

TEO MEETING NOTE

TITLE/ORGANISATION:		FM / dFM meeting with Secretary of State for Northern Ireland		
DATE:	10 March 2021	NOTE WRITTEN BY:		
		NR		
VENUE:	Virtually via Zoom			FM Advisers: Philip Weir
<p>LIST OF ATTENDEES: First Minister, Rt Hon Arlene Foster MLA (FM) deputy First Minister, Michelle O'Neill MLA (dFM) Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Brandon Lewis MP (SoSNI) Junior Minister Gordon Lyons Philip Weir. Special Adviser FM</p> <p>NR PS FM</p> <p>Donal Moran, PPS dFM</p> <p>Mark Larmour, NIO</p> <p>Paul Flynn, NIO</p> <p>NR NIO</p>				
KEY POINTS DISCUSSED:		<p>FM noted that Peter Hendy's connectivity review had been published today, although she had not yet had time to review it in detail.</p> <p>In response to a query from SoSNI, FM indicated that there was no Covid update yet, with a meeting expected on Tuesday 16th. She indicated that there was no requirement for a quad meeting.</p> <p>SoSNI queried the progress of the Executive paper on the Fiscal Council. FM indicated that it caused her difficulty as it was interlinked with the Fiscal Committee paper. dFM noted advisers were discussing these issues.</p> <p>SoSNI queried next steps in relation to COVID-19 management. FM indicated that a taskforce would be established reporting to HOCS. SoSNI agreed that the challenge would be in the summer, despite the booster programme, as Covid would still be prevalent.</p>		

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

	<p>FM indicated the forthcoming meeting with CDL later that day to discuss Vaccine Certificates and implications for travel. The advantages and disadvantages need to be considered, including Civil liberties concerns.</p> <p>SoSNI confirmed CDL was being tasked with work on this issue and whether passports would be required for international travel. The issue is enforcement. Companies discriminating against the unvaccinated may present legal issues.</p> <p>dFM queried whether there was any progress on the Victims' Payment discussion.</p> <p>SoSNI indicated that Officials had been meeting and there was correspondence from the Executive.</p>
ACTION POINTS:	