



OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Meeting IPC Cell Huddle
Date & Time 12th May 2021 – 12:00-13:30

In attendance: Eleri Davies (ED), PH Wales (Chair), Gail Lusardi (GL), PH Wales, NR, NHSEI/ Jackie McIntyre (JM), NHSEI, NR, PHE, NR, NHSEI/ Susie Dodd (SD), ARHAI Scotland/ Caroline McGeary (CM), HSC NI/ Susie Singerton (SS), PHE/ Carole Fry (CF), NR, DHSC/ NR, NHSEI/ NR, PH Wales, NR, SG, HAI policy unit/ David Cunningham (DC), AACE/ Laura Imrie (LI), ARHAI Scotland / NR, PH Wales / NR, AACE, NR, NHSEI / NHSEI / NR, NHSEI, NR, NHSEI

Apologies: Lisa Ritchie (LR), NHSEI, NR, NHSEI, NR, NHSEI, NR, HSC NI / NR, NHSEI

Table with 2 columns: Ref, Agenda item. Row 1: 1. ACTIONS LOG. Sub-sections: Actions Closed (table with 2 columns: No., Update), Actions Updated (table with 2 columns: No., Update), New actions (table with 2 columns: No., Description).

a statement with the reason for considering a longer timeframe, by COP 13 May 2021.

NR highlighted that she will be required to give a clear reason to Ruth May as to why publication would not be possible by the end of the week.

NR noted that PHE have avoided publications on Friday, which may have some impact.

GL raised a potential issue of the publication of the guidance without PHE agreement and how this would impact on the cell.

NR noted that PHE wish to move this issue forward but that it would be inappropriate to provide a decision statement prior to a decision from the respiratory evidence review panel meeting. PHE are keen to work with the Cell to agree a position but PHE may provide a separate statement if this is not possible however they would not expect this to be the case.

SD queried how SAGE and PHE evidence panel worked together and how they feed into the cell in the future.

LI suggested all nations involved as well as PHE should be involved in the work raising concerns in relation to the cell losing independence and work driven by PHE agenda only. One organisation should not have final say on UK IPC guidance.

GL noted there are 5 weeks until June for publication if a revision of the guidance is required.

- **DHSC stakeholder engagement meeting (tbc)**
ED has not received an update regarding the date.
- **UK IPC Cell Terms of Reference**
To be reviewed once further comments received from members of the cell. Awaited from NI.

3. FEEDBACK FROM MEETINGS

- SD informed that Scotland are to roll out allele specific PCR (?reflex) testing this will be starting next week.
- ED has previously circulated a query regarding LFD testing to support hospital visiting to the cell with limited responses. It was clarified that this was a different issue to SD's question.

All COVID positive tests are then sent for typing, only a small percentage will be in hospital. If E414A gene is present question raised if individuals with positive tests should be put into to side rooms, which would not be manageable with another peak. Discussions are ongoing.

PHE advised that labs do have capacity for PCR tests following positive lateral flow. Currently there are three Indian strains including a variant of the Kent strain. Discussions are ongoing regarding the need to provide airborne isolation