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- and friends and building NHS services capacity, this could be signalled as a likely change in the next review as part of a wider package for businesses.
- 42. Other potential areas of minor adjustments to the Regulations continue to be discussed and could be signalled as areas in which preparations for restarting activity could be started. These include the housing market (which has opened in England), which could also be signalled for the next review period.
- 43. The recommendations resulting from the Stage 2 assessment are a mix of legislative and non-legislative adjustments. A regulatory change does not force operators to open, but enables them to do so when they are able to do so safely and when it is viable for them to do so. It should be noted that the areas set out above fall within the scope of a number of different responsible authorities who would need to be closely involved in determining appropriate lead-in times, including possible wider implications (e.g. on staff, testing, enforcement). This includes engagement with the public bodies, local authorities, businesses, trade unions and others to explore fully risks and mitigating actions for any change in approach and to identify potential unintended consequences.

Stage 3: Monitoring and evaluation of easements

Joint Biosecurity Centre

- 44. The UK Government announced the intention to put in place a Joint Biosecurity Centre. The Welsh Government and other Devolved Administrations are working with the JBC to ensure the surveillance approach works for each nation. This will form a critical part of the ongoing monitoring of the spread of coronavirus in Wales and support more effective surveillance.
- 45. We currently expect the JBC to be formally launched on 1 June with initial operational capacity, with full operational capacity unlikely until August. There is broad agreement on the approach across the four nations, with issues of governance, security and data being worked through. From 1 June we only expect high level data and analysis to be available, alongside guidance for English Local Authorities to close certain venues or deal with small outbreaks. The track and trace systems across the UK will be a key input into local responses, illustrating the importance of having an effective TTP in place in Wales.

'Circuit Breakers'

46. Progress has been made in defining 'circuit breakers' since the last review. In order to monitor any future easements of measures, requirements and restrictions we need to agree trigger points to determine if they may need to be re-imposed. Those trigger points would also inform whether additional restrictions are required which are not currently in place (e.g. should compliance break down or additional economic activity create a surge in Wales not anticipated by modelling). We are seeking a four-nation approach to these indicators and Wales is leading these discussions via SAGE and SPI-M.

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- 47. Early warning sign indicators which may not directly identify an issue, however, may provide evidence that one of the circuit breakers may pick up an issue soon. These indicators can also provide context to circuit breakers.
- 48. A series of indicators have been developed under the following categories:
 - Transmission, Incidence and/or prevalence of the virus
 - · Capacity of NHS
 - · Capacity of social care services
 - Test, Trace and Protect
 - Genomics
 - Mortality
 - PPE
- 49. Indicators are assessed and agreed by TAC to meet criteria to ensure their timeliness, accuracy, quality, and relevance. The purpose of the indicators is to collectively provide the best possible measure of issues that are identified. Our aim is to identify the optimum number of indicators to help achieve this.
- 50. The set of indicators does not need to be exhaustive in terms of reflecting all aspects of the areas of interest. We will assess whether a specific indicator is best placed to provide a coherent picture for the areas we are interested in.

Monitoring of easements

- 51. To monitor any future easements of lockdown measures, we have considered trigger points to determine if measures may need to be re-imposed. Those trigger points would also inform whether additional restrictions are required not currently in place.
- 52. This may involve the use of tailored indicators to specifically measure the impacts within each area of substantive easement, where not already captured by the indicators described above. For example reopening schools will need a dedicated monitoring approach that considered staff absences and wider indicators disaggregated to school settings (e.g. TTP data).

Coordination across the UK

- 53. The recommendations set out in this advice are broadly consistent with those introduced in England following the 7 May review, and those in the first phases of coming out of lockdown in Scotland and Northern Ireland. It appears that England are looking to accelerate further their reopening with schools due to return for some pupils from 1 June and opening of non-essential retail still being considered.
- 54. In your discussion with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (CDL), he indicated England was looking to introduce the following changes following the 28 May review:
 - Phased reopening of schools beginning with Reception, Year 1 and 6
 - Transition years (10 and 12) having some structured formal contact with teachers