

# Departmental Operations Centre

Department of Education (DE)

## SITUATION REPORT **DE 2020/01**

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Approved by NR

Information correct as of 16.00 on 20 March 2020

**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

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# 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	Departmental responsibilities are experiencing severe pressure and mitigations being actively developed.

- **Key issues last 24 hours:**

Letter issued from DE Minister to education sector  
Consideration of Key Worker Guidance.

- **Key issues next 24 hours:**

Finalisation and issue of Key Worker Guidance.

- **Requests for information:**

Multiple requests received by email and phone on the closure of schools, key workers list, child care etc.

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DOC Status Update	RAG Rating
Staffing	
ICT and connectivity	
Real estate / accommodation	
Liaison Officers	

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## Situation Report Overview

Issue	RAG Rating	Key Concerns / Risk Areas
1. The Health and well-being of our citizens	Red	The closure of schools
2. Economic well-being	Green	Free school meals
3. Societal and community well-being	Green	Vulnerable children and those with special needs receiving appropriate care
4. Our delivery priorities and service delivery	Green	Cancellation of Examinations
5. Our people	Yellow	
6. Good Governance	Green	
7. Communications	Yellow	
8. Finance	Green	
9. Resources	Green	

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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)

<b>Issue:</b>	<b>1. The Health and well-being of our citizens</b>		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b> The closure of schools to pupils.				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> Wide ranging impacts on children and young people, including, well being, education, future prospects.				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b> Working with other Departments as outlined in following slides.				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b> As per the announcement schools will close to pupils expect those of key workers.		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>		<b>Rating</b>
		<b>Comms / Media</b>		
<b>Additional</b>		<b>Data</b>		
		<b>Legal</b>		
		<b>Behavioural (community tensions etc)</b>		

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<b>Issue:</b>	<b>1. The Health and well-being of our citizens</b>		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b> Nutritious replacement for free school meals to be made available to eligible children				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> 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.				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b> DE is working closely with DfC to put in place alternative arrangements.				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings::</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
		Comms / Media		
<b>Additional</b>		Data		
		Legal		
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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<b>Issue:</b>	<b>1. The Health and well-being of our citizens</b>		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b> Vulnerable children and adults with special needs and cared for children continue to receive appropriate care				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> Vulnerable children and adults with special needs and cared for children would not receive appropriate care.				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b> 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.				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings::</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
		<b>Comms / Media</b>		
<b>Additional</b>		<b>Data</b>		
		<b>Legal</b>		
		<b>Behavioural (community tensions etc)</b>		

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<b>Issue:</b>	<b>1. The Health and well-being of our citizens</b>		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b> Arrangements for examinations or alternative.				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> This 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.				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings::</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
		<b>Comms / Media</b>		
<b>Additional</b>  <b>Working with examination bodies to develop a robust process for awarding grades.</b>		<b>Data</b>		
		<b>Legal</b>		
		<b>Behavioural (community tensions etc)</b>		

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<b>Issue:</b>	<b>2. Economic well-being</b>		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b>				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b>				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> <b>Tolerate/Treat/Transfer</b>				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
		<b>Comms / Media</b>		
<b>Additional Info:</b> <i>Possible transfer to another impact group? Linked to another impact group? Has this information been communicated into another impact group?</i>		<b>Data</b>		
		<b>Legal</b>		
		<b>Behavioural (community tensions etc)</b>		

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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)

<b>Issue:</b>	<b>3. Societal and community well-being</b>		<b>RAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b>				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> Increased resilience in the energy sector.				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>		<b>Rating</b>
Immediate		Comms / Media		
<b>Additional Info:</b>		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.

<b>Issue:</b>	<b>4. Our delivery priorities and service delivery</b>		<b>RAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b>				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b>				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b>				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>		<b>Rating</b>
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.		<b>Comms / Media</b>		
<b>Additional Info:</b> <i>Possible transfer to another impact group? Linked to another impact group? Has this information been communicated into another impact group?</i>		<b>Data</b>		
		<b>Legal</b>		
		<b>Behavioural (community tensions etc)</b>		

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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

<b>Issue:</b>	<b>5. Our people</b>		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b> DE staff are eager for further clarity on working arrangements especially in relation to Health and Safety.				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> Impact on staff moral and availability.				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
		Comms / Media		
<b>Additional Info:</b>		Data		
		Legal		
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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<b>Issue:</b>	<b>5. Our people</b>		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b> Prioritisation of COVID-19 planning and response				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> Department is reviewing overall priorities in order to ensure appropriate Covid 19 planning and response.				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
		Comms / Media		
<b>Additional Info:Additional Info:</b>		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

<b>Issue:</b>	<b>6. Good governance</b>		<b>RAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b>				
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b>				
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> <b>Tolerate/Treat/Transfer</b>				
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>				
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
		<b>Comms / Media</b>		
<b>Additional Info:</b> <i>Possible transfer to another impact group? Linked to another impact group? Has this information been communicated into another impact group?</i>		<b>Data</b>		
		<b>Legal</b>		
		<b>Behavioural (community tensions etc)</b>		

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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

<b>Issue:</b>	<b>7. Communications</b>	<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b> Multiple queries being received by phone and email.			
<b>What are the specific impacts?</b> Private office and DE Doc under pressure to provide responses to a large number of queries.			
<b>What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer):</b> Treat			
<b>Support or Assistance Required?</b>			
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>	<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>	
	Comms / Media		
<b>Additional Info:</b>	Data		
	Legal		
	Behavioural (community tensions etc)		

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<b>Issue:</b> 8. Finance		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
<b>Detailed description:</b>			
What are the specific impacts?			
What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): <b>Treat</b>			
Support or Assistance Required?			
<b>Key Decision Points / Timings:</b>		<b>Cross Cutting Areas:</b>	<b>Rating</b>
		Comms / Media	
<b>Additional Info:</b>		Data	
		Legal	
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)	

<b>Issue:</b> 9. Resources		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
Detailed description: Increasing number of staff working from home,			
What are the specific impacts? Pressure on ability to deliver, inability to hold meetings, pressure on IT.			
What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): <b>Treat</b>			
Support or Assistance Required?			
Key Decision Points / Timings:		Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating
		Comms / Media	
Additional Info:		Data	
		Legal	
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)	

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<b>Issue:</b> 10. Additional Information		<b>BRAG Rating</b>	
Detailed description:			
What are the specific impacts?			
What is being done about it? (Tolerate, Treat, Transfer): <b>Treat</b>			
Support or Assistance Required?			
Key Decision Points / Timings:		Cross Cutting Areas:	Rating
		Comms / Media	
Additional Info:		Data	
		Legal	
		Behavioural (community tensions etc)	

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