

Northern Ireland Hub Sitrep

SITUATION REPORT 001

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Approved by

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This is a Classified Document

Onward release of the document, or its contents or annexes, to those outside the immediate Officials involved with the planning and operation of the C3 arrangements for this matter is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

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Fuel – also applies to gas and electricity

EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE

UK National RAG Ratings

Black	Definition: Immediate and tangible Threat to Life, Limb or National Security – Requiring IMMEDIATE ACTION Options: Collaborate Immediately – normal SitRep reporting timelines do not apply.
Red	Definition: Sector experiencing significant impacts that will not get better without significant intervention. Sector is not functioning at a practical level or at all. At the Top Level, these issues require Ministerial intervention and decisions. Threat to National Security, Property, the Economy, the Environment, provision of supplies etc. Options: Collaborate – Requires COBR Intervention.
Amber	Definition: Sector experiencing moderate impacts. Services reduced but functioning; or impacts are being felt but the wider consequences are not yet fully understood, or issues have been identified within the sector that could create major impacts. Action is required to mitigate the worst of the impacts or to find a resolution in the short term. Options: Treat, Tolerate or Collaborate – must be articulated in the SitRep.
Green	Definition: Sector is functioning within acceptable limits. Minor impacts are being experienced but these are understood. Lower level Operations are functioning within tolerances Options: Treat, Tolerate or Collaborate – must be articulated in the SitRep.

The NI Hub will action DOC issues as follows:

Black = Referred directly to COBR, and included in NI Hub Sitrep

Red = Referred to CCG(NI) for decision-making and to COBR if CCG(NI) cannot resolve, and included in NI Hub Sitrep

Amber = May be referred to CCG(NI), and included in NI Hub Sitrep

Green = Included in NI Hub Sitrep

Situation Report Summary

Overall Assessment			
Overall Delivery Confidence		Rationale	Services and Departments are currently functioning but with reduced capacity. Wider consequences are currently being felt but are not fully understood. Actions are being identified to mitigate impacts where possible.

Key issues last 24 hours:

- PPE – additional supplies of PPE still to be sourced/confirmed by BSO.
- COVID-19 Testing,
- ICU beds – 26 out of 68 available; 42 beds occupied of which 4 are COVID-19.
- Livestock market owners have indicated that all activities have been suspended from today.
- Markets for fish products collapsing – mainly fish exported to Europe and far east and fish destined for hospitality and catering sectors.
- As at Friday, 4 INI customers advising of max of 1,160 potential redundancies.
- 10,000 new claims for UC w/c 16th March, compared to 1,800 w/c 9th March. UC received 12k calls last week, more than double normal activity.

Key issues next 24 hours:

- Fish market monitoring
- Provision of key worker guidance
- PM additional measures re social distancing

Requests for information:

- Departments will be asked to detail total staff, the amount of staff working from home, total staff working in offices, and total staff sent home.

NIHUB Status Update	RAG Rating
Staffing – current staffing @ 25 from min requirement of 40	
ICT and connectivity – technology not fully exploited, staff skills deficit	
Real estate / accommodation – 2 nd site required to go-live urgently	
Liaison Officers – There is currently a lack of available LO resources.	

Situation Report Overview

Issue	RAG Rating
1. The Health and well-being of our citizens	Red
2. Economic well-being	Orange
3. Societal and community well-being	Orange
4. Our delivery priorities and service delivery	Green
5. Our people	Orange
6. Good Governance	Green
6. Good governance - DoF	Orange
7. Communications	Green
8. Finance	Green
9. Resources	Green

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Issue:	1. The Health and well-being of our citizens	BRAG Rating	
<p>Detailed description:</p> <p>DOH -68 ICU beds available, 42 occupied, 26 are available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -4 of the patients in the 42 occupied beds have suspected/confirmed Covid-19 -There are no new suspected/confirmed cases in ICU within the last 24 hours. -There are currently national supply chain issues regarding replenishment orders of PPE products. -The NI Blood Transfusion Service (NIBTS) has requested DoH assistance in linking with other Departments in relation to establishing additional venues for blood donation sessions. -The Belfast Trust continues to experience a high demand for testing in the RVH POD. The order of testing gives utmost priority to COVID-19 patients with serious illness (Groups 1 and 2), and urgent investigation of clusters/outbreaks (Group 3), above all other requests; if laboratory capacity permits, then symptomatic HCWs could be tested, as long as it does not impact in any way on delivery of diagnostic testing for groups 1-3. Continuing pressure is being put on Departments to facilitate testing for asymptomatic health care workers (HCWs) and critical industry workers who are self-isolating due to exposure to a Covid-19 case or a family member with a new cough and/or temperature. -BOC Ltd have requested that their NI employees be given 'key status' and a letter of confirmation of same, to enable BOC NI employees to move freely in the event of a full lockdown. BOC are the sole supplier of medical Oxygen to the Trusts, pharmacies and 4,000 homecare patients across NI. Contingency planning with trusts includes the availability of personnel on site to fill cylinders and for drivers to deliver both cylinder packages and in bulk liquid form. <p>DE - The closure of schools to pupils other than vulnerable children and those of key workers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nutritious replacement for free school meals to be made available to eligible children - Vulnerable children and adults with special needs and cared for children continue to receive appropriate care - Arrangements for examinations or alternative <p>DOJ - Ensuring appropriate arrangements for people in our care.</p>			

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Issue:	1. The Health and well-being of our citizens	BRAG Rating	
<p>What are the specific impacts?</p> <p>DoH - As the number of cases of patients presenting with COVID-19 increase, staff in primary, secondary and social care sectors are in danger of being at risk of infection transmission.</p> <p>Unless additional venues can be sourced, the number of blood donations will greatly reduce and result in the existing supplies in the blood bank being run down to dangerously low levels. Current donation levels have reduced by 15%</p> <p>The inability of BOC NI employees to report for work will impact greatly on the supply of medical oxygen to healthcare facilities and home patients.</p> <p>DAERA -If pollution incidents affecting water abstraction points</p> <p>DE - A particular impact on those children who are entitled to free school meals. For some of these children and young people, a school meal may be the only healthy meal they receive each day.</p> <p>Arrangements for examinations could have a major impact on the future prospects of children including their examinations and entry into the next level of education or the workplace.</p> <p>DOJ - Current situation is stable across all operational areas within the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS). Staffing levels are starting to be impacted significantly and decisions have been taken to respond to this. No incidents of unrest have been caused.</p> <p>DfC - 10,000 new claims for Universal Credit in w/c 16th March (1800 in w/c 9th March) Universal credit 12,000 telephone calls answered which is more than double the normal level.</p> <p>As the number of cases of patients presenting with COVID-19 increase, staff in primary, secondary and social care sectors are in danger of being at risk of infection transmission.</p> <p>Additional testing capability would allow self-isolating health care workers and critical industry workers to be tested and potentially to be released back into the workplace earlier.</p> <p>to be tested and potentially to be released back into the workplace earlier.</p> <p>Wide ranging impacts on children and young people, including, well being, education, future prospects.</p>			

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Issue:	1. The Health and well-being of our citizens	BRAG Rating	
Support or Assistance Required? DOH - Departments are being asked to work with DoH to come up with additional venues to be used by NIBTS DE - is working closely with DfC to put in place alternative arrangements. Work with colleagues in DoH to put in place arrangements so that they will have access to the services that are necessary for their wellbeing. DoJ - Requirement for additional PPE equipment has been raised with TEO.			
Key Decision Points / Timings::	Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating	
	Comms / Media		
Additional – DH reporting through existing DHSC Gold command DoH requests feedback on response from other Departments for request to identify additional venues for use for community blood donations by NIBTS Increased testing capacity is being progressed as a priority by DoH DE have been in contact with DOH regarding PPE for teachers in schools with the children of key workers. Range of queries as to who qualifies as a key worker. Minister has agreed an approach to ensure payments to families for meals until end of June. Consideration being given to approach to holiday hunger during summer Queries received about maintaining social distancing for children with behavioural difficulties Working with examination bodies to develop a robust process for awarding grades. DoJ - Consideration will be given to the working arrangements of non-operational staff.	Data		
	Legal		
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)	

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1. The Health and well-being of our citizens

Illustrative aims/outcomes and reporting criteria

- 1.1 A Health and Social Care response.
- 1.2 Extended testing capacity (with frontline health workers remaining the priority).
- 1.3 Continued supply and production of essential goods and critical services (medicines, food, water, chemicals, fuels) and arrangements to support distribution to vulnerable people and groups (school meals, people in custody, the homeless, self-isolating and other vulnerable groups)
- 1.4 Nutritious replacement for free school meals to be made available to eligible children
- 1.5 Vulnerable children and adults with special needs and cared for children continue to receive appropriate care.
- 1.6 The health and well-being of our young people, their education and their future prospects including arrangements around examinations
- 1.7 Arrangements in place for protection for workers including those on zero hours and self-employed
- 1.8 Effective support for vulnerable citizens (benefits and debt advice)
- 1.9 Consider other measures as position develops (such as utility bills, housing and rent)
- 1.10 Ensure appropriate arrangements for people in our care (looked after children and people in custody)

Issue:	2. Economic well-being	BRAG Rating	
<p>Detailed description:</p> <p>DoF - Account NI is vital to keeping money flowing in the economy to all sectors (business, individuals and staff). There is no clear message from within NICS identifying that Account NI and HR Connect are essential services. Within these bank funding, payment issue and payroll are deemed as key priorities and the staff delivering them are therefore Key Workers. These will have to be prioritised over less critical Account NI and HR Connect services.</p> <p>DAERA - Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) support for Farmers continues via phone and online. Livestock market owners have indicated that all activities have been suspended from today.</p> <p>FM/dFM announce two business support schemes on 18 March to provide immediate assistance to small businesses and those in the Tourism, Hospitality and Retail sectors. DoF is now working with DfE to identify payment mechanism for Small Business and Tourism, Hospitality, and Retail sectors to receive the £10,000 and £25,000 cash grant as soon as possible. (SPAR, LPS, NI Direct, Account NI)</p>			
<p>What are the specific impacts?</p> <p>DoF - ESS ACNI - We are having to operate with minimum staffing.</p> <p>DAERA - BPS makes up a large proportion of farm incomes and any impact on this would affect Farmer Cash flow in October when 100% of payments would be paid in 2020.</p> <p>Industry teleconference held today to discuss how farmers trade stock with marts closed</p> <p>Assistance will alleviate cash flow pressures of these businesses and protect employment.</p>			
<p>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): Tolerate/Treat/Transfer</p> <p>ESS ACNI -Focusing on delivering on key aspects of our services i.e. paying businesses, individuals and staff.</p> <p>DAERA - Tolerate</p> <p>Liaison DfE and SPAR, LPS, Account NI and NI Direct.</p>			

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Issue: 2. Economic well-being		BRAG Rating	
Support or Assistance Required? ESS ACNI - Clarification and recognition of Key Services within NICS. Acceptance that non priority services cannot be sustained. Additional laptops to facilitate remote working.			
Key Decision Points / Timings: ESS ACNI - Situation being closely managed on a daily basis.	Cross Cutting Areas:		Rating
	Comms / Media		
	Data		
	Legal		
Additional Info: Possible transfer to another impact group? Linked to another impact group? Has this information been communicated into another impact group? ESS - Expectations need to be managed.	Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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Economic well-being

Illustrative aims/outcomes and reporting criteria

- 2.1 Resources and financial assistance provided to businesses quickly and without delay.
- 2.2 A package of support to businesses
- 2.3 Mitigate the economic impacts short, medium and long-term
- 2.4 Engagement fully with business leaders from all sectors.
- 2.5 Arrangements in place to co-ordinate and manage demand and supply challenges within the various sectors)

Issue:	3. Societal and community well-being	RAG Rating	
<p>Detailed description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfC - Key priorities to ensure grant funding extensions and flexibilities and to develop a Community Contingency Fund to support delivery of key services through the voluntary and community sector. Concerns about impact of outbreak on organisations within the Arts Sector. • DoF – 1. Local council registrars need to be available to deal with birth, marriage and death registrations. There are approx. 100 in northern Ireland but a number of them have underlying health issues so are not in work. Registrations of deaths in particular require a lot of information from the informant and so there is a lot of time spent with the member of the public. 2. General Register Office (GRO) staff – a small team of 24 (not FTE) 17% are off with underlying medical conditions, self isolating or social distancing. We support the Registration process and will have to take it over if the councils are struggling. • DoJ - Arrangements in place to protect the dignity and respect for the deceased and bereaved. 			
<p>What are the specific impacts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfC - Continuation of grant funding required by 1st April to ensure delivery of essential services. Community Contingency Fund required to enable VCS to respond to the developing situation. Community disruption and cancellation of events is having a significant impact on the Arts Sector. • DoF - Not currently but as deaths increase it may affect burials etc. • DoJ - Supporting resilience of those delivering services to/assisting the bereaved in an excess deaths situation. 			
<p>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</p> <p>Treat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DfC – Treat - Priority being given to completion of economic appraisals, new contracts for funding and making payments to the voluntary and community sector. Plans being developed to launch Community Contingency Fund. Consideration being given to what level of assistance can be provided to organisations in the Arts Sector. • DoF - It is the Councils responsibility to provide the registration function and most of them are taking on that responsibility and being proactive. GRO has provided guidance to the councils and will look at alternative ways to progress work. • DoJ – Tolerate. 			

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Issue:	3. Societal and community well-being	RAG Rating	
Support or Assistance Required?			
Key Decision Points / Timings: Immediate	Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating	
	Comms / Media		
Additional Info: Consultation ongoing with religious groups around religious preferences where there are excess deaths. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Committed to ensuring that those preferences are respected as far as possible.Plans are being put in place to deal with the deceased when normal burial/cremation arrangements are no longer capable of coping with the capacity.	Data		
	Legal		
	Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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3. Societal and community well-being

Illustrative aims/outcomes and reporting criteria

- 3.1. Role of and impact on the VCS fully considered and integrated in planning and response
- 3.2. Arrangements in place that protect the dignity and respect for the deceased and bereaved
- 3.3. Response arrangements in place for pressures and tensions .

Issue:	4. Our delivery priorities and service delivery	RAG Rating	
<p>Detailed description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSA needs to consider the potential impact of the outbreak on food safety concerns. Local Authorities are at the front line of incident management. It is not clear what assessment LAs have made to ensure they are able to continue operation if staff are taken ill. Hence there is concern that Local Authority resources are diverted away from food safety issues to deal with the outbreak leading to public health issues DFC - Concerns from local government re: loss of revenue streams. A request for the scheme of Emergency Financial Assistance to be activated. DoF - Secure Remote Access (SRA) is currently limited to 10,000 users due to band width. Urgent activities are covered, however greater access is required. Urgent work is being carried out to address this issue. DoJ - Limitations to delivery of some NI Courts services (future reporting will include the wider justice sector) 			
<p>What are the specific impacts?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Any of these key concerns could present a food safety risk, increase the probability of an incident occurring. In a worst case scenario, these issues could endanger public health. Lack of focus and /or business continuity on the part of LAs may negatively affect their ability to respond to incidents, especially if the COVID-19 outbreak causes an increase in food complaints and incidents of foodborne illness. DFC - Estimated loss of £7.2m due to closure of leisure facilities over a 6 month period. DoF - Ability for staff to work at home restricted to 10,000 users Decrease in overall footfall in court buildings, decrease in overall business levels and increase in case adjournments. <p>Reduction in the number of available staff (both through social distancing and other absences such as underlying health conditions and self-isolating)</p>			
<p>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Treat - FSA working with Defra to assess the situation. Impacts and mitigations to shortages of specific materials and potential food safety issues are being developed. Treat - FSA considering what contingencies are in place in conjunction with our risk assessment. Appropriate messaging developed and issued. Tolerate – loss of income due to closure of leisure facilities. Treat - DOJ working with office of the Lord Chief Justice and stakeholders to move towards critical business only 			
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Issue:	4. Our delivery priorities and service delivery		RAG Rating	
Additional Info: NICTS has developed a graduated response to the current public health emergency which, depending on the prevailing circumstances and available resources, entails working with the judiciary and partners to slow down lower priority business.				
Support or Assistance Required?				
Key Decision Points / Timings: Not possible to identify a single decision point or timing. This is a time critical crisis where industry state any decisions/actions are required immediately.		Cross Cutting Areas:		Rating
		Comms / Media		
Additional Info: Possible transfer to another impact group? Linked to another impact group? Has this information been communicated into another impact group? The Lord Chief Justice issued updated guidance in respect of court business on Friday 20 March to be introduced generally from the week commencing Monday 30 March 2020 or earlier where possible. Tribunal business largely adjourned under the direction of the Chair other than the Review Tribunal with critical cases conducted via telephone. Urgent Parole Commissioner cases by way of video conference. Social distancing enforced though out the Agency, number of business areas working on a rota basis.		Data		
		Legal		
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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4. Our delivery priorities and service delivery

Illustrative aims/outcomes and reporting criteria

- 4.1. Local government fully integrated into our planning and response
- 4.2. Critical services maintained such as water and waste collections
- 4.3. Full engagement with stakeholders on sectoral issues

Issue:	5. Our people	BRAG Rating	
<p>Detailed description:</p> <p>FSA: People plan is in place with guidance for staff including FAQs developed and published on Digital Workplace. FSA urgently considering the impact implementation of likely central government interventions. Current approach is to follow HMG advice maintaining on avoiding travelling to work unless strictly necessary. FSA receiving requests from other government organisations for resource support in handling the outbreak.</p> <p>DOF: Staff absence in DOF</p> <p>DE: staff are eager for further clarity on working arrangements especially in relation to Health and Safety.</p> <p>ESS ACNI - Essential payments to keep the economy going and the introduction of COVID 19 mitigation measures. Funding of public sector bank accounts. Payroll.</p> <p>DAERA: Staff needing PPE to carry out priority work</p> <p>DOJ: Ensuring wellbeing and resilience of DOJ work</p> <p>DfC: Priority to retain sufficient numbers of staff in delivery of key frontline services</p>			
<p>What are the specific impacts?</p> <p>FSA: Failure to address this issue may result in increased risk of infection of FSA staff and potential unilateral action by individuals. Multiple approaches may affect business continuity and ability to run external meetings, including conferences and interviews.</p> <p>DoF: Many staff homeworking not yet having impact on critical services</p> <p>School closures may impact ability of key staff to carry out normal working roles/respond to critical issues.</p> <p>DAERA public offices have reduced contact with the public and are encouraging online and telephone services.</p> <p>DfC 1509 staff not in office (increase from 1024 on 19th March). 164 of these staff are working from home.</p> <p>Ability for NICS Staff to work from home limited to 10, 000 workers due to bandwidth</p> <p>DE – impact on staff morale and availability (RAG; Green)</p> <p>ESS ACNI - In addition to the challenges of Business as Usual, additional work is being created in response to COVID 19 (eg, decisions to provide grants (COVID 19 grants to SME's) , etc, without fully understanding the information/processes required to pay them).</p> <p>DAERA: Increased risk to staff carrying out essential duties.</p> <p>DoJ: Potential impacts of illness and work pressures on DoJ staff.</p> <p>DfC: 2910 staff not in the office (increase from 1509 on 19th March). 461 of these staff are working from home. Loss of key personnel impacting particularly in ICT services in supporting people group. In child maintenance service staffing levels are currently at 30% but also experiencing a reduction in calls of approx 20%</p>			
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Issue:	5. Our people	BRAG Rating	
<p>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</p> <p>FSA: Treat</p> <p>DoF: Tolerate - monitoring situation and focus on priority and essential work</p> <p>ESS ACNI - close co-operation between DfE, LPS and ANI</p> <p>ESS IT Assist - Work progressing to increase the bandwidth available to SRA and it is hoped that this will be available over the next two weeks, at which time we will look to add a further 10,000 users to the SRA system.</p> <p>DAERA: Tolerate</p> <p>DoJ: Tolerate</p> <p>DfC: Remote devices being provided to enable more staff to work from home. Text alert system for all staff is now operational.</p>			
<p>Support or Assistance Required?</p> <p>ESS ACNI - Progress dependent on DfE and LPS. Awaiting test files.</p> <p>ESS IT Assist - None, work being carried out by Vodafone with IT Assist migrating services to the new bandwidth when ready.</p> <p>DAERA: DAERA is awarded a new PPE contract is in place and will requirements will be submitted.</p> <p>DoJ: none at this stage</p>			
<p>Key Decision Points / Timings:</p> <p>FSA: None to report</p> <p>DoF: MI required from NICSHR</p> <p>ESS ACNI - Expectations may exceed practicalities.</p> <p>ESS IT Assist - 1st April 2020 – service migrations and potential impact on Service Delivery.</p>		Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating
		Comms / Media	
<p>Additional Info:</p> <p>DoJ: DOJ Emergency response team set up, relevant guidance on COVID - 19 shared with DOJ staff, In line with HOCs guidance, most staff will be away from the office, which may affect business delivery.</p>		Data	
		Legal	
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)	
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5. Our people

Illustrative aims/outcomes and reporting criteria

- 5.1 Timely supply of appropriate equipment to allow emergency services to carry out their work safely.
- 5.2 Circulation of guidance to ensure the well-being and resilience of our staff
- 5.3. Prioritisation of COVID-19 planning and response

Issue:	6. Good governance	RAG Rating	
Detailed description:			
<p>DAERA – DAERA MERP has been activated including Gold, Silver and Bronze structures operating in full. DAERA DOC structures have been activated in the working mode of "Distance by default", using remote technologies as the first option in all activities.</p> <p>FSA: response to the outbreak via established non-routine incident response mechanisms. The incident is classified as 'major', which is the highest classification. Response is at strategic and operational levels with established channels across Westminster and NI Government. Business continuity plans are in place across the FSA Directorates.</p> <p>DfC: Departmental Covid-19 Emergency Plan developed and in place.</p>			
What are the specific impacts?			
<p>FSA: Not responding through established incident response mechanisms risks an approach that is not co-ordinated with central government and key stakeholders. If suitable BC plans are not in place and coordinated, the FSA will not be resilient and potentially unable to perform its duties in protecting public health.</p>			
What is being done about it? What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):			
<p>FSA: Treat Schemes being delivered to business asap. If not achieved significant employment impacts.</p> <p>DEARA: Tolerate</p> <p>DfC: Treat</p>			
Support or Assistance Required?			
FSA: No			
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Issue:	6. Good governance	RAG Rating	
Key Decision Points / Timings:	Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating	
	Comms / Media		
Additional Info: <i>FSA: Possible transfer to another impact group? Linked to another impact group? Has this information been communicated into another impact group?</i> <i>DOJ: We have briefed the Justice Committee on DoJ's preparedness and resilience. The Justice Committee was briefed this morning Monday 23rd March on the emergency provisions in the Coronavirus Bill.</i>	Data		
	Legal		
	Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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Issue:	6. Good governance - DoF		RAG Rating	
<p>Dof ONLY SLIDE: Detailed description: Business Support schemes mirror those for England and Scotland. Limited analysis carried out before agreed with Ministers and announced. Need confirm state aid compliance. Working with DfE to identify payment mechanism for Small Business and Tourism, Hospitality, and Retail sectors to receive the £10,000 and £25,000 cash grant as soon as possible. (SPAR, LPS, NI Direct, AccountNI)</p>				
<p>What are the specific impacts? Possible risk to VFM</p>				
<p>What is being done about it? What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): Scheme being delivered to business asap. If not achieved significant employment impacts.</p>				
<p>Support or Assistance Required?</p>				
Key Decision Points / Timings:	Cross Cutting Areas:		Rating	
	Comms / Media			
Additional Info:	Data			
	Legal			
	Behavioural (community tensions etc)			

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6. Good governance

Illustrative aims/outcomes and reporting criteria

- 6.1 Appropriate level of governance and decision-making
- 6.2 Appropriate level of Assembly and committee liaison
- 6.3 Effective working with Whitehall, other devolved administrations and the Irish Government

Issue: 7. Communications	BRAG Rating
<p>Detailed description: DfC External and internal communications issued to customers, stakeholders and staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Liaising with UC Programme to understand timing for further information on UC payment increases and changes for self-employed and plans in place to update nidirect and DfC website as soon as possible •Social distancing signage and posters for Causeway Exchange in place •Social Distancing posters designed for use in staffing areas across DfC; CEU will liaise with premises officers. •Note to all staff regarding social distancing •Note to all DfC staff on behalf of the Permanent Secretary – key worker update •Published remote worker security guidance for staff •2 intranet articles published on latest Ministerial/DfC response •Website FAQ commissioned from key telephony areas <p><u>External</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •JBo Facebook - Received 11 private messages on Friday 20 March (we normally only get 1 or 2 per month) •JBo Facebook - we had 86 comments and 686 shares on the main JBo appointments/ benefits link which we posted and boosted on Friday •Benefits ISL/BSL post to twitter and Facebook – Monday 23 March •CEU Continue to respond to the messages posted to Facebook, directing people to where they can get assistance and more information •Letter issued to MLAs signposting them to the DfC website/nidirect where information is updated regularly; links also provided (afternoon - Friday 20 March). Other Departmental stakeholders provided with the same on Wednesday 18 March. 	
<p>What are the specific impacts? Staff, stakeholders, including ALB's, and customers all require up to date information on impacts of Covid-19 on Department and delivery of its services.</p>	
<p>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): Treat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Exploring the expansion of the UC campaign to include info for self-employed with the Advertising Agency 	

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Issue:	7. Communications	BRAG Rating	
Support or Assistance Required? External communications issued on benefits and payments and site closures. Internal communications issued to staff identifying work priorities and provide advice on work practices.			
Key Decision Points / Timings:	Cross Cutting Areas:		Rating
	Comms / Media		
Additional Info:• DOJ -Comms opportunities around DoJ's preparedness continue to be used. -Further comms are planned specifically in relation to dealing with the deceased when normal procedures are no longer able to continue. -Justice Minister is delivering a statement in the Assembly on Monday 23 rd March. DfC - Head of Communications attending DfC WHSP Business Continuity meeting - 2pm - 4pm	Data		
	Legal		
	Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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Issue: 8. Finance		BRAG Rating	
Detailed description: DfC - Bid submitted to DoF for specific Covid-19 funding			
What are the specific impacts? Additional funding required to mitigate against impacts of outbreak on delivery of DfC services and to protect the most vulnerable in society.			
What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): Treat			
Support or Assistance Required?			
Key Decision Points / Timings: Urgent decisions required to ensure priorities can be delivered.		Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating
		Comms / Media	
Additional Info: DfC - Head of Communications attending DfC WHSP Business Continuity meeting - 2pm - 4pm		Data	
		Legal	
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)	

Issue:	9. Resources		BRAG Rating	
Detailed description: Detailed description: NICSHR Resourcing has had to postpone a significant number of planned recruitment and promotion competitions due to the unavailability of panel members and candidates and the need to limit access to government buildings in the interests of health and safety - working with Departments to identify and progress business critical competitions. DE - Increasing number of staff working from home DfC - Loss of staff across Department and need to ensure key services are maintained. Increased demand for portable devices				
What are the specific impacts? DE - Pressure on ability to deliver, inability to hold meetings, pressure on IT.				
What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): Treat DfC - Treat where possible				
Support or Assistance Required?				
Key Decision Points / Timings:		Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating	
		Comms / Media		
Additional Info:		Data		
		Legal		
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

Issue:	10. Additional Information		BRAG Rating	
Detailed description: DAERA - NIEA have two fire suppression units available which may be used for disinfecting. Cannot tolerate acidic sprays. CAFRE accommodation in Antrim, Cookstown and Enniskillen being readied for use by health service if required. List of veterinary practice ventilators being compiled for NI HSE – to go back today. DAERA collating list of staff and physical resources available to assist other departments with essential service delivery.				
What are the specific impacts?				
What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): Treat				
Support or Assistance Required? Assistance offered.				
Key Decision Points / Timings:		Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating	
		Comms / Media		
Additional Info:		Data		
		Legal		
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)		