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Cc: [Name Redacted]@nio.gov.uk>
Subject: GPS MIG - borders readout
Date: Thu, 7 May 2020 16:55:51 +0100

All,

I've seen a draft readout from GPS MIG, where the item on **borders** was discussed earlier today. I've set out the key points below:

- HMG collectively agreed the Home Office's approach to implement border measures including mandatory completion of the digital locator form, downloading the NHSX contact tracing app, and mandatory 14 days self-isolation for all non-exempts arrivals.
- This agreement was on the basis that further work would take place on the exemptions and messaging before Sunday.
- Working towards an end of May go-live date, which Home Office see as deliverable. They want to ensure the practical measures necessary are in place ahead of any increase in passenger arrivals.
- The DAs confirmed they were content the broad policy direction but that they would need more time to understand the legislative and operational impacts before signing off on the policy.
- The Home Office will set up a taskforce to finalise the list of exemptions, ready to publish a high level list by Sunday, followed by a detailed list next week. This phased exemption list release still needs to be agreed with No.10.

More detail on DA comments in the meeting:

- Welsh Government asked to see the detail in writing, flagging that they needed sight of technicalities for drafting of regulations. CDL agreed to share.
- Scottish Government highlighted practicalities HMG need to consider, and agreed to work together to fully understand the details, both in regards to exemptions and integrating proposals regarding legislation. Before that, the SG could not sign off the paper fully. SG asked for an indication of what is being said on Sunday, and whether this package would be announced then, highlighting that comms would need to differentiate between approaches and that there would need to be detailed guidance in place. CDL said that the PM will announce border measures on Sunday to be implemented at a time that could be practically delivered. He agreed that the legal position in the DAs and other practical points would need to be agreed and asked DAs to write to HMG with any specific concerns. He also said it would be followed up with an agenda item at COBR.
- Gordon Lyons (NIE) confirmed broad agreement with WG and SG, and said the measures were appropriate and necessary. He said that NIE hadn't had time to look at the proposals in their entirety and would need to input thoughts after the meeting. He asked when working groups would be set up. He raised that NI has its own regulations and that NIE would want to update these on a regular basis, joined up with the central approach. Thanked HO for including CTA exemption.
- Declan Kearney (NIE) reminded attendees that there were two jurisdictions in Ireland and raised the scenario of traffic coming into NI via Britain, which subsequently travels into Ireland. Asked that liaison happened with Irish authorities to ensure data sharing and coordination across the whole island of Ireland.
- RW welcomed the work and proposals, especially on exempting the CTA and people travelling from NI, through Ireland to the UK. He was keen to keep working with the NIE and taking the four country approach.
- [Name Redacted] (WO) asked about exemptions for lorry drivers/
- SG asked if an announcement is made on Sunday, whether there would be divergence in the measures announced i.e. UK-wide or individual nations. CDL said HMG was taking steps to proceed as much as possible on a UK-wide basis apart from a few distinctions on Sunday's announcements.

Best,

Name Redacted

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Image
result for
northern
ireland
office

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I am currently largely working from home or 70 Whitehall so mobile is the best number.

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