

Message

**From:** Michael Lockhart [Michael.Lockhart@phs.scot]  
**Sent:** 07/11/2023 2:17:31 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@phs.scot]; [REDACTED]@phs.scot]  
**CC:** [REDACTED]@phs.scot]; [REDACTED]@phs.scot]  
**Subject:** FW: Assessment of Private lab support for NHS diagnostic infrastructure in Scotland AND additional testing concerns  
**Attachments:** 2020-03-18 COVID-19 SBAR Final (002).pdf

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**From:** LOCKHART, Michael (NHS NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND) <michael.lockhart@nhs.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 19, 2020 9:21 AM  
**To:** Derek.Grieve <Derek.Grieve@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; MCMENAMIN, Jim (NHS NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND) <jim.mcmenamin@nhs.net>; Riley A (Andrew) Dr <andrew.riley2@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (NHS NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND) <[REDACTED]@nhs.net>; Johannessen, Ingolfur <Ingolfur.Johannessen@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk>; [REDACTED] (NHS NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND) <[REDACTED]@nhs.net>; SGCoronavirus@scotland.gsi.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; Willie.Cowan@scotland.gsi.gov.uk; Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19) <Lesley.Sheppard@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; FOGGO, Richard (NATIONAL SERVICES SCOTLAND) <Richard.Foggo@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Assessment of Private lab support for NHS diagnostic infrastructure in Scotland AND additional testing concerns

Thanks Derek,

Attached is the plan we are rolling out, including some costing info –spend already signed off and accepted procurement and orders sent. Ingo and I have also agreed that over the next few days we will develop our phase 3 plans. I have asked GGC and NHSL labs to get going with 24/7 testing plans in earnest whilst the national expansion is underway. However weird picture over last 7 days –Glasgow getting through on average 530 samples a day atm and keeping up (peak of 800), whilst Edinburgh only 100 samples a day –reallocation discussion started but at this stage thought best to leave as is. Both sites are managing turnaround within 24 hours. Part of difference may be due to differing ways HCW samples being handled which underlines my first point in the original email below –how is this being addressed?

Ingo is meeting with senior university colleagues this morning to rapidly get uni support.

With regard to my second point below, we need senior ministerial involvement to demonstrate the high level support we have to deliver on the attached plan with regard to diagnostic industry. Eg I am also hearing that some of the consumable required for go live tomorrow in Highland are also short –that has nothing to do with the No10 intervention –just symptomatic of the chaotic times.

If SG looks after its labs the labs will do their best to look after Scotland – please, please help us.

Finally separate point, noted Lesley is coming to your 9:15 so I will stand down–she is well sighted on Shetland story –will leave her and you guys to talk through. Clearly above my pay grade that discussion.

Best  
Michael

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**From:** [Derek.Grieve@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Derek.Grieve@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) <[Derek.Grieve@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Derek.Grieve@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 19 March 2020 08:54

[See recipients listed above]

working with the NLP and also the Scottish Microbiology and Virology Network to ensure we develop a coordinated response to address the continued roll out of testing.

In addition Derek, I hope you received our joint comments on your paper on diagnostics earlier today, and I trust the input was useful.

Can I flag up a couple of further points for SG and Jim's consideration.

Firstly, realising this is a concern for us all, but to reiterate, whilst we are growing the lab testing service we need to be extremely careful in managing testing of Health Care Worker's. I am very sensitive to supporting this need, but if not carefully managed it could destabilise the whole testing service. Careful planning for a staged introduction needs to be developed and aggressively communicated so that HCW testing is incrementally introduced as the additional testing capacity incrementally becomes available.

Secondly, I am worried that the intervention by No10 last night may have already impacted on testing service availability in Scotland –kit that was ordered for roll out in the NHS Fife lab and was due to arrive imminently has now been delayed until middle of next week. This kit can run on Roche machines. I will find out more when our National Procurement colleague liaises with the kit company Thursday, my colleague in NP thought it is most likely symptomatic of the chaotic climate in which we are currently working. However, I thought I should flag up given at this stage we are not working collegiately with NHS England but are instead in direct competition with them for the procurement of some of our planned testing infrastructure. We therefore need to carefully monitor for the equity of support from the testing industry.

It would be reassuring to know that senior level ministerial involvement with the testing companies is being equally brought to bear in Scotland as it seems to have been in England?

Best  
Michael

Dr Michael Lockhart  
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Programme Lead,  
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Telephone I&S

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