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**From:** Jeffreys, Andrew (PSG - Welsh Treasury) [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B133C12C57F749CF9D37A5907A672345-JEFFREYS, A]  
**Sent:** 10/04/2020 10:47:27  
**To:** PS Minister Finance & Trefnydd [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=495d806b7fa84ea0a1453a87022f9798-PS Minister]  
**CC:** **NR** (PSG - Strategic Budgeting) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=87fa4c22b3714f0bb626c0d25b233a63-**NR**]; Davies, Margaret (PSG - Strategic Budgeting) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=24854bff1a6f4f61b1229bd7847f2491-Davies, Mar]; Rebecca Evans (Ministerial) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ca4793ebf3f348f59109ebe1706135ad-Rebecca Eva]; Williams, Gareth (OFM - Special Adviser) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=19d4b7aa208e47108306556dee4e0161-Gareth.Will]**NR** (PSG - Strategic Budgeting) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5be411789f0549ddb55d350f097dcdc-**NR**]; **NR** (SG - Welsh Treasury) [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdfa0a4dcf40498e8012386ef82d8ed2-**NR**]  
**Subject:** Note of Quad 9/4

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Quick note of yesterday's meeting as follows ...

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CST, MFT, SG Finance Minister (SG) and NIE Finance Minister (NIE) all in attendance.

### 1. Business support measures and recent announcement on charities

- CST set out developments since the last meeting (particularly yesterday's announcement on charities and the recent 'improvements' to the CBILS). He wanted to hear from DAs about how these measures are impacting and other insights into how businesses are responding to the crisis.
- SG focused on the challenges in relation to support for the self-employed (in line with her letter earlier that day ... CST hadn't seen) and the prospects of further NDR relief particularly given the strong likelihood of a collapse in the NDR base. She also emphasised the need for more funding to support the C19 response by NHS and LAs in Scotland.
- MFT agreed with SG on self-employed and welcomed support for charities (making clear we had gone further than our consequential already). On CBILS, she referred to point made by ME&T to SoSBEIS about the need to revisit the cap and evidence that some banks are not offering loans under £250k not that security if not required. She also asked about whether there would be further consequentials to changes to NDR schemes in England already made [CST didn't respond on this point.]
- NIE welcomed recent announcements and said that while the self-employed scheme is a great step, there are some people falling through the cracks.
- CST accepted that self-employed scheme doesn't cover 100% but they are trying to strike a balance between having a simple scheme that gets money to people quickly and coverage. There are also massive fraud risks that need to be mitigated. He welcomed the feedback, wanted it to keep flowing and said he would reflect on the points made.

### 2. Consequentials

- CST framed the dilemma between providing early certainty to DAs on funding available and the risk of later, downward adjustments if it turns out measures in England costs less than early estimates. There are basically three options: (i) HMT takes the risk (upside and downside); (ii) DAs take the risk; or (iii) we have provisional initial allocations that are adjusted later.

- All three DAs agreed their preference was initial allocations that were revised up later but not downwards. CST noted that this was likely to mean more cautious (i.e. lower) initial allocations. **It was agreed that officials will work together to develop this approach (which entails regular and open sharing of actual and forecast costs of C19 response measures).**
- CST said they would be providing further details shortly of some additional allocations to NHS and LAs in England that are unlikely to be firmed up until much later in the year (at Supp Estimates ... early 2021??)
- MFT raised the importance of additional flexibilities (borrowing limits, Wales reserve access, cap/rev switching) to enable us to manage things more effectively. There was also a further discussion of the risks to the NDR and CT bases and the possible need to provide more funding to LAs to cover loss of income from local taxes. It was agreed that this needed to be kept under review.

### 3. Job Retention Scheme (JRS)

- MFT emphasised the need for clarity for organisations that receive public funding but are also partly dependent on other income that has fallen sharply because of C19.
- CST reiterated the principles of the scheme (not for fully publicly funded bodies, importance of not double funding, JRS not intended to enable public funding to be diverted away from bodies, aim it to prevent unemployment) but said it was there to support organisations which have lost income and he had written to SsoS recently to provide additional clarity [**I think there was an action to circulate this ...**]. He said the cut-off date of 28/2 (employees must have been on the payroll by this date to be eligible) was important to mitigate fraud risk. He agreed that officials would send around some examples from England of organisations which have been able to claim JRS grants.
- NIE raised an issue about supply teachers (which I think is NI only).