

Executive Covid-19 Taskforce

Minutes of the meeting on 25th January 2022 at 8.00am via zoom

Attending: Jayne Brady
Peter May
Mike Brennan
NR
Denis McMahon
Richard Pengelly
Bill Pauley
John Smith
Karen Pearson
Peter Luney
Chris McNabb
Name Redacted
Doreen McClintock
Name Redacted
Name Redacted / (Minutes)

Apologies: Tracy Meharg, Colum Boyle, Katrina Godfrey

1. Minutes from 18th January

The minutes of 18 January were agreed.

2. Matters arising from Executive meeting on 20th January

Financial support schemes

Mike Brennan and Bill Pauley updated on support for the sector and plans for Executive consideration and related communication.

Review of restrictions on 10th February

Karen Pearson updated on the future of the testing and travel regime across the UK and the need for structured conversations to ensure Northern Ireland sighted on plans in other jurisdictions. Peter Luney outlined timeline ahead of the formal review of restrictions in NI on 10 February.

3. Protect

Case numbers and positivity rates continue to increase; hospital admissions bumpy; high level of community transmissions which is under close review. 12% staff absence last week, slightly down this week. Dialogue with MoD continues. Dialogue with the DoH Minister continues.

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4. Adherence

Peter May spoke to the paper circulated on 'Scores on the Doors'.

5. Communications (Chris McNabb)

A communications audit is underway to ensure that media is aligned/streamlined to best support the changing Executive messaging going forward.

6. AOB

Post Autumn/Winter Plan ("Living with COVID" update)

Peter Luney advised that this plan is under review and indicated that it will include a much broader range of issues beyond restrictions and future management of Covid. The parameters of this document are currently being defined via a Pestelo analysis to aid the strategic recovery from the impacts of Covid. Plans in other regions and the impact of the UK public inquiry will be considered. It is intended that this would be a public facing document. Peter sought views from the group on this draft document.

[Action: All ECT members]

Workforce absences monitoring

Doreen McClintock advised that there was nothing significant to report in relation to the workforce.

UK Covid Inquiry

The group discussed the likely timing and content of the Terms of Ref

Date of next meetings

- 8th February *(to discuss restrictions review paper – Exec on 10th February)*
- 22nd February *(to discuss Living with Covid paper – Exec on 3rd March)*