

FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH



**FROM: ROBIN SWANN
MINISTER OF HEALTH**

Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST, BT4 3SQ
Tel: **I&S**
Email: private.office@health-ni.gov.uk

DATE: 18 OCTOBER 2020

SUB-2008-2020

**TO: ARLENE FOSTER & MICHELLE O'NEILL
FIRST MINISTER DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER**

Compliance

As we discussed in the course of Tuesday's Executive meeting, I remain firmly of the view that - as we move forward – the issue of compliance with whatever package of restrictions and guidance we have in place at any point in time becomes ever more important.

I am conscious that the Junior Ministers are leading a cross sectoral working group to consider these issues. While this is very helpful, I believe a more singular focus on this issue might be beneficial. My sense is that Junior Ministers are working hard to consolidate existing actions and resources across sectors, and I feel the appointment of an individual with the single responsibility of engagement across society and all sectors, with a view to determining the barriers to compliance, and what new measures may be necessary to overcome these, would be beneficial. Such an approach would allow the Junior Ministers to focus on the delivery of agreed actions.

I do not have any particular individual in mind for this role, but perhaps some relatively high profile individual from outwith the public sector would be useful – in what could be described as the role of "Compliance Czar".

I think it is essential that we move on this quickly, as I believe we have a four week window of opportunity to develop a new and more effective approach to this fundamentally important issue.

Perhaps we could discuss at the next executive meeting?

Yours sincerely

PD

Robin Swann MLA
Minister of Health

Working for a Healthier People

