

FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH



**FROM: ROBIN SWANN
MINISTER OF HEALTH**

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**TO: ARLENE FOSTER & MICHELLE O'NEILL
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ENFORCEMENT / COMPLIANCE

As you will be aware, a recurring theme in our many discussions on the measures to reduce spread of the virus, is the issue of increasing compliance with the resolved position, through both encouragement and enforcement. While I recognise that there are different views on the contested issue of restrictions, I firmly believe that seeking enhanced compliance with whatever position we reach should be a matter that unites us.

In that context, I am increasingly concerned to see no visible action or movement on this point. This is an issue I have raised on a number of occasions in discussion, and specifically on 18 October (attached for information) in the context of a targeted measure to increase compliance levels. While I accept that, every time I raise this issue, it receives broad support across the Executive, it is frustrating that we are still to see any discernible action on this front.

In particular, the measure I proposed in my letter of 18 October, I believe, represents a hugely supportive measure to the working group led by the Junior Ministers. This working group seems to have made good progress on the engagement piece, but I remain concerned to see so little coming out of it in terms of specific actions to increase compliance.

Given the importance of this issue, I feel a specific discussion at our next meeting, with a view to the publication of a clear action plan, is now urgently needed.

PD

**Robin Swann MLA
Minister of Health**

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