

1.6 And 1.7 – MHCLG [NR] took these actions and is now on leave. We expect to see someone from MHCLG to cover these actions

1.10 Summarise communication / dissemination routes – the routes are laid out in the new guidance but are still being finalised and we expect the guidance will be published after this recess. Meanwhile any specific questions?

1.11 Suggest this action is closed as partners can feedback to EPRR without reference to DHSC. Do national partners require any further support from DHSC?

(3) Coronavirus: update on the latest position - DHSC

DHSC central team – Cheryl will provide this but then will have to leave

(4) Operational guidance : update from PHE

This will be provided by PHE – in case they are not available we can say that PHE have collated existing guidance as part of their work on sector specific guidance for ASC and will be sharing later today in advance of publication shortly.

(5) Contingency plans – current state of readiness and assurance

Can invite [NR] to provide an update on the feedback from his write round. In case he is not available –

- 19 providers confirmed that their Pan Flu preparedness plan was up to date and ready to be enacted.
- Of these 19 providers, 16 had plans that covered how the organisation could manage if 20% of their staff were absent.
- And 3 providers had plans to cover staff absences, but this did not extend as far as 20%.
- Two of these three providers expressed an interest in further guidance from CQC on how to prepare for the event that only 80% of their staff were present.

CQC Review:

- no specific gaps in the plans highlighted by the providers
- some providers worried about the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) particularly should incidence of infection begin to rise and the availability of temporary agency or local authority staff to cover any shortfall.
- One of the providers has already taken action to pre-empt these concerns by supplying a Covid19 pack (which includes PPE, cleaning solutions, masks, elbow length cuff gloves etc) to each of their homes and training non-care staff.

(6) Next steps

It is also possible that members may want to discuss when NSG will meet again re EU Exit /EUSS. We cancelled the meeting that was scheduled for this week. The survey that CPA ran received little response and was inconclusive so at present we have little to say. Suggest we schedule a meeting for 3 months from the last one i.e. end April (as agreed at the last EU Exit NSG) unless there is something urgent to discuss before that.

To run through agreed actions, owners and due dates.

Next meeting Wednesday 26 February 1-2pm – we have a room here in VS and dial in facilities