

## MINUTE TEMPLATE

### MEETING NOTE

<b>KN REF:</b>			
<b>TITLE/ORGANISATION:</b>		Telephone call with CST and other Devolved Administrations	
<b>DATE AND TIME:</b>		27/3/20	
<b>VENUE:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> PB	<input type="checkbox"/> Clare House	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
<b>LIST OF ATTENDEES:</b>		Steve Barclay, Kate Forbes, Rebecca Evans, Conor Murphy, Sue Gray, Ben (CST staff didn't catch last name)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> SpAd	<input type="checkbox"/> PS	
<b>OFFICIALS:</b>			
<b>OTHERS:</b>			
<b>KEY POINTS DISCUSSED:</b> <b>Agenda</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Overview of economic response so far</li> <li>2. Self-employment package</li> <li>3. DA funding to respond in devolved areas</li> <li>4. AOB, including CSR, fiscal frameworks and job retention scheme</li> </ol> <p>Key messages:</p> <p><b>Agenda item 1</b></p> <p>CST provided an overview of packages that had been provided to date re economic response and sought a summary of what each devolved administration had done.</p> <p>NI response was that Covid 19 money channelled into relief of business; preparations in health, free school meals, procurement. Issues with job retention and the June date for self employed which could lead to increase in SSA claims to a system already under pressure – further clarity would be welcomed. Minister Murphy also asked how will overspend work further down the line.</p> <p>Scotland mentioned they had broadly replicated England.</p> <p>Wales have an economic crisis fund for businesses that need more help; support package for people being shielded, additional funding for NHS capacity</p>			

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Different messages are causing confusion. Specifically mentioned that PHA advice was conflicting with Government advice. Confusion amongst businesses both within the devolved areas and also UK wide. CST keen to identify where confusion is and clear it up.

Loans – Treasury working with banks

NHS Testing – work going on in international procurement

### **Agenda item 2**

Minister Murphy referenced the June date for self employed and what could be delivered re operational pressures – re June date advised a huge amount had already been announced that should help.

Job retention scheme – interaction of definitions of essential key workers – helpful to have more detail and how this is working in practice. Concern is where employer should close and doesn't. CST advised the desire was to be as flexible as possible.

Issues for self employed scheme:

for NI – providing accounts and lot of sole traders

for Scotland – point around bridging loans until June

For Wales – questioned whether thought had been given to small loans / hardship funds

CST – response that 4 fiscal interactions had been provided that cumulatively were quite unprecedented.

CST advised other support available was the business interruption loan and universal credit.

CST advised that given the interventions to date it would be increasingly harder to justify different contributions to the tax system. If there were increases they wouldn't be immediate.

### **Agenda item 3**

Barnett

Wales and Scotland – need for devolved administration to have more flexibility around own powers to deal with the pandemic

NI – calls with Treasury officials very helpful – highlighted that NI was very different eg Social care also part of Health in NI

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### Agenda item 4

AOB –

NI – approx. 80 tech firms in NI are ineligible for business interruption loan – Sue to talk to Ben

Airline industry need to remember baggage handlers Menzies as without them in the future the airlines wont function – CST said would feed this back to DfT.

### ISSUES AGREED:

### ACTION POINTS / OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE:

NI – approx. 80 tech firms in NI are ineligible for business interruption loan – **Sue to talk to Ben.**

CST keen to identify where confusion is and clear it up – re across business and re guidance – feedback required – **to be assigned**

Job retention scheme – interaction of definitions of essential key workers – helpful to have more detail and how this is working in practice – **PO can forward most up to date key workers list**

NOTE WRITTEN BY:

NR

DATE:

27/3/20