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**FROM: NAOMI LONG MLA  
MINISTER OF JUSTICE**

**DATE: 11 NOVEMBER 2020**

**TO: FIRST AND DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER  
MINISTER OF HEALTH**

### **COVID-19: EASE OF RESTRICTIONS**

I am writing further to my previous letter from earlier today setting out the stark reality of failure to find compromise and the imperative of ensuring that we do not revert to the No. 2 regulations. There would appear to be unanimity that this is the case.

In our earlier discussions, concerns were expressed that in rolling the current regulations over for 1 week, we were failing to provide sufficient clarity for people about the following week, and that we would end up back at the same juncture as we are at now.

I would therefore like to explore whether consensus can be achieved on the following proposal:

That Executive agrees that:

1. All of the current regulations are extended for one week to 19th November, in line with the proposal from the Minister of Health; and
2. Close contact services and cafes/coffee shops reopen on the basis that was proposed in Minister for the Economy's paper as amended at our meeting yesterday, commencing on 20<sup>th</sup> November.

Executive further agrees that the proposals for:

1. A restructured compliance/adherence working group;
2. A de-risking cross-sectoral working group for hospitality and affiliated sectors; and,
3. Additional financial support for affected businesses

be taken forward as a matter of urgency.

I believe that this builds on the proposals from the Economy Minister and Health Minister and may provide the necessary space in which to achieve the compromise required to ensure that the sacrifices made at great cost over the last 4 weeks are not lost and that our community can move forward as safely as possible in what are unprecedented circumstances.

I am copying this memo to Executive Colleagues, the Attorney General, Executive Secretariat and the Office of the First Legislative Counsel.

Regards,

PD

**NAOMI LONG MLA**  
**MINISTER OF JUSTICE**