

**From:** Evans, Carys (Office of the First Minister) [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DBBEE30FD8EA42C8B830FA0FA2FD6C49-EVANS, CARY]  
**Sent:** 11/11/2020 7:36:02 PM  
**To:** Runeckles, Jane (OFM - Special Adviser) [jane.runeckles@gov.wales]; Kilpatrick, Reg (EPS - LG Director) [reg.kilpatrick@gov.wales]; Lalley, Liz (PSG - Recovery and Restart) [liz.lalley@gov.wales]; Clifford, Desmond (OFM - Director General) [desmond.clifford@gov.wales]; Daniels, Jo-anne (EPS - Communities & Tackling Poverty) [jo-anne.daniels@gov.wales]; Mason, Toby (OFM - Communications) [toby.mason@gov.wales]  
**CC:** PS FirstMinister [ps.firstminister@gov.wales]; DS FirstMinister (OFMCO) [ds.firstminister@gov.wales]; PS Minister Health & Social Services [psmhss@gov.wales]; Jenkins, Clare (OFM - Special Adviser) [clare.jenkins010@gov.wales]  
**Subject:** FW: Weekly Meeting with CDL - summary  
**Attachments:** 2020-11-11 - Agenda for CDL-FM call.pdf

## Summary note of today's call with CDL

Planning for Christmas – CDL mentioned briefly, said officials working on options for alignment as far as possible.

Mass testing – contributions from Susan Hopkins (Public Health England lead on Liverpool mass testing pilot) and Shona Dunn (2<sup>nd</sup> Perm Sec leading on the wider rollout).

Susan Hopkins: evaluation of lateral flow tests is encouraging: sensitivity 70%, specificity 99%. By last Friday 50k tests delivered by the military in Liverpool. Positivity rates lower than expected, partly reflecting the declining incidence, now around 200 per 100k. Lots of learning on operational and behavioural aspects. Potential for 50% reduction in transmission by asymptomatic individuals. Challenges: how to incentivise participation and what are the implications of getting a negative test.

Shona Dunn: currently in discovery phase on the role of mass testing in the wider strategy and potential levers on participation.

FM: keen to achieve alignment on arrangements for Christmas, clear and simple as possible. Need to think also about the run up and aftermath to mitigate risks. Social freedoms more important to people than economic freedom in this period. Looks forward to returning to this discussion in light of officials' work. Congratulates those involved for the progress on lateral flow testing. Need to understand the interplay with mass vaccination. Potential benefits include: care home visiting, reducing school absence, potential to come out of self-isolation, participation in sporting or arts events.

Nicola Sturgeon: agree re developing an aligned approach to Christmas, careful decisions needed recognising risks and practical reality. She is very cautious on international travel. On lateral flow testing – need early clarity on volumes and timing. SG considering prioritisation options and how best to select locations for mass testing: cities, parts of cities or small towns. Need clarity that negative test is not a free pass.

Arlene Foster: echoed earlier points. Suggested mass testing worthwhile when incidence above 50 per 100k. Could be valuable in high risk workplaces such as meat factories.

Michelle O'Neill – clarity on NI share of tests, and freedom to determine rollout plan.

CDL confirmed there will be equitable distribution on Barnett basis, in relation to devices and logistical support. Will be for each government to determine how to prioritise. (Shona Dunn- numbers are still changing, working with officials.) Need a fair and visible process for rollout, sense of reciprocity with the citizen – participation in return for some freedom if test is negative. Need shared understanding of purpose and benefits.

Carys Evans

Prif Ysgrifennydd Preifat Prif Weinidog Cymru Principal Private Secretary First Minister of Wales

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Ysgrifennwch ataf yn Gymraeg neu'n Saesneg

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**From:** PS FirstMinister <[PS.FirstMinister@gov.wales](mailto:PS.FirstMinister@gov.wales)>  
**Sent:** 10 November 2020 17:50  
**To:** Runeckles, Jane (OFM - Special Adviser) <[Jane.Runeckles@gov.wales](mailto:Jane.Runeckles@gov.wales)>; Kilpatrick, Reg (EPS - LG Director) <[Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales](mailto:Reg.Kilpatrick@gov.wales)>  
**Cc:** Lalley, Liz (PSG - Recovery and Restart) <[Liz.Lalley@gov.wales](mailto:Liz.Lalley@gov.wales)>; PS FirstMinister <[PS.FirstMinister@gov.wales](mailto:PS.FirstMinister@gov.wales)>; DS FirstMinister (OFMCO) <[DS.FirstMinister@gov.wales](mailto:DS.FirstMinister@gov.wales)>; Clifford, Desmond (OFM - Director General) <[Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales](mailto:Desmond.Clifford@gov.wales)>  
**Subject:** FW: Weekly Meeting with CDL

All,

Agenda for tomorrow's call.

Thanks,

NR

Name Redacted

Prif Ysgrifennydd Preifat i Brif Weinidog Cymru  
Senior Private Secretary to the First Minister of Wales  
E-mail/E-bost: [ps.firstminister@gov.wales](mailto:ps.firstminister@gov.wales)

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**Sent:** 10 November 2020 17:49  
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**Cc:** Secretary of State - Scotland <[secretaryofstate@scotlandoffice.gov.uk](mailto:secretaryofstate@scotlandoffice.gov.uk)>; State, Secretary <[secretary.state@ukgovwales.gov.uk](mailto:secretary.state@ukgovwales.gov.uk)>; Name Redacted <Name Redacted@nio.gov.uk>; SOS Lewis <[sos.lewis@nio.gov.uk](mailto:sos.lewis@nio.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: Weekly Meeting with CDL

Please find the agenda.

Ta,

NR

NR

Diary Secretary to The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for Cabinet Office,  
The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

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***A reminder that our box time is Monday - Thursday 12pm. Please ensure all submissions are copied to [submissions@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:submissions@cabinetoffice.gov.uk), sent as PDFs and named according to Cabinet Office naming convention 'Date-Type-Title'***

On Tue, 10 Nov 2020 at 17:09, **Name Redacted** [@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](https://twitter.com/cabinetofficeuk) wrote:

Hi All,

Thank you for your replies, we are going ahead with the zoom call tomorrow at 5pm but note that FM, dFM and SoSNI have yet to confirm attendance.

I will send a diary scheduler shortly.

Many thanks,

NR

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Diary Secretary to The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for Cabinet Office,  
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On Mon, 9 Nov 2020 at 16:46, **Name Redacted** [@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](https://twitter.com/cabinetofficeuk) wrote:

Hi All,

Sorry to change the time again but I have already had one decline for this time, so can I please test 5pm - 5.45pm on Wednesday?

Many thanks,

NR

NR

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On Mon, 9 Nov 2020 at 16:23, [Name Redacted](#) [@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:NR@cabinetoffice.gov.uk) wrote:

Hi All,

Thank you for your replies, given tomorrow doesn't work for the meeting this week, can I please test Weds 11th November, 4.30pm - 5.15pm please?

Many thanks,

NR

NR

Diary Secretary to The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for Cabinet Office,  
The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

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On Sun, 8 Nov 2020 at 18:12, [Name Redacted](#) [@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:NR@cabinetoffice.gov.uk) wrote:

Dear all,

CDL would like to offer a one hour slot each week to the First Ministers and deputy First Minister to discuss pressing issues. As your Ministers will know from the COBR on Monday 2nd November, one of the most critical issues is planning for the upcoming holiday period and we would suggest that in the immediate term these slots focus on a joint programme of work on Christmas.

The slot may not be needed every week, but by holding a regular slot CDL's objective is to create an opportunity for regular information sharing and discussion of key issues. Both the UKG and devolved administrations will be able to suggest agenda items for discussion in advance, or mutually agree the meeting is not needed for that week.

Please let me know if holding weekly meetings would be possible for the First Ministers and deputy First Minister, If so I will look for a regular time to offer.

In the meantime, can you please let me know if **Tuesday 10th November, 1.30pm - 2.15pm** works for the meeting this week? It would also be helpful to know if you would like to add any other topics to the agenda.

Many thanks,

NR



NR

Diary Secretary to The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for Cabinet Office,  
The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

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