

TEO MEETING NOTE

TITLE/ORGANISATION:		FM / dFM call with MoH, CMO, CSA		
DATE:	5 October 2020	NOTE WRITTEN BY:		
		NR		
VENUE:				FM Advisers: Philip Weir, Emma Little-Pengelly dFM Advisers: Stephen McGlade, Dara O'Hagan
LIST OF ATTENDEES: First Minister, Rt Hon Arlene Foster MLA (FM) Deputy First Minister, Michelle O'Neill MLA (dFM) Junior Minister FM, Gordon Lyons MLA (JML) Junior Minister dFM, Declan Kearney MLA (JMK) Robin Swann, Minister of Health Dr Michael McBride, CMO Prof Ian Young, CSA Philip Weir, Special Adviser FM Emma Little-Pengelly, Special Adviser FM Stephen McGlade, Special Adviser dFM Dara O'Hagan, Special Adviser dFM NR PS FM Karen Pearson, TEO Chris McNabb, EIS NR, EIS NR EIS				
KEY POINTS DISCUSSED:		FM noted a call with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (CDL) and a query regarding the level of financial support for any further lockdowns and the threshold for triggering this. She indicated the clear view was that the trigger is at Tier 3. CSA responded that JBC determines the criteria for Tiers and that SAGE are discussing the impact of various interventions. CMO indicated that Scotland are at Tier 3 and the determining		

	<p>factor is the ability of the health service to cope with increased Covid patients.</p> <p>CSA outlined the current Covid situation, noting that cases were not rising as rapidly as March but that the doubling time was 7 days. The impact of Executive measures remains to be seen but won't be sufficient to reduce the R rate to less than 1.</p> <p>Ministers, CMO, CSA discussed the need for finance to support any circuit breaker, the length of any circuit breaker required and the best timing to introduce it, also taking account of school closures over the half-term Halloween holidays. They also discussed the impacts that enforcement and compliance have on the success of any circuit breaker.</p> <p>Ministers and Officials discussed the need to balance the health, economic and human rights concerns in determining the proportionality of any further restrictions.</p> <p>Ministers noted the need for all Executive Ministers to be presenting the same message regarding the need for further restrictions and share media messaging. Ministers agreed the need to sufficiently resource the Covid teams in DoH and TEO and bring in expertise as required e.g. lawyers and drafters. DoH and TEO are to provide details of the staffing requirement.</p> <p>Thursday's Executive meeting should consider Covid-related papers only. An additional Executive meeting should be arranged for Monday morning if necessary.</p> <p>A Ministerial level meeting is to be arranged tomorrow between DoH, DfE, DoF and DfC.</p> <p>A further meeting with CMO and CSA is to be arranged for Wednesday night.</p>
ACTION POINTS:	<p>DoH and TEO are to provide details of the staffing requirement for their Covid teams.</p> <p>Thursday's Executive meeting should consider Covid-related papers only. An additional Executive meeting should be arranged for Monday morning if necessary.</p> <p>A Ministerial level meeting is to be arranged tomorrow between DoH, DfE, DoF and DfC.</p> <p>A further meeting with CMO and CSA is to be arranged for Wednesday night.</p>

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE