

Message

From: Pearson, Karen [Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 13/04/2020 6:02:26 PM
To: TEO HOCS (DS) [HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk]; Pearson, Karen [Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk]; May, Peter [peter.may@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk]; Anthony.harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk; NIHUB Chief of Staff [cos@nihub.gov.uk]; 'Stewart, Chris (TEO)' [chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk]; [NR]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Cobr

Anthony, [NR] and I will discuss how we join this up.

Raab has just practically announced that lifting restrictions this week isn't going to happen. I'm not now tempted to make a big point at my level about lack of engagement for this first decision point but we need much better engagement from here on in.

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From: TEO HOCS (DS) <HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>
Date: Monday, 13 Apr 2020, 5:58 pm
To: Pearson, Karen <Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>, HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk <HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>, May, Peter <peter.may@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>, Anthony.harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk <Anthony.harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>, NIHUB Chief of Staff <COS@NIHUB.gov.uk>, 'Stewart, Chris (TEO)' <chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>, [NR]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk <[\[NR\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[NR]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>
Subject: RE: Cobr

Karen

No Cab Sec call today. They resume tomorrow at 5.00.

Picking up on the earlier point about the MIG/Cab Sec rhythm, it would be good to have a few lines on key issues coming to the Cab Sec meeting. In recent times I've rarely got papers more than 45 mins before the meeting which has made it almost impossible to get briefing on proposal etc. I've often had to resort to sending texts to perm secs just before the start of a meeting.

So it would be good if we could reinforce points made at MIG at the Cab Sec meeting.

Whatever the agenda tomorrow, I will raise the DA engagement issue.

David

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From: Pearson, Karen <Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>
Date: Monday, 13 Apr 2020, 16:28

To: HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk <HOCS@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>, May, Peter <peter.may@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>, Anthony.harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk <Anthony.harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>, NIHUB Chief of Staff <COS@NIHUB.gov.uk>, 'Stewart, Chris (TEO)' <chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>, [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)> [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>
Subject: FW: Cobr

David

Not sure if there is a Mark Sedwill call today. If there is, please see that engagement with DAs on the cobr decision this week has dried up and no clarity on next steps.

Karen

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From: Pearson, Karen <Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>
Date: Monday, 13 Apr 2020, 4:25 pm
To: Joe.Griffin@gov.scot <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>, Ken.Thomson@gov.scot <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>, Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales <Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales>, Piers.Bisson@gov.wales <Piers.Bisson@gov.wales>, [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)> [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>, Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales <Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales>
Cc: Stewart, Chris (TEO) <chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>, Dominic.Munro@gov.scot <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>, Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk <Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>, NIHUB Chief of Staff <COS@NIHUB.gov.uk> [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>
Subject: RE: Cobr

Thanks Joe. Very helpful to know.

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From: Joe.Griffin@gov.scot <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>
Date: Monday, 13 Apr 2020, 4:23 pm
To: Ken.Thomson@gov.scot <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>, Pearson, Karen <Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>, Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales <Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales>, Piers.Bisson@gov.wales <Piers.Bisson@gov.wales>, [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)> [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@gov.scot](mailto:[REDACTED]@gov.scot)>, Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales <Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales>
Cc: Stewart, Chris (TEO) <chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>, Dominic.Munro@gov.scot <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>, Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk <Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>, NIHUB Chief of Staff <COS@NIHUB.gov.uk>, [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk)>
Subject: RE: Cobr

Thanks Ken. Colleagues, I just had an update of sorts from CCS, who suggested they are pushing for formal confirmation of arrangements, and have shared the names of two Directors in Mark Sweeney's area as an alternative channel. I'll try them and come back to this group if I hear anything.

Best wishes,

Joe

From: Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>

Sent: 13 April 2020 16:21

To: Pearson, Karen <Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Piers.Bisson@gov.wales; [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR @gov.scot>; Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales

Cc: Stewart, Chris (TEO) <chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Harbinson, Anthony <Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; NIHUB Chief of Staff <COS@NIHUB.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR @executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Cobr

Karen –

No, we've no greater insight nor engagement than we had at the end of last week's call.

Our First Minister has said today that her view is that restrictions should remain in place. I doubt that COBR this week will come to a different conclusion; but if it is in future to be a means of reaching aligned Four Nations decisions, the engagement and bandwidth needs to be a lot greater than it currently is.

(I've added Joe Griffin and Dominic Munro here, who are our lead directors on COBR arrangements and review of social distancing measures respectively; and Reg Kilpatrick in WG, with whom I know Joe is in touch.)

K

Ken Thomson | Director General, Constitution & External Affairs, Scottish Government |   **I&S**  **I&S**
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From: Pearson, Karen <Karen.Pearson@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>

Sent: 13 April 2020 15:45

To: Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales; Piers.Bisson@gov.wales; [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR @gov.scot>

Cc: Stewart, Chris (TEO) <chris.stewart@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>; Harbinson, Anthony <Anthony.Harbinson@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk>; NIHUB Chief of Staff <COS@NIHUB.gov.uk> [REDACTED] NR [REDACTED] NR @executiveoffice-ni.gsi.gov.uk>

Subject: Cobr

Hi hope you all have had some rest over the weekend.

Just getting in touch about the cobr decision needed this week on restrictions. I've heard nothing more from Cabinet Office. I sent an email this morning asking about engagement with us prior to the decision point but I've heard nothing back.

Do you have any insights into next steps?

Best wishes

Karen

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