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CC(20)09  
Minutes

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CABINET

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Cabinet  
held at 10 Downing Street on

TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020  
At 0900 AM

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P R E S E N T

The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP  
Prime Minister

The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer

The Rt Hon Priti Patel MP  
Secretary of State for the Home Department

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

The Rt Hon Robert Buckland QC MP  
Lord Chancellor, and Secretary of State for Justice

The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP  
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and  
Industrial Strategy, Minister for COP26

The Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey MP  
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

The Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP  
Secretary of State for Education

The Rt Hon George Eustice MP  
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural  
Affairs

The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP  
Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and  
Local Government

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP  
Secretary of State for Transport

The Rt Hon Brandon Lewis CBE MP  
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

The Rt Hon Alister Jack MP  
Secretary of State for Scotland

The Rt Hon Simon Hart MP  
Secretary of State for Wales

The Rt Hon Baroness Evans of Bowes Park  
Lord Privy Seal, and Leader of the House of Lords

The Rt Hon Oliver Dowden CBE MP  
Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and  
Sport

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The Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP  
Secretary of State for International Development

The Rt Hon Amanda Milling MP  
Minister without Portfolio

ALSO PRESENT

The Rt Hon Stephen Barclay MP  
Chief Secretary to the Treasury

The Rt Hon Jacob Rees-Mogg MP  
Lord President of the Council, and Leader of the House of Commons

The Rt Hon Mark Spencer MP  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury (Chief Whip)

The Rt Hon Suella Braverman QC MP  
Attorney General

Nick Smallwood  
Chief Executive of the Infrastructure and Projects Authority  
(Item 4)

Secretariat

Sir Mark Sedwill  
H MacNamara

NR

M Collins

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Covid-19 (Coronavirus)

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE said that there were 39 cases of coronavirus in the UK. This number was expected to rise. In Italy there had been over 1,700 cases with 50 deaths. The number of cases was increasing rapidly in France and Germany. The scientific advice was that a global pandemic could be averted but that was increasingly unlikely. The action plan published that day would set out how the Government might respond in certain circumstances. It was better to be transparent with the public. The public messaging would continue to emphasise the importance of good hygiene and catching sneezes. Other than that, it was business as usual.

THE PRIME MINISTER said that the UK was still in the “contain” phase. If the situation worsened the measures set out in the plan would be taken as necessary, including using the emergency legislation being prepared.

The Cabinet:

- took note.

I&S

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**

I&S

**Irrelevant & Sensitive**