

concern was around the supply of FFP3 masks as most of their Health Boards use FFP3 mask supplied by 3M (1895 masks), this one is widely used and is the choice of mask by most. Their supply route is from NHS SC/Blue Diamond via Runcorn however they have been struggling to get orders fulfilled for the valved masks for the last 2 months. DW shared that they had attempted to secure the 5million 3M masks, valved were the masks that could not be fulfilled by 3M. NI advised they have been on multiple calls trying to gain an understanding of the situation with 3M however it's still not resolved, they were advised by NHS SC that some stock would be delivered yesterday (19/02/2020) however no stock was received within their order. NI advised they do have some stock in the system however limited availability to support BAU. DW asked if they had started any contingency planning, they advised that they had explored the use of Arco 1835 masks as they believe this is an identical industrial product however, they are still waiting on an update regarding their enquiry. DW asked if they had started to consider using a different brand, NI advised not yet and that their fit testing is contracted to third parties in Health Boards.

DW suggested that we may need to consider within the contingency planning switching to a different brand however we would need to consider volumes of different masks/brands available and what fit testing is also available.

NR asked for further detail regarding the 3M order for 5m FFP3 masks, DW advised the 5m was placed at the weekend and then at the beginning of the week 3M advised they could not fulfil the 1.3m valved masks code:1873plus, they confirmed the scheduled delivery of the 3.7m unvalved code:1863 which would be 100,000 eaches by the end of March then 500,000 eaches each month after.

Scotland advised they are in a similar position to NI and have their stockpile. They advised that most of the ordering is completed via the individual Health Boards so they don't have a view of the stock position at this time however it was agreed that they would take this away to understand product lines used, BAU volumes, supply routes and that they would be able to share this information. They believed fit testing is carried out in a train the trainer method across the Health Boards however they would need to check this, also they were aware of one of the Health Boards using powered hoods however they have made them aware these may be in limited supply and may need to consider using an alternative. FL confirmed that there were no fit testing kits in their stockpile.

NR asked for clarity on the stock that was being received at the end of March from 3M and would this be available for the Devolved Administrations. DW advised looking at the current FFP3 usage in NHS Supply Chain, with the demand management in place and including the stock being received at the end of March this would potentially only cover our NHS Supply Chain BAU position. DW explained if he could understand numbers then they could look to understand if there was any availability to support the Devolved Administrations.

Wales advised they had 8-10 weeks Brexit stock however no FFP3 masks were held within their stockpile and they have no BAU stock available. They have been conducting a mapping exercise to understand brand, volumes etc, most use 3M masks however they are aware of one Health Board using Full Support. They have now channelled all their FFP3 orders through NHS SC to help support the control on orders, however there is a concern as NHS SC will not have a view of BAU for some Health Boards, as one of the Warehouses ordered direct from 3M so there would be no order history. GD shared with NI that they had also attempted to procure stock from Arco however have been advised they can't supply, so they are reliant on NHS SC and don't want to be cut off. DW asked GD if this information had been shared with NHS SC, GD confirmed yes and that they are in discussion with Scott Murray. Wales advised their demand for acute will be around 5% which is the normal BAU profile.

DW asked if everyone found the call beneficial, everyone agreed that they did, and it was valuable information that was being shared and it is allowing them to have a deeper understanding.