

[13/03/2020, 3:15:43 pm] You created group "CSA-CMO-Matt-PM-Dom"  
[13/03/2020, 3:15:43 pm] CSA-CMO-Matt-PM-Dom: Messages and calls are end-to-end encrypted. No one outside of this chat, not even WhatsApp, can read or listen to them.  
[13/03/2020, 3:16:11 pm] DomC: Guys you are on WhatsApp group set up at PM's request. Please dont share PM mobile more widely...  
[13/03/2020, 3:16:49 pm] Vallance Patrick: Ok  
[13/03/2020, 3:16:59 pm] Whitty Chris: Ok  
[13/03/2020, 3:38:14 pm] Johnson Boris: I&S pleading for help w respirators

We really need to respond and get our manufacturers going

This is clearly a nightmare for the Italians and it will be the same for us all too soon

Have talked to Dyson and Bamford today but we need an urgent number ten summit and maybe find someone to drive the effort

MAtt ? Gove ?

[13/03/2020, 3:40:57 pm] DomC: Yup, we are on it  
[13/03/2020, 3:42:44 pm] Hancock Matt: Yes. I think we need both. I've also spoken to NR about it.  
[13/03/2020, 3:42:47 pm] Hancock Matt: The Welsh Govt have just confirmed to me they are going to cancel mass gatherings after COBR on Monday  
[13/03/2020, 3:44:58 pm] DomC: Steve Oldfield is leading  
[13/03/2020, 6:05:39 pm] Hancock Matt: We've just held a brilliant call with engineering design companies, manufacturers, tech design consultants etc and they're all dead keen to work collaboratively to come up with a ventilator! Meeting again next week in Cambridge to share ideas. We'll finalise a spec over the weekend to send to them. I've had calls from Dyson and JCB following the PM giving them my mobile number - they'll do everything they can to help too. The PM's "call-to-Arms" notice needs to focus on the manufacturing and logistical challenge, not the clever design one (no time for early-stage thinking, we need to apply known technology and get stuff made). So, volume capacity production, who can work at speed and who have access to large volume component supply are key. I'll have some bullets over to your office in next hour for you to review and send to No 10 if you're happy.  
[13/03/2020, 6:05:50 pm] Hancock Matt: From Steve Oldfield 📧  
[13/03/2020, 6:06:57 pm] DomC: Brilliant let's move at warp speed  
[13/03/2020, 6:09:31 pm] Hancock Matt: Can you arrange a No10 mtg next week?  
[13/03/2020, 8:48:17 pm] Johnson Boris: You bet Monday fine  
[13/03/2020, 8:48:56 pm] DomC: Yup  
[13/03/2020, 8:49:52 pm] DomC: Think will prob be teleconference not sure how many will come. At least one of tech people from other night has tested positive  
[13/03/2020, 9:09:33 pm] Johnson Boris: Are we ok on this herd immunity argument ? Some scientists apparently suggesting there may be no such thing

How do we win ?

[13/03/2020, 9:10:38 pm] Johnson Boris: Just saw Patrick doing a heroic job on sky and then some other boffin saying it ain't so etc  
[13/03/2020, 9:13:27 pm] Johnson Boris: Also what is the WHO line on tracking and testing and are we following it ? Getting some grief about this too  
[13/03/2020, 9:15:04 pm] Vallance Patrick: I think we will have this back and forth a bit and there will always be some loud dissenting science voices. We have some good work from SAGE from today that we can discuss tomorrow. I do think we will need to show some action on next two interventions and on how/when we would do more social distancing.  
[13/03/2020, 9:17:03 pm] Johnson Boris: Ok good thanks so much

In science we trust !

We need to show why we are not closing pubs etc as they are in Austria

And keep repeating messages on schools

We now a European outlier and will need explaining

[13/03/2020, 9:18:29 pm] Vallance Patrick: And we will need to do more and signal that clearly

[13/03/2020, 9:24:09 pm] DomC: I think: large public mtngs should be stopped by Saturday (this is not battle to fight); I think many in government haven't absorbed the numbers and graphs from SAGE and nhs.

We will have to do a 3 amigos on Monday and signal we will move through the gears as fast and hard as necessary to avoid Nhs collapse.

The herd immunity argument is I'm afraid a nightmare from comms perspective and we need better ways to explain on Monday

[13/03/2020, 9:26:37 pm] DomC: Exactly. Also we must talk on Monday through the full plan up to full lockdown if necessary in time to stop Italy style collapse. If we are 2-4 weeks behind Italy we may have to be more aggressive faster than media thinks

[13/03/2020, 9:27:42 pm] Vallance Patrick: Yes

[13/03/2020, 9:34:20 pm] Whitty Chris: I think we need to start signalling that we are supportive of social distancing generically. I don't think herd immunity is very easy to explain even to medics.

[13/03/2020, 9:36:49 pm] DomC: 👍

[13/03/2020, 10:10:27 pm] Hancock Matt: Teleconference even better. Can open to more & easier to set up

[13/03/2020, 10:29:30 pm] DomC: Exams: they are basically during peak. I think it's totally unrealistic to think we will be dealing with the peak AND saying 'send your kids in for exams as normal'.

I think we need contingency plans for shifting them all to August. 'Everybody does the resits'

[13/03/2020, 10:30:14 pm] DomC: If so then the sooner we let people plan for this the better

[13/03/2020, 10:53:50 pm] Hancock Matt: We should not set our faces against the social distancing that the evidence shows is most effective.

If that is, for instance, family events, then we need to be prepared to say that.

There may be a way to explain this by a more general call to arms: stop unnecessary social contact to save the lives of the most vulnerable.

There are some very emotionally intelligent ways to communicate this - that play on peoples' best instincts - and will keep us on the best high ground. We should be smart about how to do that.

[14/03/2020, 6:49:22 am] Johnson Boris: Interesting/terrifying on numbers of infections required for herd immunity to work if that is part of the strategy.

<https://theconversation.com/coronavirus-can-herd-immunity-really-protect-us-133583>

If you have a new disease, such as COVID-19, that we don't have a vaccine for and no one in the country has ever been infected with, the disease will spread through the population. But if enough people develop an immune memory, then the disease will stop spreading, even if some of the population is not immune. This is herd immunity, and it is a very effective way to protect the whole of a population against infectious disease.

But herd immunity is typically only viewed as a preventive strategy in vaccination programmes. If we don't have a vaccine – as we don't for COVID-19 – achieving herd immunity would require a significant proportion of the population to be infected and recover from COVID-19. So what would this mean for the spread of the disease in the UK?

The percentage of the population that needs to be immune to enable herd immunity depends on how transmissible a disease is. This is measured by the term  $R_0$ , which is how many new infections each case will generate. For COVID-19, the  $R_0$  is estimated to be 3.28, though studies are still ongoing and this number will probably change. This means that for herd immunity, about 70% of the UK population

would need to be immune to COVID-19.

Achieving herd immunity would require well over 47 million people to be infected in the UK. Current estimates are that COVID-19 has a 2.3% case-fatality rate and a 19% rate of severe disease. This means that achieving herd immunity to COVID-19 in the UK could result in the deaths of more a million people with a further eight million severe infections requiring critical care.

[14/03/2020, 6:49:39 am] Johnson Boris: Here's the prob w herd immunity argument

[14/03/2020, 7:17:18 am] Vallance Patrick: The primary reason for flattening the peak rather than trying to completely suppressing it is the problem of a severe second wave of outbreak later if we suppress really hard now. Herd immunity is not the strategy, but is a consequence - as more people get infected (as they will), we start to develop immunity and that will be part of bringing the transmission down and bringing it to a halt. We will need to get this clear and I apologise for this.

[14/03/2020, 7:22:45 am] Hancock Matt: The core of the problem is that the herd immunity argument accepts widespread transmission is inevitable.

Even if true, that is a very hard argument to make because it implies we've given up fighting it.

[14/03/2020, 7:28:40 am] Vallance Patrick: Yes and we should concentrate on the measures being taken to avoid transmission and save lives and move off talking about it.

[14/03/2020, 7:39:42 am] Johnson Boris: Agree totally w above. That's why I was concerned when some on team were suggesting last week that we actively need a proportion of pop to be infected

Civil service need to grasp

[14/03/2020, 7:55:20 am] Johnson Boris: Why on Earth do we have those u turn headlines on mass gatherings ?

[14/03/2020, 7:55:26 am] Johnson Boris: Who did this briefing

[14/03/2020, 8:49:21 am] DomC: No10 guides that we are publishing our emergency legislation that gives us powers to close things and we expect this to be the last weekend of major mass events. We all agreed this is where it's going and we shouldn't try to fight and be last in Europe on this. I'll call you now

[14/03/2020, 8:49:26 am] DomC: Guided

[14/03/2020, 8:52:02 am] DomC: We shd say this morning that we'll be publishing the models to close down that attack and get as many smart scientists as possible helping us. Patrick I'll send you some words

[14/03/2020, 8:52:33 am] Vallance Patrick: Yes SAGE keen on this.

[14/03/2020, 4:48:40 pm] You added Cain Lee

[14/03/2020, 4:48:50 pm] DomC: I've added lee cain

[14/03/2020, 6:55:48 pm] Johnson Boris: France has just closed all restaurants and bars

[14/03/2020, 6:58:53 pm] DomC: As I said earlier I think we cd easily be in this situation in Greater London at least a week today. But let's see what P and C come back with in next 48 hours

[14/03/2020, 7:00:10 pm] DomC: This regional Q is a tricky one. If London is day 4 weeks ahead of Scotland then do we regionalise our more severe measures... Again SAGE looking at this

[14/03/2020, 7:00:36 pm] DomC: .... is say 4 weeks...

[14/03/2020, 7:04:29 pm] Johnson Boris: Think we will need a view tomo

We are about to do things that the public have been clamouring for eg planes

They will then discover that they are hard to maintain and severely disruptive of their lives

We need to show the maths and how far and fast the disease can progress

How many could it kill etc

[14/03/2020, 7:19:24 pm] DomC: 1/ On Monday press conference, you 3 must talk through again the issue that once we put the older into multiple month isolation we know we are killing an unknown number plus causing other severe suffering, plus the vital thing is they can maintain this over the peak/worst period when NHS most stretched, so we really do not want to pull the trigger too early -- even a week of this will cause a lot of harm... People will understand this if we explain it carefully.

2/ I think we will need to move fast on social distancing, work from home, oldies shouldnt go to weddings

etc, closing pubs and nightclubs etc -- but we need a robust detailed schema for this -- which parts in what order starting when.... If we are stopping mass events by Sat, there is a logic to doing pubs etc at same time as pubs are more dangerous than mass events (tho our argument on stopping mass events is it is mainly to provide more capacity for services to cope with Corona rather than football)...

3/ I think on Monday you will need to explain somethign like: we are moving through the levels of defence as fast as we the data suggests we should to stop the NHS falling over -- we will do what we can to stop this happening including extreme social distancing/lockdown -- by doing this we buy time to increase NHS capacity, find beds, train staff, build ventilators etc -- but we also know that we cannot be sure how badly and when the virus may return after we relax these measures -- this is unknowable -- but we must do what we can to avoid NHS falling over and carnage...

4/ To stop NHS falling over means doing a bunch of stuff roughly 2-3 weeks (i think??) before we think the crunch point is cos there is a time lag on the effects and the cases already in the system feeding through to ICUs...

[14/03/2020, 7:30:41 pm] Whitty Chris: Broadly agree all 4 points chris

[14/03/2020, 7:30:49 pm] Hancock Matt: We also need urgently to address the WHO criticisms of our approach.

- we need to ramp up testing not stop testing.
- we need to continue contact tracing, and introduce self contact tracing

Both of these are in hand.

[14/03/2020, 7:44:15 pm] Vallance Patrick: I agree the 4 point plan and we will have the new modelling either tomorrow or Monday

[14/03/2020, 8:14:42 pm] Cain Lee: Papers look in reasonable shape tomorrow all things considered.

#### \*Sunday Times\*

Splash - TBC on fresh Govt crackdown, we are moving quicker (SAGE advice)

Poll thinks move to state of emergency and food rationing

Airlines demand bailout from Gov

Police document - stop pursuing homicides when Corona gets serious

PrEP funding - p10 lead

Health read - who is making decisions in No10

I/v with Nick Timothy

#### \*Mail on Sunday\*

Splash - Army/death toll doubling (contingency plans) ventilators and private beds

Spain, Italy, France, Trump

'Acceleration' of social distancing of shielding and isolation

Cruise ship

Shipman - no longer needing two signature from two doctors

Govt distancing from herd immunity

Leaders - all going fine, trust experts and Boris doing well

#### \*Sunday Telegraph\*

Splash - Johnson puts industry on war footing to help NHS

Households in isolation on the front / Trump flight ban / Spain

Economists - 6% drop in GDP in coming months

Cash payouts for big events being cancelled

Spire beds

Hancock oped p3

DFT perm sec - misled on HS2

Burials - religious groups may not be able to bury immediately

#### \*Sun on Sunday\*

Splash - Queen quits palace over virus

p2 lead - buying up hospital beds in private wards (plus ventilators)

[14/03/2020, 9:34:05 pm] Johnson Boris: ??  
[14/03/2020, 10:23:56 pm] Johnson Boris:  
[https://twitter.com/iandonald\\_psych/status/1238518371651649538?s=21](https://twitter.com/iandonald_psych/status/1238518371651649538?s=21)  
[14/03/2020, 10:25:00 pm] Johnson Boris: This is being promoted by shippers

But again - the herd immunity idea seems most perilous. Of the 300 critically ill in France half are said to be under 50

[14/03/2020, 11:24:49 pm] DomC: Some countries are stopping visitors to nursing homes. Given some of them seem to have 1/3 deaths this seems sensible...?

[14/03/2020, 11:57:29 pm] Whitty Chris: It should be considered as part of cocooning/shielding. But a) need to remember this will mean people not being visited for maybe 4 months often towards the end of their life and b) shielding residential homes and even more nursing homes is going to be really tricky. It's one of my biggest concerns.

[15/03/2020, 9:44:41 am] Johnson Boris: How are we doing today ? Any more numbers ?

Talking to **I&S** he seems very confident he has got it under control and his numbers don't look bad considering he has a very elderly pop

[15/03/2020, 9:45:59 am] Johnson Boris: He has also closed schools etc

[15/03/2020, 9:53:37 am] Whitty Chris: 206 today compared to 201 yesterday in terms of cases. Will have ITU cases and deaths later.

[15/03/2020, 9:58:44 am] Johnson Boris: Thanks

If we can really start flattening that curve will make a huge difference

[15/03/2020, 10:12:18 am] Hancock Matt: The South Korean foreign minister was fascinating - about the use of data and digital warnings to have a form of e-contact tracing

[15/03/2020, 10:16:56 am] Johnson Boris: What are their figures like ?

[15/03/2020, 10:22:35 am] Hancock Matt: <attached: 00000079-PHOTO-2020-03-15-10-22-35.jpg>

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[15/03/2020, 10:24:07 am] Vallance Patrick: Yes I think we will need to move to the stricter quarantine and social distancing

[15/03/2020, 10:25:14 am] Johnson Boris: Do we have enough tests ? Testing kits ?

[15/03/2020, 10:29:28 am] Hancock Matt: No. We are doing more testing all the time - just under 5000 yesterday - rising to 10000 a day - but we need:

- more testing capability
- a bedside (as opposed to lab) test

Like the ventilators we have a national effort with industry on this - had a conference this week.

[15/03/2020, 10:32:21 am] DomC: What US Government should do regarding Covid-19.pdf <attached: 00000083-What US Government should do regarding Covid-19.pdf>

[15/03/2020, 10:32:26 am] DomC: Guys, one of the top 5 smartest tech billionaires in the world sent me this doc last night -- obv it's about America but there are lots of things that apply here now. Please do not forward the whole thing but all of us should read through it and create a checklist of stuff where we either get updates or start new projects across Gvt. P/C -- wd be helpful if you can update me later today on 'things wrong / we shd NOT do' in this doc...

[15/03/2020, 10:48:18 am] Johnson Boris: <attached: 00000085-PHOTO-2020-03-15-10-48-18.jpg>

**[Irrelevant]**

[15/03/2020, 10:49:15 am] Johnson Boris: Seeing what happened in Italy we simply have NO TIME

[15/03/2020, 10:49:19 am] Hancock Matt: On it

[15/03/2020, 11:04:03 am] Cain Lee: It would be good for dyson to write about it too perhaps?

[15/03/2020, 12:05:20 pm] DomC: Chris shd we intro temperature scanning at No10 to keep critical people safer?

[15/03/2020, 12:05:39 pm] DomC: Seems Singapore and some others have but we'll be guided by you obv

[15/03/2020, 12:10:27 pm] Whitty Chris: Only moderately sensitive. And the optics look a bit odd if we are not asking people to elsewhere. I wonder if a middle way is to ask everyone to take their temp before they leave home if coming to DS? That fits exactly with the 'if you have a cough or fever stay at home' model. And make remote meetings easy and accepted so people feel empowered to continue to work if

[20/03/2020, 8:01:06 am] Johnson Boris: Getting Cornwall mps saying can we discourage huge domestic tourism at Easter. Apparently they seeing big bookings

[20/03/2020, 8:02:43 am] Cain Lee: From a comms perspective it is certainly easier to have one simple message nationwide. I suspect this will encourage much greater compliance - which is what we need at this moment in time

[20/03/2020, 11:11:07 am] Johnson Boris: I rang Chris Evans at telegraph and said story about turning away corona patient in Lewisham was not true

How is London doing generally ?

[20/03/2020, 12:52:02 pm] Johnson Boris: <attached: 00000121-PHOTO-2020-03-20-12-52-02.jpg>

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[20/03/2020, 12:57:26 pm] Johnson Boris: Dyson freaking

Action this day

[20/03/2020, 12:59:16 pm] Hancock Matt: I have also received the same. I will talk to Dyson and Michael and sort it.

At the heart of this problem is CO trying to do things like buy ventilators that are core DHSC responsibility. It's why I was clear this morning that we need to take responsibility for these things here - with Michael checking progress - not have people falling over each other.

Despite that, the ventilator project is going well. We will fix

[20/03/2020, 7:18:41 pm] Johnson Boris: Is it worth publicising this terrifying fact that on current trajectory we will hit 10 k deaths in 2 weeks

It will focus peoples minds on the measures we need them to follow and of course it shows the scale of the challenge

[20/03/2020, 7:20:39 pm] DomC: People are already drawing these graphs -- at the moment deaths are relatively low so the numbers are noisier -- can be 20% then 45% etc day by day... at the moment though it is above 33% on average which puts us on italy curve at the mo, roughly

[20/03/2020, 7:22:06 pm] Johnson Boris: I think we should get it out there

[20/03/2020, 7:25:56 pm] Vallance Patrick: I would be careful about precise numbers and times. Maybe just reiterate that unchanged we would be in same place as Italy in 2-4 weeks

[21/03/2020, 9:07:51 am] Johnson Boris: I suppose the figures showing faster climb rate than Italy also have to be treated w caution

MAtt is there any value in getting the met to help trace contacts or are we past that stage ?

[21/03/2020, 11:49:13 am] Johnson Boris: <https://www.buzzfeed.com/alexwickham/10-days-that-changed-britains-coronavirus-approach>

[21/03/2020, 11:50:53 am] Johnson Boris: Seems to be some manoeuvring here by both politicians and scientists ! We will need to muster a counter argument

[21/03/2020, 11:51:22 am] Johnson Boris: And civil servants alas

[21/03/2020, 11:54:31 am] Vallance Patrick: Yes. Not helpful or truthful

[21/03/2020, 12:12:41 pm] Johnson Boris: I agree and it would be helpful for us all if we have a clear narrative about what really happened and why we took the decisions we did

[21/03/2020, 12:56:24 pm] Hancock Matt: Surely it's simple: we followed the science. The scientific advice showed the disease accelerating so we acted, as we always said we might have to. Less juicy but true.

[21/03/2020, 1:01:41 pm] Whitty Chris: That's basically it. The only major change along the path was that originally we thought it might be possible to do without school closures. When new modelling showed we would also need that it was communicated and acted on rapidly. Otherwise it was a matter of timing.

[21/03/2020, 2:32:40 pm] Johnson Boris: Today is Mother's Day. It is a day when we celebrate the sacrifice and the effort of those who gave us life, and across the country I know that millions of people will have been preparing to do something special; not just a card, not just flowers. I know that everyone's strongest instinct is to go and see their mothers in person, to have a meal together, to show them how much love them. But I am afraid that this Mothering Sunday the single best present that we can give - we who owe our mothers so much - is to spare them the risk of catching a very dangerous disease. The sad

should be used where 2M distancing cannot be guaranteed in a potentially crowded indoor environment.

[02/07/2020, 7:17:18 am] Johnson Boris: Yes agree strongly

[02/07/2020, 7:17:30 am] Johnson Boris: And we need to work up proper Comms for sat

[02/07/2020, 7:17:39 am] Johnson Boris: America v alarming

[02/07/2020, 8:34:05 am] Hancock Matt: Yes. I have got work on this going after our discussion at the weekend. Will bring it forward ASAP

[14/07/2020, 5:52:07 pm] Johnson Boris: Hi folks what is happening on American death rates ? Anything useful I can read ?

[14/07/2020, 5:53:00 pm] Johnson Boris: Is it possible that the infection fatality rate of covid is actually declining ?

[14/07/2020, 7:42:43 pm] Whitty Chris: No meaningful change since you last looked on Friday but the view of the US public health folk is this will only go one way as it goes up the age bands. Mortality has declined with better medical treatment and will further with dexamethasone. No evidence yet of the virus becoming less virulent, and it would be very quick for it to do so.

[22/07/2020, 6:18:36 pm] DomC: <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2020-07-22/british-response-to-covid-19-has-been-world-class>

[22/07/2020, 6:35:34 pm] Whitty Chris: It's true on the science. And plenty more where that comes from. The systems we set up after Ebola and the NHS/NIHR infrastructure helped. It will slow down now we have few cases but we can be proud of that bit of the response (and others).

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[26/07/2020, 1:42:45 pm] DomC: <attached: 00000393-PHOTO-2020-07-26-13-42-45.jpg>

[26/07/2020, 3:42:33 pm] Johnson Boris: <attached: 00000394-PHOTO-2020-07-26-15-42-33.jpg>

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[27/07/2020, 8:10:48 pm] Johnson Boris: Folks looking at Spain and France and remembering March it is completely obvious we are about to be hit by a second wave

We have to get out there in front of it and explain what we are doing to prevent it

[27/07/2020, 8:14:16 pm] Cain Lee: Should add Simon Case to this group

[27/07/2020, 8:16:06 pm] Johnson Boris: Will do

[27/07/2020, 8:21:47 pm] Johnson Boris: Actually Dom has to do it

[27/07/2020, 8:33:04 pm] You added Case Simon

[27/07/2020, 9:12:36 pm] Hancock Matt: Totally agree we need to get out in front of the rising cases. After the very good meeting this morning we are organising a big package for this week.

- much stronger comms
- tightening the isolation rules
- support for those isolating

[29/07/2020, 9:01:36 pm] Johnson Boris: Achtung achtung

ONS data now says 4200 cases per day up from 2800 last week

[29/07/2020, 9:02:03 pm] Johnson Boris: If correct the r above one

[29/07/2020, 9:03:45 pm] Johnson Boris: Or at least that is what I assume

[29/07/2020, 9:04:20 pm] Johnson Boris: Presumably the Spanish now quarantine us

[29/07/2020, 9:06:59 pm] Johnson Boris: We need a really strong message tomo and some tightening

[29/07/2020, 9:16:43 pm] Case Simon: Patrick and I have just discussed. Clear warning in this data.

One especially worrying thing in this data is growth of virus in London. Small sample numbers, but as you say PM, action required as we have been discussing this week because there is now an upward trend we can't ignore

[29/07/2020, 9:42:34 pm] Johnson Boris: Am not remotely surprised by London

Tallies w what docs were telling us in newham and my observation of streets in outer boroughs

Total complacency

[29/07/2020, 9:43:31 pm] Johnson Boris: It's the general collapse in social distancing at home and in social settings

We need to get absolutely militant with these hotspot areas

And we need to tell people that if they want to save the economy and protect the nhs then they need to follow the rules

And we may need to tighten the rules

You can now have 6 people from different households indoors. Do people really understand that and are they observing it ?

[29/07/2020, 9:57:51 pm] Hancock Matt: We need to tighten the messaging and if necessary tighten the rules - the amount of social contact you can have is now confused.

Need to bring clarity - in order to help keep people able to work.

Note this will be published Friday lunchtime and our next batch of \*openings\* is Saturday.

[31/07/2020, 11:17:45 pm] DomC: <attached: 00000410-PHOTO-2020-07-31-23-17-45.jpg>

[01/08/2020, 9:43:45 am] DomC: Chris do we have sewage testing running yet?

[01/08/2020, 9:45:37 am] Vallance Patrick: Yes EA and Defra have it running. Not at full scale yet and still to be fully operationalised but is working. I will send you what I received on this last week

[01/08/2020, 10:07:11 am] DomC: Thx

[01/08/2020, 10:29:41 am] Johnson Boris: What is the data today ?

[01/08/2020, 10:32:17 am] Case Simon: 846 (up) new cases identified; symptom tracking app 1849 (down); deaths 38 (down)

[01/08/2020, 10:46:02 am] Case Simon: Sorry - and admissions 127 (down)

[01/08/2020, 11:12:33 am] Johnson Boris: Thanks

If we were being optimistic I suppose we might attribute the increase in cases to more testing

[01/08/2020, 11:16:49 am] Case Simon: Yes - that's right, you could. And, as you warn the population more about the virus and push Dido's new adverts about testing at them, we should expect that alone to drive numbers of positive tests up. However, the ONS numbers rather deflate the optimists balloon a bit - incidence is definitely on the rise according to their survey, as you know all too well. We have to remain vigilant this week and next. Local action where needed, but, fingers crossed, nothing more national needed.

[01/08/2020, 11:18:06 am] Johnson Boris: The great unknown is whether local action actually works.

[01/08/2020, 11:20:06 am] Case Simon: It seems to have worked in Leicester and Luton. Let the optimists hold onto that!

[01/08/2020, 11:24:30 am] Vallance Patrick: I think we should expect to see an increase amongst the 20-35 ages as others have. Let's hope the strong messaging pulls it in

[01/08/2020, 7:12:46 pm] Johnson Boris: Folks my private focus groups telling me our messaging now so mangled as to be totally incomprehensible

We need big reset and simple themes pumped over the airwaves especially on social distancing and how many people you can have in your house etc

[01/08/2020, 7:26:12 pm] Cain Lee: We are already working on this. The hands, face, space a good starting place. The issue has been the continual shifting policy, which is understandable but leads to confusion. We need to drill the basics hard as these do not change and have the big impact

[03/08/2020, 3:07:23 pm] Johnson Boris: Btw I hope colleagues will feel I have justified my general reputation for mastery of detail by being RIGHT this morning about the rules

It's two households inside and 6 outside and always has been

[03/08/2020, 3:15:21 pm] Hancock Matt: Bravo. I think we collectively demonstrated that the position is not clear enough...

[07/08/2020, 10:43:18 am] Johnson Boris: I know that I am sometimes accused of over optimism/boosterism etc but I truly think wednesdays meeting on rapid salivary testing could be a turning point. The prize is immense.

If we can offer the British public a simple and rapid turnaround test to show whether or not - to a high degree of probability - they have the disease then we have the glimmerings of a route out of the



nightmare.

We have the makings of a freedom pass - a green light that flashes figuratively over your head and tells your family and your co workers that you are v unlikely to give them the disease.

At a stroke we are thereby able to :

1 think now about reopening the most difficult and covid prone sectors of the economy. People will be able to take a test in the morning and as MAtt says go to Hamilton the musical in the evening.

2 get Whitehall and the whole British army of bludgers and skivers back into the office

3 lift the threat of a new lockdown on hospitality etc and thereby build business confidence and inward investment

4 transform our approach to international travel and quarantine

5 and ABOVE ALL we will know in far more detail who has the disease and where they are and we will be far more effective in dousing all remaining embers

If we can get this project going well in the next few weeks we should be in a position to promote our methods to the rest of the world.

So what do we need to do ?

We must throw absolutely everything at it and give Dido the team she needs. I was a bit dismayed to hear that they are still casting round for someone to head up the project.

This is a national emergency and the faster we can get it going the less damage we will continue to do to the U.K. economy, the less scarring we will inflict on the generation currently being thrown out of work.

So please can we all work flat out in the next few weeks to get it done.

Let's give ourselves two months and make oct 7

#### COVID FREEDOM DAY

Of course the tests won't in themselves stamp out the disease. But they can do a huge amount to end the ambiguity and doubt and fear that has paralysed the country and the economy.

I would like to hear more on Monday about how project FREEDOM PASS is going ....

[07/08/2020, 11:20:12 am] Johnson Boris: I gather Russians are getting hopeful about their vaccine.

Anyone know whether this is likely ? Patrick ?

[07/08/2020, 11:25:07 am] Vallance Patrick: I asked about their vaccine and we have little information and have not seen the data. So we are in the dark on this and need to see some data.

[07/08/2020, 11:31:11 am] Johnson Boris: Thanks

[07/08/2020, 5:55:50 pm] Johnson Boris: PM, I am desperate to speak to you about the decision of the govt to include my constituency in the local lockdown on Bradford - even though there are barely any cases in my constituency. This is causing a massive issue and is fuelling huge race relations issues. This needs to be resolved ASAP. I would be very grateful if you could find the time to discuss with me. This is toxic locally. PD

[07/08/2020, 5:55:56 pm] Johnson Boris: From Shipley

[07/08/2020, 5:57:03 pm] Johnson Boris: Have talked to him and told him that we have to do some untidy stuff to beat the virus but MAtt he would def appreciate some attention

[09/08/2020, 5:23:29 pm] Johnson Boris: <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/herd-immunity-is-still-key-in-the-fight-against-covid-19>

[09/08/2020, 6:23:29 pm] Whitty Chris: It is a good debating article with many fair points. But It has two flaws.

for most serious infections without a vaccine, control is achieved without herd immunity. we do not yet know whether immunity to covid is long lasting enough to achieve population immunity at any point (we hope a vaccine might). We are a long way from that level of natural immunity now for sure, certainly out of london.

More importantly in the short term it does not address the fundamental problem of how we stop younger people eventually infecting older/sicker ones, directly or indirectly. If we could achieve a society where only the invulnerable got infected we would be in a completely different position. But that's a lot easier to say/write than do.

[09/08/2020, 7:05:54 pm] Johnson Boris: Thanks Chris ! I have a feeling you have made these points before and I apologise

But is there any merit in this idea of offering over 65s a CHOICE

le if you are over a certain age and have certain vulnerabilities then you can choose to live one of two lives

You can either shelter or at least avoid all potentially infectious environments and socialise on a strictly limited basis

Or else you can take what we hope - especially with mass salivary testing - will be an ever diminishing risk.

If you are over 65 your risk of dying from covid is probably as big as your risk of falling down stairs

And we don't stop older people from using stairs.

What do you think ?

[09/08/2020, 7:22:49 pm] Whitty Chris: Agree this is entirely reasonable at an individual level. Probably one of the problems with shielding Mark 1 was that some (maybe many) people thought they were shielding to protect the NHS and others when, other than at the peak of the first wave, they were mainly doing it to protect themselves. So outside a situation where the NHS risks being overwhelmed it has to be a personal choice. People can rationally make an informed choice they would rather take a small increased risk of dying and hug their grandchildren / go clubbing. Personally I would think twice before shielding unless it threatened the NHS.

At a population level the problem is that once R goes above 1 the deaths will start to rise exponentially unless we can entirely isolate the at risk population. Most of those who die in that situation will not have chosen to take the risk.

So I agree that where we can offer choice we should. That is like saying to someone that an unpleasant operation or chemo is optional; they may choose to live a potentially shorter but happier life without.

It does not however deal with the inexorable mathematics of exponentially increasing cases.

Hope this makes sense.

[09/08/2020, 9:06:34 pm] Johnson Boris: Yes I agree with all this but wonder why we should not be able to do better at shielding those vulnerable groups even in the context of a rising R

[09/08/2020, 9:14:41 pm] Vallance Patrick: It is a theoretically attractive idea but in reality we haven't found shielding easy or very effective first time round and I don't think anyone else has either. It is a particular problem with multigenerational households and will be even more difficult amongst some parts of society. So the challenge is how you could make all this work in practice if the disease is spreading widely amongst the younger population. And how you could be sure you could make it work.

[09/08/2020, 9:17:30 pm] Johnson Boris: Yes I see the point about multigenerational households. Many thanks.

[25/08/2020, 9:14:30 am] Johnson Boris: Folks I am about to asked about masks in schools

Before we perform another u turn can I have a view on whether they are necessary

[25/08/2020, 9:17:22 am] Hancock Matt: Here is the medical advice:

I understand the concern for secondary schools is because teenagers are hanging around in school corridors and hallways. Therefore, the easier answer than responding with face coverings is to say our guidance references one way corridors, ventilation, etc and to note that brief encounters as children switch lessons is usually a low risk (i.e. move your kids on instead of introducing face mask requirements).

[25/08/2020, 9:18:09 am] Cain Lee: Considering Scotland has just confirmed it will I find it hard to believe we will hold the line. At a minimum I would give yourself flex and not commit to ruling it out.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-53900825>

[25/08/2020, 9:20:57 am] Cain Lee: Also why do we want to have the fight on not having masks in certain school settings? I've been away though so Simon and others may have good reason Im unaware of

[25/08/2020, 9:21:20 am] Case Simon: I agree with Lee. Gavin in same place. Position today, PM, is that you have asked your scientific and education advisers to look at this, in light of the WHO and Scottish evidence - and then go into Matt's stuff about masks not being as critical as other measures in schools

[25/08/2020, 9:23:31 am] Case Simon: Unless Chris/Patrick etc are willing to go out and say WHO and Scots are wrong, I think some nervous parents will freak out about this happening in Scotland, but not in England.

[25/08/2020, 9:24:53 am] Hancock Matt: Whatever the decision we should make it, communicate in an organised way, and stick to it

[25/08/2020, 9:25:10 am] Case Simon: Remember, secondary schools kids already wearing masks on buses to school, in shops etc

[25/08/2020, 9:30:08 am] Whitty Chris: No strong reason against in corridors etc , and no very strong reasons for. The downsides are in the classroom because of the potential to interfere with teaching.

[25/08/2020, 9:30:47 am] Whitty Chris: So agree not worth an argument.

[25/08/2020, 9:39:51 am] Vallance Patrick: I think the advice is that face coverings should be worn indoors in situations where crowding cannot be avoided. I think I the policy already recommends them for transport to and from school for older children. This would then make logical sense to include for corridors or communal areas if crowding cannot be avoided (if it can then that is preferred). Not in the classroom

[25/08/2020, 9:49:00 am] Johnson Boris: The trouble is that the current guidance specifically excludes schools

[25/08/2020, 9:50:03 am] Johnson Boris: God knows why.

[25/08/2020, 9:53:50 am] Johnson Boris: Wearing a face covering or face mask in schools or other education settings is not recommended. Face coverings may be beneficial for short periods indoors where there is a risk of close social contact with people you do not usually meet and where social distancing and other measures cannot be maintained, for example on public transport or in some shops. This does not apply to schools or other education settings. Schools and other education or childcare settings should therefore not require staff, children and learners to wear face coverings.

[25/08/2020, 9:55:07 am] Johnson Boris: In order to allow schools to require face coverings in any part of the school we will now have to do a u turn

[25/08/2020, 10:04:19 am] Hancock Matt: There's a reasonable way through this.

The clinical advice is clear that face coverings should not be used in classrooms as they interfere with teaching. That's the ground on which we stand.

We have not advised blanket face mask use in corridors, because the clinical advice is clear that Covid-secure measures like one-way corridors and ventilation can suffice. Schools have been working hard on

the most cautious globally.

So while I fully expect cases to rise here as schools go back, these may explain why we have seen only a gradual rise since we unlocked.

It also points towards what we must do (which is largely as we are planning)

1. Do local lockdowns whenever needed, with proper enforcement
2. More testing, and ensure positive cases isolate - pay to isolate trial starts on Tuesday.
3. Continued caution: hands, face, space etc.

[30/08/2020, 4:45:07 pm] Johnson Boris: <attached: 00000492-PHOTO-2020-08-30-16-45-07.jpg>

[30/08/2020, 4:45:32 pm] Johnson Boris: This maybe explains what is happening in France.

[30/08/2020, 4:48:03 pm] Johnson Boris: And shows why we need a new method of control if we are to have any hope of getting things going

[30/08/2020, 4:48:11 pm] Vallance Patrick: Yes I have just come off a call with one of their science advisers. We identified 3 things - (i) their lockdown ended a long time ago and so they have had more time to have spread (ii) they have not had effective local lockdown and have no mechanism or criteria for implementing local lockdown (iii) they have far more people back in the office and workplace. They think more than 25% of transmission is occurring in the workplace

[30/08/2020, 4:49:12 pm] Johnson Boris: This is where the debate is going.

[30/08/2020, 4:57:52 pm] Johnson Boris: Their death tally is still low

Do the french expect this now to climb as in America ? Or are they keeping an open mind ?

[30/08/2020, 4:59:05 pm] Case Simon: If these stats are correct (and there are various estimates around, but all show UK less back in the office than Eur comparators), they suggest an awful lot less adult-to-adult contact going on in the UK than elsewhere. This is transport not being used and office contact not happening. Whilst the UK's foot-dragging is bad for the supporting city-centre economy, it could well be the explanation for the current difference in infection rates between the UK and elsewhere.

[30/08/2020, 4:59:17 pm] Vallance Patrick: They think that they will start to see hospital cases and deaths rising. Most of their spread has been in the young but they think it is now moving to older. They think holiday contacts have also increased spread and they have quite diffuse increase in numbers (ie not very localised)

[30/08/2020, 4:59:47 pm] Vallance Patrick: Our contact data surveys suggest fewer contacts in the U.K.

[30/08/2020, 5:01:12 pm] Johnson Boris: We need as much detail as poss on this for Tuesday. We have some tricky decisions to make.

[31/08/2020, 12:05:40 pm] Johnson Boris: Seems to be quite a big jump in infection rate today

1715

When did we last have that kind of rate ?

[31/08/2020, 12:11:30 pm] Hancock Matt: We haven't seen these sorts of rates since the end of May.

We need a thought-through, simple plan to bring clarity to social distancing rules, so we can protect the economy and education.

Then we need to enforce the hell out of it.

[31/08/2020, 12:12:52 pm] Vallance Patrick: If this is sustained it looks like a doubling every 7-10 days

[31/08/2020, 1:10:57 pm] Johnson Boris: Is there any sign that it is localised or is it national ?

How many days since France has that kind of number ?

[31/08/2020, 1:11:14 pm] Johnson Boris: Had

[31/08/2020, 1:13:13 pm] Case Simon: French were at around 1600 on 6 Aug

[31/08/2020, 1:15:28 pm] Johnson Boris: Right. Thanks. V helpful. We should get that out so people understand

[31/08/2020, 1:34:57 pm] Johnson Boris: We have seen the wave coming for miles so we should be ready. I agree w MAtt on strategy

identical to previous lockdown. Sage paper being finalised, Patrick can add.

[17/09/2020, 4:52:22 pm] Vallance Patrick: Circuit breaker would be for 2 weeks and everyone would be asked to cut contacts and stay at home etc to cause a sudden significant break in transmission. We can get the paper round tomorrow on that. As Chris said you could think about doing this regionally

[17/09/2020, 5:25:08 pm] Hancock Matt: To avoid national lockdown we need to act fast in parts of the country where it's going in the wrong direction.

Case rates in SW & East are still v low. Low & appear stable in London & SE

[17/09/2020, 5:26:58 pm] Vallance Patrick: Yes lesson is go fast, go a bit harder than you think you need, go a bit wider in geography

[19/09/2020, 9:49:55 am] Johnson Boris: Ireland going into second lockdown for three weeks

[23/09/2020, 8:16:43 am] DomC: Patrick can someone get the data to make the point re flu — countries with high flu deaths last year had lower covid and vice versa — to Bens team. We need to get all such data out to educate media

[23/09/2020, 8:22:09 am] Johnson Boris: Beware fresh hostage to fortune !

[23/09/2020, 8:23:26 am] Vallance Patrick: I would be careful about offering that as an explanation. We can get the data but I just think it is not a very solid case and would be very wary about offering that - at least not now

[23/09/2020, 8:30:52 am] DomC: Gotcha let's have data and examine

[24/09/2020, 2:00:46 pm] Hancock Matt: We have just held a very alarming JBC Gold.

Sharp rises in the North East & Merseyside. Also to a lesser extent in Manchester, Lancashire and W Yorks.

We need to get tiering sorted and tougher local action in place pronto

[26/09/2020, 7:14:34 pm] DomC: Is it true that the app cannot accept data from NHS tests? If so, why and when will it change?

[26/09/2020, 8:17:19 pm] Hancock Matt: Yes. Unbelievable. It's been changed today for positive tests

[27/09/2020, 10:21:32 am] DomC: When for negative? This is absurd and makes government look like utter clowns

[27/09/2020, 10:37:47 am] Hancock Matt: There is already a manual work-around. They are working on automating it.

We have just hit 10m downloads - over 20% of the population - but are currently being blocked from talking about it.

Also 4.5 stars on the app store.

460,000 QR posters downloaded - ahead of target

We need to get out and sell this

[28/09/2020, 10:07:46 am] DomC: Guys back in May i asked about vitamin D -- im being sent lots of stuff from non-dummies, hedge funds etc -- saying where is your plan to distribute vitD etc... \*What IS our plan on this?\* I fear that again we are being slow and overly-bureaucratic and behind other countries...

[28/09/2020, 1:59:25 pm] DomC: Pls can someone answer this

[28/09/2020, 2:12:01 pm] Whitty Chris: Have asked PHE for update. They own the national policy. The evidence has not really moved on either way. There is also an army tribal that was planned and I will find out about.

[28/09/2020, 2:12:12 pm] Vallance Patrick: Was looked at in May - and PHE led to produce public health advice and specific uses (eg in care homes). Chris can say more on where that is.

[28/09/2020, 2:12:22 pm] Vallance Patrick: Sorry overlapped responses

[28/09/2020, 9:45:55 pm] DomC: 1/ Do we have serious standards and advice out for office air conditioning?

2/ Like on Vit D im being badgered by smart hedge fund types/ scientists to look at 'UV wands' and similar -- do we have an assessment of how effective UV devices are in killing virus??

[28/09/2020, 10:11:38 pm] Hancock Matt: On the non-pharmaceutical improvements like air conditioning

They are in full covid denial mode

[08/10/2020, 8:47:48 am] Hancock Matt: We need to be making the argument in every forum:

- there is a problem
- we want to avoid full lockdown
- our call to action

We need all the materials of a campaign - others are campaigning against us

[16/10/2020, 1:54:57 pm] Johnson Boris: Can someone explain why french deaths are lower than ours when their case numbers are so much higher ?

[16/10/2020, 1:58:13 pm] Case Simon: Simple answer, I think, is that we can't yet explain it. We have people (incl in Paris and Madrid) trying to answer this question

[16/10/2020, 2:01:58 pm] Vallance Patrick: I think that's right. I have been digging into this for months. I understand why their death rate in hospital is lower (they admit far more people to hospital than we do, so proportionately deaths are lower). But it is unclear why overall their deaths look lower. It is difficult to be sure we are comparing like for like either with case number definitions or cause of death ascertainment (although ONS thought this was ok in the summer). There is some evidence that smaller health care system per head of population did worse overall

[16/10/2020, 6:16:50 pm] Johnson Boris: How tiering worked in the old days

In 1606 the privy council decreed that theatres should be closed if deaths from plague exceeded 30 per week

[16/10/2020, 7:04:13 pm] Hancock Matt: Not sure about these fixed thresholds

[16/10/2020, 7:07:46 pm] Whitty Chris: Plague orders had a lot of similarities including isolation, contact tracing, quarantine for new arrivals, a ban on people meeting in groups. Penalties for breaking isolation a bit stiffer however...

[17/10/2020, 10:26:19 pm] DomC: What's this? <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/17/police-get-access-to-people-told-of-self-isolate-by-nhs-test-and-trace>

[17/10/2020, 10:26:52 pm] DomC: I was told Fri all anonymised and this agreed by all

[17/10/2020, 10:38:41 pm] Whitty Chris: None of the my office or dcmos were asked or expressed a view, and I was not aware and also have not expressed a view. So that bit is incorrect and we have gone back. I don't know the details about any of the rest as have not been involved.

[24/10/2020, 5:01:32 pm] Hancock Matt: <attached: 00000620-PHOTO-2020-10-24-17-01-32.jpg> **INQ000102295**

[24/10/2020, 5:03:58 pm] Case Simon: Ugly

[24/10/2020, 5:13:01 pm] Vallance Patrick: Yes none of this is looking good and there are a lot of hospitalisation and deaths baked into the numbers already unfortunately. We don't have much time to correct.

[24/10/2020, 10:32:55 pm] Hancock Matt: <attached: 00000623-PHOTO-2020-10-24-22-32-55.jpg> **INQ000048393**

[25/10/2020, 2:11:29 am] Case Simon: We are doing this work, Matt. We have to understand whether asking people to isolate for 7 days (and test-to-release) improves compliance over our current 14 days. At the moment, compliance is very low and we need to look at why. We were told people couldn't afford to isolate - so money has been put up for it but take-up seems to have been very low. We have to look at whether reducing the isolation period (and testing to release) makes it easier for people to comply with isolation.

[25/10/2020, 2:21:07 am] Case Simon: I personally don't believe it is an issue that it is known we are doing this work. I'd rather people were focused on this rather than the Jenkin et al hatchet job on Dido and team. Furthermore, someone has briefed/leaked the Covid-O decision from last week that we are looking at quarantine exemptions for execs/high net worth individuals. We look completely crackers for looking at how to get rich people across our borders but not looking at how we make it easier for ordinary people in this country to follow isolation rules!

[25/10/2020, 7:26:36 am] DomC: Agree

[25/10/2020, 7:46:01 am] Hancock Matt: Couldn't agree more about all the leaks. But we have to be careful about this stuff. If we make a change it should be framed as based on clinical evidence - not based on failure to isolate.

[26/10/2020, 8:48:22 am] DomC: P/Chris u got views on this study on superspreaders? ill get 10ds data team to check it out too <https://www.princeton.edu/news/2020/09/30/largest-covid-19-contact-tracing->