

[27/02/2020, 19:26:02] Matt Hancock: 1. Let's get as much as we can in the Budget

2. Then let's work out how we hit the target.

Irrelevant & Sensitive

[27/02/2020, 19:56:55] Helen Whately:

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Irrelevant & Sensitive bring them on board willingly - which I think is more likely if there's some £ s

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[03/03/2020, 15:57:47] Helen Whately:

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more directly with nhs & care workforce re coronavirus. I'm asking Comms team to update me on the comms approach to the workforce tmr, but just wanted to flag / sense check. H

NR

[03/03/2020, 16:15:12] Matt Hancock: Good point. We are sending more info today but I should do a missive to the front line at the right point

[03/03/2020, 16:27:57] Helen Whately: Exactly! A communication directly from you would be a v good thing. If possible quite soon as there is growing nervousness about system capacity to cope.

[03/03/2020, 18:23:21] Matt Hancock: Lots of questions about how social care will cope with covid19.

[03/03/2020, 18:23:27] Matt Hancock: Are you on it?

[03/03/2020, 18:29:40] Helen Whately: I am chasing it. Have got hold of what I'm told are two LA plans (Herts & Essex). My opinion is that they are inadequate. Have asked for someone to brief me tomorrow on a plan for getting these and other plans into shape.

[03/03/2020, 18:32:28] Helen Whately: Was literally about to message you to flag my concern. In parallel, I bumped into rob jenrick last night...he has similar concerns. He said he's working on setting up an assurance process similar to one used for LA Brexit no deal plans.

[03/03/2020, 18:39:20] Helen Whately: The Essex doc says providers are required by CQC to have plans in place to provide safe care in the event of a pandemic. And, during a flu pandemic, Directors of Adult Social Services need to know the effectiveness of providers plans, emerging risks and capacity to meet demand. That's basically it. Their plan.

[03/03/2020, 19:02:20] Matt Hancock: Can you possibly put some serious drive into getting them to a credible position? CMO tells me there's guidance to social care being developed to publish. Seems to me that we need to do a lot of work here

[03/03/2020, 19:37:56] Helen Whately: Yes, absolutely. It has taken a week to even get these 2 example plans and to get meeting in diary with Chief Social Worker (tmr). You are right, it needs a rocket under it.

[03/03/2020, 19:56:59] Matt Hancock: 🚀

[04/03/2020, 19:37:59] Helen Whately: Just to catch you up, I had a good check-in with Social Care today re Covid-19 prep. Ros & team have a process set up for reviewing LA plans over the next week, working together with MHCLG and involving ex Directors of Adult Social Care. I will meet with them again early next week to get feedback on the quality of plans. We also agreed once we have one or two in good shape, those can be used as models to help others.

[08/03/2020, 22:56:27] Helen Whately: Meant to say...v good job on QT on Thursday.

[09/03/2020, 06:43:18] Matt Hancock: 👍

[09/03/2020, 23:01:03] Helen Whately: I heard back from Robert Jenrick. He's asked for the LRF plan review to report back on Monday. I've asked if you or I could attend the discussion. He's also open to suggestions on how we 'proceed together'. My thinking is that there should be a fully joint team - but I will ask Ros her thoughts too.

[10/03/2020, 06:42:45] Matt Hancock: Brilliant. Sounds good.

[10/03/2020, 06:43:03] Matt Hancock: I'd prefer you to attend this one pls

[10/03/2020, 09:23:06] Helen Whately: I thought it might be one for me...But didn't want to assume.

[10/03/2020, 09:24:31] Helen Whately: Also, CQC are developing an App to get care providers to report how they are coping with Coronavirus. This sounds incredibly helpful (especially as they are the only organisation with a complete list). Thought you should know.

[10/03/2020, 22:03:24] Helen Whately: Reading my budget briefing on pension changes ready for BMA meet tmr AM...threshold is going up as discussed, I&S

I&S

I&S Flagging as I don't think this was made clear before, at least it wasn't clear to me.

Irrelevant & Sensitive

[05/04/2020, 17:01:45] Helen Whately: Sorry missed this somehow yesterday. Yes...I am meeting end of life team this week to make sure we have palliative care capacity. Can pick that up with them as well. Mindful MHCLG are active on 'death management' too

[05/04/2020, 17:04:45] Helen Whately: Please can I have someone in the supplies team dedicated to overseeing PPE to social care. It is still all over the place, they have sent me contradictory info in recent days and cannot answer Qs about flow. I'm also told clipper system looks NHS focused (and again no one can tell me whether it will cope with 20k social care providers ordering stock day 1). There's only so long i can keep saying to the social care sector we're working on it, without losing all credibility. H

[05/04/2020, 17:07:34] Matt Hancock: I had the impression Jonathan Marron was fixing it. If not then absolutely let's do that - can you talk to him?

[05/04/2020, 17:07:47] Matt Hancock: Yes - v important we work with MHCLG on this

[05/04/2020, 17:09:36] Helen Whately: I will talk to him again. It's not fixed. What we need is someone in the supplies team to have oversight, not a social care/DHSC person if that makes sense. But will go back to JM.

[05/04/2020, 21:03:45] Matt Hancock: Yes agree

[06/04/2020, 14:16:09] Helen Whately: Thank you for pushing Emily to identify an individual to oversee Social Care PPE. She was clearly reluctant & wants to keep the operation across H&SC - will see where we get to in next few days.

[06/04/2020, 20:38:05] Helen Whately: V worried about the PM. Hope you're ok. X

[08/04/2020, 11:26:25] Helen Whately: So no surprises (1) investigating reported serious covid breakout in a I&S believes 11 dead and staff refusing to work).

[08/04/2020, 11:28:33] Helen Whately: (2) lessons learned internationally suggest we should be testing all care home residents and staff who have had covid contact irrespective of symptoms. Have asked for guidance on action we should take based on this research (by LSE)

[08/04/2020, 12:46:24] Matt Hancock: I'm up for this and the capacity to do this is growing fast

[08/04/2020, 12:46:37] Helen Whately: Great

[09/04/2020, 20:53:58] Helen Whately: The team has made a start on the social care strategy. There will be a first cut with intro/objectives and structure (headings, main content points) for our call tmr.

[09/04/2020, 21:09:23] Matt Hancock: Brilliant. Key thing is the getting the policy right too