

16-3-21

FW Minutes 10 + 11 March

Agreed

DOH 180 inpatients
ICH reduction
[]
ROI - AstraZeneca.

DOJ Roll-out - over 50s - delay - due to pressure? lot of people waiting - IT pressure on system.

DOH Always initial rush - system specifically designed.

DOJ Good - concerns re AstraZeneca.
Confusion - people to go through GP or online - need clearer messaging.
Evidence base - clots - seems no higher than regular population.
Glad it hasn't detracted from people applying.

DOH Still good uptake - also interest from people in ROI.

DAERA Tried to apply yesterday - but wd be required travel long distance - Enniskillen, Omagh

FW Enniskillen - lucky!

ECT Update

HOCS

Slide - show ~~process~~ process
Pathway out of Restk - 4-week cycle.
Slide shows Rhythm - act-pause-reflect.
All depts represented.
16 March - make decisions
Cross-dept group meeting in parallel.
Review what happens on weekly basis.
Continual review/assess^m.
All steps informed by 4 enablers -
sectoral engage^m - integral.
Next decision point - 15 Apr.
Process - cross-dept + sectoral
engage^m, reflect/review
- can make decisions outside process
→ driven by data.
Benchmarking, builds credibility.
DOH - formal review of kegs in
parallel
Considered by Exec at same time as
looking at ease^m.
No of issues in system - eg schools
- coherent with Taskforce.
Also - paper re Int. Travel.

DFI

To get clear in own mind.
DOH - reviewing kegs, also giving
view on proposals by him.
Re Anomaly - [travel] paper?

HCCS

Next time - ECT paper bringing forward proposals

Today - papers already in system, so slightly different process

From now on - COVID Taskforce making proposals.

DAERA

Other countries - British Isles - ahead of us - education.

Post-Easter before things happen. Next review - mid-April - we will be way behind everyone else - public will not understand why we are out of step.

Concern - decisions will be made outside this system. Why will other places have hairdressers/garden centres open + we won't - people will say 'why' - what scientific advice is different here?

HCCS

Cross-dept grp meeting weekly - can decide to bring forward proposals.

Significant relaxations in Doh paper today - esp schools. CMO advice - opening schools uses up 'headroom'.

Need to go with least risky approach - if there is headroom, + health advice allows, ~~there~~ can make other decisions as we wish.

DPE

Next review - 15 Apr; lift restrictions - start of May. Will struggle to explain to public. Damage caused to

retail - long time between making decisions + acting on decisions.
Paper for issue - suggestions re opening economy.
Looking at decisions - take broader view - incl economic expert in process, also expert on community impact. Will send letter re process - welcome clarity of process, but concern re timelines.

PM Sectoral engage^m - groups asking for dates for opening - need to listen as well as engage.

HCC Spoke yesterday - Colin Neill - Hospital
Need to give sectors time to plan, prepare - engage with sectors re time for reopening before making public announce^m.
Some sectors want instant action, some want time to plan - can't please all.

Ed - Schools

DE School closures - damage - not just academic impact - also mental health impact.
Proposal - Recomm 2 - ties in with pathways - similar to other jurisdictions, but a bit slower.
Families - divisions to manage P1/2 +

older children.

Next week - limited academic learning, just getting used to school again.

Final phase - 18-11 - same as Scotland, Wales, ROI.

Useful response from DOH - list of mitigations - all can be adopted - eg. face

coverings - should be worn post primary.

Between Thursday/today - started roll-out of testing regime - staff/pupils.

Mitigations doable - work through with DOH.

Precautionary approach - phased.

FM Agree re-comm 2 + 3 - Exec paper?

Yes

Review of Restrictions

DOH Pathway - outlined by HCS. Review every 4 weeks - incl in paper, also weekly updates.

Taskforce review - use headroom.

Looking at review of reqs - schools outside of reqs, so different approach.

DS paper - has used up some headroom.

Changes - proportionate

1 Apr - 10 people outdoors - sports

- 6 people outdoor - gardens

- garden centres / click-collect

12 Apr - Stay local message

click / collect - all non-essential retail
Sports training - outdoors.

DOJ

Paper fairly comprehensive

Rationale - outdoor gardens / parks -
different numbers - confusing - better
to pick one number + stick with it.

Stay local message - 10 mile applies
only to travel for exercise - guidance
only - ~~it~~ encourages more lax
attitude.

Travel for golf - cd breach guidance -
not enforceable, conflict of message
- need some streamlining - outdoor
numbers, 10 mile guidance ~~is~~ - still
necessary.

DOH

Numbers - ref to gardens - people
think 10 is safe, keep to 6 in
dwellings.

DOJ

Stick to 6 for parks?, confusing.

DOH

Enhanced communication strategy
- 6 people - home garden.

Stay at home - up to 12 Apr. Don't
want rush over Easter

Graduated response - from Stay at
Home to Stay local.

DOJ

Conflict - can play golf, but may
need to travel. COVID marshalls -

seaside towns deluged. local govt need to give advice on the ground - tell people to move on. Tourist travel - no take up by local govt.

Croft - people will travel
Guidance - only applies to exercise, not shopping.

DOH Have been asking for compliance / COVID marshalls - looked for PSNI checkpoints etc.
Step out of lockdown - not easy.

DFI Agree - need to be cautious - add more to outdoors - losing people.
Vaccination progress - people frustrated at slow approach to easing restrictions.

DOH People looking at where we are - better than elsewhere across these islands - we have introduced L 1.
Moving slowly - if go too fast, may have to go backwards + reimpose.

DFI Next review - even more vaccinations - make bigger relaxation decisions then?

DOH No crystal ball - don't want to move too quickly + then have to go back.

FM 10 mile issue - no-one is abiding by this-

may be a problem.

DPE

Last set of restrictions - families -
discounted children under 12. Incl
that approach now?

Need to bring people with us - XI
restrictions on family meetings.

Review exemption for children under
12?

DOH

Under 12 - introduced when Kent
variant arrived - greater transmiss-
ability.

Children now back at school - ~~from~~ no
of classes/schools if in family gatherings
- so incl in overall nos.

DPE

Better weather, less risk outside -
balance risk of seeing family.

DOH

That is balance we take into consideration
- disappointed you are querying. We
are increasing nos.

DPE

Reasonable question to ask - 10 of us
cd walk in park, but can't have tea in
a garden - anomaly.

DOH

If anyone wants to make counter-
proposal.....

PM

Only got paper yesterday
- 10 mile issue; 10 / 6 outdoors
query

JML

Stay at home - works for few weeks/
months - then breaks down - still a
credible message?

Meeting outdoors - P Vallance says -
even large crowds - [no spikes]?

large crowds outdoors - can't go
indoors - nothing open.

CMD view?

Vallance/Whitty right re outdoor spaces
groups? Why not apply here?

DCH

Shouldn't be asking one CMD to
challenge another CMD.

CMD

Important to reflect totality of comments:
- not just outdoor activities themselves -
but what is associated with them - eg
car-sharing, sharing facilities etc.
All referenced in paper.

Recomm in paper - outdoors activities
in controlled/measured way - work
with sporting codes - sidelines, changing
rooms - that is where risk lies.

DFC

Important conversation - ensuring
compliance. If moved to 10 for
gardens - fits with guidance?

Proposal for 10 incl gardens - DCH
view?

Para 80 - compliance - DFC to monitor
- dept wd not have capacity to monitor
venues everywhere. Worked with sporting

codes - but dept can't take on duty to ensure compliance.

DOH

Good engage^{ment} with DFC - similar with DE - ask sporting codes to advise DFC they are complying - not for DFC officials to go out + check.

DFC

Not for dept to physically oversee guidelines - can work with sporting codes - they have measures in place
- 'DFC will monitor compliance' - we can't undertake this - will issue guidance.

FM

Similar to previous opening up?

DOH

Confusion - DFC to engage with sporting bodies who will monitor - ownership, responsibility.

DAERA

Know DOH don't want resorts crowded on Easter Mon.

Some actions counter-productive
- Sprucefield packed, but florists not allowed click/collect - makes no sense, damages ~~their~~ credibility.
HCS said - schools opening - but we are 5 weeks behind England
Garden centres click/collect - not enough - they shd be open - planting time now.

Hairdressers - earliest end of Apr before opening - huge mental health issues for people / older people.

Adjourn - Reconsider.

Hairdressers opened in Wales yesterday - we will be 6 weeks behind.

Paper - reflects paralysed Exec, can't make decisions.

o 1PM

Exec can make decisions - agreed 2 weeks ago - Pathway out of Restriction - this paper reflects.

Understand - need to bring people with us.

Content with proposals in paper - but sympathy re 6/10 was outdoors. - DoH view?

Have to set our own pace, not compare to other jurisdictions.

No point in making plan if we don't stick to it.

DoH view - 6/10?

o . . PM

10 mile issue

Gardens 6 move to 10

o CMO

Gen comment - lot of consideration - Para 11 - COVID different in each jurisdiction - Wales was much lower NI highest in UK - was coming down but not same as UK/ROI.

Decisions based on data.

Move 6 to 10 - gardens. Carries risk - people may go indoors, smaller space/gardens - behavioural issues, - 10 miles - matter for mins - don't want sudden move 'Stay at Home' to 'go wherever you like' - Stay local better

Para 81, point 8 - need for clear communications, adherence grp. DFC work with sporting codes.

DCSH

Move 6-10 - gardens - upwards pressure on 7. People in household - may not transmit, more people, more transmission - but if increased was give better overall adherence/public buy-in, ed be better.

Feeling way in the dark - outdoors, getting to outdoor location - walking on frozen pond.

Don't want virus to grow - one week social mixing - 5 weeks of lockdown to get nos back down.

PM

12 Apr - Stay home to Stay local - don't need 10 mile specification if say 'Stay local'.

DOH

Struggle in past - once we announce - FM/dFM/DOH are left to carry message - can be

struggle. Need message we all need to adhere to.

Have to go to Chamber now.

Business Committee - come back at 1.00pm

DF UN event at 1.30

FM 12.30?

DFC Motion @ 12.30

FM ^{10.25} Adjourn -

Reconvene at 1.00pm

Any queries - engage directly with relevant mins before we reconvene.

1.10 FM

Good discussion this a.m.

- Remove 10 mile from guidance - emphasize 'Stay local'
- Garden - 10 people.

DOH

CHD/DCSH guidance - content to remove 10 mile - strong message Stay local

Realign 12 Apr - 10 people OR

[]

Cautions

6/2 - from 1 Apr

10 - from 12th

FM

Outdoors -

After Easter - 2 households no limit?

DOH limit - still 10
eg Holy Lands - HMO houses -
could be more than 10.

FM 1 Apr outdoor - 2 households / 10 people
After Easter - 10/2 all outdoor
space

DOH DO's saying - complicated.
Cautious

FM 10/2 outdoors apart from gardens
6/2
After Easter - 10/2 all outdoors

~~DOH~~ BE Totality - or children under 12
exempt?

DOH Totality.

FM Agree reasons? (Yes)
DPI Clarify?
FM Up to 6, up to 10.

DAERA When can we review?
Poss to look at outside of meeting
mid-Apr?

HOCS Process - designed to incl pause
after each decision
Next review 15 Apr
But if significant proposal/opportunity

cd look at separately.

Rolling 4-week prog agreed by Exec

But if exceptional, backed by medical evidence - cd consider

But aiming for package of measures on 15 Apr

DAERA For data-led response, need data.
Scottish evidence only, less than us.

DOH Substance of paper - lot of data re comparisons - Scotland/Wales/ROI.
lot of data in paper.

DAERA Data is allowing other areas to move much faster than us.
Frankly ludicrous. Need to be reflective of that.
Decision today - no change to end Apr - will 'lose the changing room'.
Successful roll-out of vaccination prog, lockdown - 3 months, modest change - 1 month more.
Will cause problem.

DFE Have asked no of occasions - evidence/data - vaccine impact on transmission of ~~vaccine~~ virus
x - CMO to advise when this will be available.

PM CMO to advise ~~of~~ on efficacy of vaccine.

Revised (as amended) agreed.

International Travel

FM

Sp note

dFM

Welcome - progress

* Ideal for all travellers to quarantine
- best level of protection
hly preference - all int travel
outside Common Travel Area.

DOJ

Not disagreeing with paper
Bfs City also has international flight
- legality of designation of Bfs
International App.

PM

Passengers into City transported
to Bfs Internat.

KA

Impact on scope [I]

DOH

If we move away from Red list -
GB/ROI v similar

Fear - people ~~for~~ ^{non} could land in GB/ROI
from mixed list.

- No passenger locator form info
- non-sharing of data

Wider challenge

Adopt Red list countries - won't
be easy - people will have to be

advised.
Support move to Red list.

dfm: But have to quarantine

Fm No way of tracking

dfm On for discussion, note progress -
need wider conversation.
New variants, significant trigger.
Wd like to come back to issue.

Fm If defer Red list/All decision, can
we agree UK provision of service?

dfm Don't disagree with that.

Fm Have raised with UKG - RDI have
still not agreed shared data.

dfm Pt 6/7 - Amsterdam, Faro etc
- not on Red list, will have to
self isolate - v expensive

Fm Will consider again at next meeting.

Public Sector Pay

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Urgent Decision

Irrelevant & Sensitive

EN Exit - Renewable Energy

Irrelevant & Sensitive

AOR

ADG

Violence against Women/Girls

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Reproductive Rights

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Month Restart

DE

Early years / Amnestart - wbl
like to bring back proposals for
next &cc meeting - concern over

age range
Need to give people certainty.

dPm Need to feed into Pathway discussions.

DE It was fed into Pathway - need to
give families L I
children element, flagging up
issue.

dPm Next meeting 23-3 - EU Exit.

