

Message

From: Imran Shafi [/O=PMO/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=IMRAN SHAFIAF8]
Sent: 06/05/2020 21:37:51
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Subject: Strategy meeting - readout [OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE]

All,

The PM met the quad group of Ministers this evening on coronavirus strategy.

They agreed to present to Cabinet tomorrow that the formal review indicates that existing measures remain necessary for Thursday.

The below steers were all subject to further information on the data and Cabinet agreement on Sunday:

For phase one, they agreed to the measures as proposed on work, travel, outdoor spaces, borders (noting ongoing discussion over implementation date). A policy package on shielding was important.

On household-to-household connection, they agreed the lead policy if introduced in phase one should be 2 households connecting (and that we would change the public language away from bubbles). They would take a final decision on this following SAGE advice. CMO noted that this policy would help improve sustainability of the overall package, even if it did increase R slightly in itself.

For phase two, they agreed the need for strong conditionality (including on care/health infections and test/track/trace). The PM stressed the moral imperative to get on top of the hospital and social care outbreaks urgently. They agreed we needed a target 'no earlier than' date, which was 1 June.

On schools, they agreed early years, reception, Y1 and Y2 should begin back, subject to this conditionality, on 1 June. All primary years should have at least one month of school this summer. Extending the end of the school year was raised as an area to explore. Secondary school would not return until September earliest. They agreed they did not want to pursue a rota approach.

Non-essential retail would return in phases from June 1 again subject to conditionality. How this phasing will work is to be determined.

On hospitality, they agreed an aspirational date for a covid-compliant re-start of relevant sectors from July 4th. Further work was required to segment the sector further. We should explore a taskforce to develop options in this space.

The PM asked for a stronger reference to cycling in the document.

CMO and CSA were broadly content with the approach as a package, subject to the conditionality stressed by the PM and effective monitoring. CMO noted the need to ensure the ability to reverse measures at a local or national level.

Please can we have for Friday morning meetings an outstanding decision note capturing the key issues that need to be resolved for Sunday announcement.

The FSS asked Tom Shinner and Jonathan Black to provide an updated version of the roadmap chapter this evening for review. The Health Secretary would present a higher level paper at Cabinet on Thursday, noting the need for further Cabinet conversations ahead of announcement.

Imran

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