9. The major areas under consideration were set out in the table. In addition to the Phase 2 changes on 29 June (which had been considered at the previous week's meeting of the Cabinet – *SC(20)25th Conclusions refers*), early changes to the restrictions were expected to include, among others, the relaxation of the five-mile travel restriction, the provision of outdoor hospitality (subject to physical distancing and public health advice), and visits to self-catering accommodation and second homes (without shared facilities) – all from around 3 to 6 July.

10. From around 15 July, the early stages of Phase 3 were expected to include the re-opening of all types of holiday accommodation, indoor hospitality (subject to physical distancing and public health advice), early learning and childcare, hairdressers, further changes to rules about meeting other households indoors, indoor shopping centres (with physical distancing), and other areas.

11. Other changes planned for later stages of Phase 3, such as the re-opening of non-essential offices and call centres, would be considered as part of the statutory three-week review on 9 July, and would be unlikely to come into force before around 23 July. The full-time re-opening of schools, planned for 11 August, was likely to form part of Phase 3 or early Phase 4, depending on broader progress and subject to public health advice.

12. Further scientific advice was awaited from the Chief Medical Officer's COVID-19 Advisory Group in two main areas: the possibility of relaxing the two metre physical distancing rule (and any actions that might be required to mitigate any resulting risks), and the evidence surrounding so-called 'super-spreader' events (*SC(20)25th Conclusions refers*), whereby a relatively small number of infected persons in higher transmission risk settings were thought to be responsible for a disproportionate volume of onward infections. The results of the review of the scientific evidence in these areas were due to be received on or before 2 July, in time to inform the confirmation of the dates of changes over the remainder of Phase 2 and early in Phase 3. The First Minister was due to provide a further public update on 2 July, ahead of the proposed dates for re-opening hospitality.

13. Consideration was still being given as to whether the wearing of face coverings should be made mandatory in retail settings (as was already the case on public transport). The more people who did so, however, the greater the benefit would be for all (and notably, for staff). Should wearing face coverings in shops become mandatory, enforcement would ultimately be a police matter, although it was still hoped that ongoing communications to the general public and to the retail sector about the benefits of face coverings would lead to a sustained increase in usage levels.

14. In advance of his planned statement to the Parliament that afternoon on education recovery, Mr Swinney provided Cabinet with an update on plans for the new school year (*see also SCANCE paper SC(20)73*). Since 21 May, when the Education Recovery Group had published a set of contingency plans for a partial return to school, based on a 'blended learning' model, there had been a reduction of around 90 per cent in the number of infectious people in Scotland, and the country was clearly moving away from lockdown.