

Message

From: McBride, Michael [/O=NIGOV/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9999965]
Sent: 31/03/2020 8:11:28 AM
To: DoH Minister [minister@health-ni.gov.uk]
Subject: Covid Strategy Document

Minister

Thank you Minister

We shall continue to do our very best to support you and the Executive while coordinating the health response. We cannot be deflected or distracted from our primary responsibility of protecting the public and saving lives.

Might I place on my record my thanks for your committed support and unerring leadership.

Michael
Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: DoH Minister <minister@health-ni.gov.uk>
Date: Tuesday, 31 Mar 2020, 4:53 am
To: DoH Minister <minister@health-ni.gov.uk>
Cc: McBride, Michael <Michael.McBride@health-ni.gov.uk>, DoH SpAd <spad@health-ni.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Covid Strategy Document

Richard/Michael,

Again can you pass on my thanks to those who worked over the weekend to produce this. Document, which was largely to placate the demands from other Executive colleagues.

I apologise to Michael & yourself for the time lost yesterday due to an Executive that was rescheduled numerous times, and then eventually when it did happen, it reverted rather than looking to the strategic direction that was laid out, the questioning from the same quarters reverted to testing & PPE, questions which we have answered previously.

It was disappointing the the dFM's parting dig rather than acknowledging the work that is being done was how their perception was that "we viewed the Executive as a thorn in their side", so you are aware I received a number of calls from other Ministerial colleagues expressing not just their disgust at how we were treated but in support of the work and professionalism of the staff within the department.

Again thanks.

regards,

Robin Swann MLA
Minister of Health.

From: DoH Minister <minister@health-ni.gov.uk>

Date: Monday, 30 Mar 2020, 7:30 am

To: Pengelly, Richard <Richard.Pengelly@health-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] **NR** <[\[REDACTED\]@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk)>, Gallagher, Sharon <Sharon.Gallagher@health-ni.gov.uk>, Gordon, David <David.Gordon@health-ni.gov.uk>, Holland, Sean <Sean.Holland@health-ni.gov.uk>, Johnston, Jackie (DoH) <Jackie.Johnston@health-ni.gov.uk>, McArdle, Charlotte <Charlotte.McArdle@health-ni.gov.uk>, McBride, Michael <Michael.McBride@health-ni.gov.uk>, McNeilly, Deborah <Deborah.McNeilly@health-ni.gov.uk>, [REDACTED] **NR** <[\[REDACTED\]@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk)>, Redmond, Liz <Liz.Redmond@health-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Covid Strategy Document

Richard,

My thanks to all involved, can we circulate to TEO prior to this mornings meeting.

regards,

Robin Swann MLA
Minister of Health.

From: Pengelly, Richard <Richard.Pengelly@health-ni.gov.uk>

Date: Monday, 30 Mar 2020, 1:27 am

To: DoH Minister <minister@health-ni.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] **NR** <[\[REDACTED\]@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk)>, Gallagher, Sharon <Sharon.Gallagher@health-ni.gov.uk>, Gordon, David <David.Gordon@health-ni.gov.uk>, Holland, Sean <Sean.Holland@health-ni.gov.uk>, Johnston, Jackie (DoH) <Jackie.Johnston@health-ni.gov.uk>, McArdle, Charlotte <Charlotte.McArdle@health-ni.gov.uk>, McBride, Michael <Michael.McBride@health-ni.gov.uk>, McNeilly, Deborah <Deborah.McNeilly@health-ni.gov.uk>, [REDACTED] **NR** <[\[REDACTED\]@health-ni.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@health-ni.gov.uk)>, Redmond, Liz <Liz.Redmond@health-ni.gov.uk>

Subject: Covid Strategy Document

Minister

Apologies for the lateness of this.

The attached is the first cut of our articulation of the strategic approach. There is nothing new of a substantive nature in this, rather it is a formal articulation of the approach we have developed and are adopting. That said, it should prove clarity – particularly for discussions with Executive colleagues – about our work.

An immediate question is whether you want to share this with Executive colleagues before the meeting in the morning, or use it as an aide memoire at this stage, with circulation to follow when you have had more time to consider.

Separately, work is well advanced on a first progress report against the actions set out in the document.

Can I record huge thanks to [REDACTED] **NR** and Liz Redmond for their many hours of work on this over the weekend.

R.

Richard Pengelly
Permanent Secretary DoH and HSC Chief Executive

Tel: [REDACTED] **I&S**