

Message

From: Helen MacNamara [helen.macnamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk]
on behalf of Helen MacNamara <helen.macnamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk> [helen.macnamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk]
Sent: 11/04/2020 11:34:17
To: NR@cabinetoffice.gov.uk]; Peter Lee [peter.lee@cabinetoffice.gov.uk]; john.owen@cabinetoffice.gov.uk
Subject: PM ill health

All

Thanks so much for all your help this week. And thank goodness we didn't need to use much of it. I do now want us to have some better "break glass" plans for these eventualities though - and we should also have a rough plan for how we would manage similar situation for Cabinet Ministers - in particular the senior ones. There might be some different issues here - e.g. is the SoS still legally the SoS and able to discharge powers if unconscious for a long period. I think these plans need to be both practical and constitutional - so should have the process by which decisions should be made and example checklists as well as the precedent and argument about x or y. I think the two scenarios to cover are incapacitation and death.

NR - I think you and Peter are best placed to hold this - and to also do the planning for PM bridges. John may well have already discussed with you. Thankfully now that is all abstract again but having gone through this week I'm not keen on us not having something written down we can use in these situations. I'd also like us to think about whether we should formally ask a PM about some of this in the Cabinet Appointment process. P&E can input where necessary - Irrelevant & Sensitive

It might be useful to agree the headings for what this paper should cover? V happy to have a quick call if helpful otherwise will leave you to it.

H

		<p>Helen MacNamara Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet E: Helen.MacNamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk T: Irrelevant & Sensitive Private Office: PSHelenMacNamara@cabinetoffice.gov.uk</p>
---	---	--