of the implications.

The Minister will wish to consider his preferred approach.

With thanks to Elaine

Michael

-----Original Message-----

From: Colgan, Elaine

Sent: 13 January 2021 18:42

To: McBride, Michael <Michael.McBride@health-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR @health-ni.gov.uk>; Redmond, Liz <Liz.Redmond@health-ni.gov.uk>; Dooley, Bryan <Bryan.Dooley@health-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI

Importance: High

Hi Michael

Please see attached a draft SUB with a reply to Minister Donnelly proposed. I'm not sure how firm you would like the wording to be so please let me know if you would like an alternative approach. I've suggested Minister Donnelly and ourselves identify lead officials who are given this as their sole task. We will of course need to find such a person at this end, but having someone in ROI who genuinely is working with us to resolve rather than just asking more questions is the only way I can ever see this being resolved. I have included QUAD and Covid-0 as we discussed.

Thanks to [REDACTED] NR for drafting. Liz hasn't cleared this given the volume of work going on today and the urgency of this.

Thanks

Elaine

Chief of Staff to Dr Michael McBride

Department of Health

Castle Buildings

Stormont Estate

Belfast

BT4 3SL

Tel: [REDACTED] I&S [REDACTED] (ext. [REDACTED] I&S)

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] NR

Sent: 13 January 2021 16:27

To: Colgan, Elaine <Elaine.Colgan@health-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: Dooley, Bryan <Bryan.Dooley@health-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI

Elaine,

Further to our conversation, sub and draft letter for your consideration.

[REDACTED] NR

-----Original Message-----

From: Colgan, Elaine

Sent: 13 January 2021 09:00

To: [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: Dooley, Bryan <Bryan.Dooley@health-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI

Importance: High

Hi [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]

Could you start a SUB with draft reply from the Minister. Indicate that NI officials have already given assurances to officials in ROI some time ago (try to find a date in Dec we could refer to) that information would not be used to enforce quarantine, and would only be used to enforce or improve compliance with completion of the UK PLF.

We also await a response to our request for costing for the ROI supplier to text NI bound arrivals with the PLF requirements, which does not require information sharing but to which we have had no response other than request for a specific text message, which of course would be fluid as variants emerge and measures in place adjust.

We need to try to find a form of words to convey that we do not believe this really has been a true collaborative effort, and NI seems to be being required to do all the heavy lifting without much assistance or drive to assist with this problem from ROI's side. Of course we need to be much more diplomatic than that!

Once I meet Michael at 2pm I'll give you a call as there will be other things needing to go in. I'll also send you an invite with NIO at 1.30 about this

Thanks  
Elaine

Chief of Staff to Dr Michael McBride  
Department of Health  
Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
Belfast  
BT4 3SL  
Tel: [REDACTED] I&S [REDACTED] (ex: [REDACTED] I&S [REDACTED])

-----Original Message-----

From: DoH Private Office

Sent: 12 January 2021 20:39

To: Dooley, Bryan <Bryan.Dooley@health-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] (DoH)

<[REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk>; Colgan, Elaine <Elaine.Colgan@health-ni.gov.uk>

<[REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk>; Pengelly, Richard <Richard.Pengelly@health-ni.gov.uk>; DoH Private Office

<Private.Office@health-ni.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk>; DoH Press Office <PressOffice@health-

ni.gov.uk>; DoH PHD Admin <phdadmin@health-ni.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk>; Young, Ian (Prof.)

<Ian.Young2@health-ni.gov.uk>; DoH SpAd <spad@health-ni.gov.uk>; Redmond, Liz <Liz.Redmond@health-ni.gov.uk>; DoH

CMO Office <cmooffice@health-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI

Importance: High

Reference: SUB-0029-2021

Subject: SUB-0029-2021 : HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020 – DATA SHARING WITH ROI

Referred To: BRYAN DOOLEY  
Date Referred: 12/01/2021

Please find attached response from Minister Donnelly.

INQ000429574\_0003

Regards,

**NR**

Private Office and Coordination

**I&S**

Cc: To: For Information:

**NR**

**NR**

M. **NR**

(DoH); Colgan, Elaine

**NR**

; Pengelly, Richard; DoH Private Office;

**NR**

DoH Press Office; DoH PHD Admin;

**NR**

Young, Ian (Prof.); DoH SpAd; Redmond, Liz; DoH CMO

Office