

1. Email

From: Stewart K (Kevin)
Sent: 05 May 2020 11:04
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Homelessness roundtable

Aye, fine.

K

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Date: Tuesday, 05 May 2020, 10:45 am
To: Stewart K (Kevin)
Cc: Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning
<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>
Subject: Homelessness roundtable

Morning Kevin

Cabinet has finished so Aileen will be leaving shortly to get to Parly – are you ok to kick off the homelessness stakeholder call and she will join when she can? She may make it for the start but probably a bit tight! I will set the call up in her office so she can just join when she arrives.

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

2. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 05 May 2020 12:10
To: Communications Covid-19 <CommunicationsCovid-19@gov.scot>; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Smith G (Gregor); [Redacted]@gov.scot
Cc: DL Cabinet Secretaries; DL Ministers; DL SPADS; Permanent Secretary
Subject: FM statement for today

Hi
Please find attached copy of FM statement for today.
Thanks
[Redacted]

Senior Private Secretary to the First Minister
The Scottish Government
5th Floor | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

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EMAIL 2 WORD DOCUMENT CONTENTS

Thanks for joining us today.

I want to start with the usual statistical update in relation to Covid-19.

As at 9 o'clock this morning, there have been 12,437 positive cases confirmed - an increase of 171 from yesterday.

A total of 1,656 patients are in hospital with Covid-19 - that is a decrease of 64 since yesterday.

A total of 104 people last night were in intensive care with confirmed or suspected Covid 19. That is an increase of 5 since yesterday.

I can also confirm that since 5 March, 2,847 patients who had tested positive for the virus have been able to leave hospital.

Sadly, though, in the last 24 hours, 44 deaths have been registered of patients who had been confirmed through a test as having Covid-19 – which takes the total number of deaths, under that measurement, to 1620.

We must never think of these numbers as just statistics. They represent individuals whose loss is a source of sorrow to many. I want to send my deepest condolences to everyone who has lost a loved one to this virus.

I also want to thank once again our health and care workers for the extraordinary work that they are doing.

I have one issue that I want to discuss today.

It follows my update yesterday on our plans for “test, trace, isolate”.

Today, I want to set out our latest data on the level of infection and the important R number, and also describe the work we are doing now to prepare for careful and gradual changes to the lockdown restrictions - but only when we judge it is safe to make them, which I am afraid is not right now.

You will find more detail in a new document we have just published on the gov.scot website - it updates the one we published a couple of weeks ago and, again, I’m asking you to please have a look at it.

I also want to encourage you to use the online tool that we are launching today, which gives you the chance to offer ideas on how we should move forward.

The decisions on how we come out of lockdown will affect all of us - and so I am determined to make them as openly and collaboratively as possible.

By Thursday, we have to formally assess whether any lockdown restrictions should be lifted. The other UK governments will also be making an assessment on or around that date.

As we move forward, we will continue to discuss and where appropriate reach decisions on a four nations basis - it remains my intention to have UK wide alignment where the evidence supports it, though obviously my overarching responsibility is to reach evidence based decisions that are right for Scotland.

As I indicated yesterday, I think it is highly unlikely that we will be able to make any significant changes to the current restrictions on Thursday. It's important that I'm frank with you about that now.

Today's paper sets out the data that underpins that conclusion.

In short, we are seeing progress - particularly in the number of people admitted to intensive care - but it is still fragile.

That means any increase in the physical interactions we have with other people could quickly see transmission of the virus increase again.

We estimate that there are currently around 26,000 people with Covid-19 in Scotland. This is still too high to consider the virus under control.

I have also spoken before about the vital importance of keeping the R number below 1.

We know it is higher in care homes, but our best estimate is that the R number in the community is currently between 0.7 and 1. And we cannot be sure that it's not closer to 1 than 0.7.

There is also some evidence that the R number in Scotland may be slightly higher at this point than in the rest of the UK - though the modelling that is based on is subject to a degree of uncertainty.

But in any event, the R number is not yet far enough below 1 to be confident that any changes to current restrictions wouldn't quickly send it above 1 again - if that happened, the virus would start to increase exponentially again.

That could overwhelm our health service; force us to reimpose restrictions; and lead to many more deaths.

As an illustration of this, we include a chart in the paper based on recent Danish data - it suggests that if we were to fully re-open nurseries and primary schools now, the most likely scenario would be a resurgence in the virus that would overwhelm our hospital capacity in a matter of weeks.

The fact is any easing of restrictions, whenever we introduce them, will have an impact on the R number. But if we get our baseline lower than it is now, we will have more headroom to cope with that - and be able to avoid outcomes like that one.

So we must see further reductions in new cases, hospital and ICU admissions and deaths to be sure that the overall level of infection and the R number are lower than they are now.

That means, for the moment, we do need to stick with the lockdown.

However I am acutely aware that the severity of restrictions we are living under cannot continue indefinitely - we know that lockdown is doing its own damage.

So we need to prepare to make changes as soon as it is safe to do so.

The next three week period of lockdown, after 7 May, is due to end on 28 May.

That doesn't necessarily mean we can't make any changes before then if the evidence suggests it is safe to do so. If we can, we will.

For example, I'm particularly keen as soon as possible, for the sake of mental health and wellbeing, to allow people to be outdoors more. And obviously we are all keen to get the economy moving again as soon as we can.

So today's paper sets out some options that we are working on - both in terms of assessing their impact and on the practicalities of implementation - so that we will be ready to make changes when the evidence tell us it is safe.

To be clear, this is not a list of things we will definitely do by certain dates.

Indeed, we may not be able to take all of these steps even at the end of May.

This is going to be a long process with different phases along the way.

And we will only implement these changes when we are as certain as possible that it is safe to do so - and when we can also assure you of that.

In the meantime, it is vital that we stick rigorously to the current rules.

But it is important that we are preparing now.

So let me briefly set out the options we are working on. Though, again, I must stress that none of these are changes we are implementing as of now.

But we are considering, firstly, if and how we could safely change our advice on spending time outdoors - to allow exercise outside to happen more than once a day, so long as we continue to stay apart from people outside our own households.

Second, we are also considering if a slight relaxation in the rules to allow meeting up with a small, defined group of people from other households - in a sort of bubble - might be possible, even if initially that was only possible out of doors.

This is one possible way in which we could start to interact a bit more with family or friends - which I know is important.

However, we have to consider carefully the impact on the spread of the virus. And we have to think through how such an approach could be implemented in practice - and also how the limitations of it could be enforced if necessary.

It's also not something that will be possible for those who are currently shielding - so we have to think about the fairness of it too.

The third area we are looking at is when and in what order we can resume some NHS and community care services. As you know, we stopped some services – for example, screening programmes and non urgent elective procedures – to ensure that the NHS could cope with Covid-19. But these postponements also have implications for health, so we must be considering how services can be restarted as soon as possible.

The fourth area relates to how we carefully, gradually and safely allow businesses to re- open. This is a major area of work, for obvious reasons.

We need to work with business and trade unions to consider the practical arrangements for different work environments to start up safely - changes to working practices, physical layouts of workplaces, the use of PPE and the operation of public transport. On this, we are looking carefully at the work the UK government is doing and consulting our own stakeholders on it.

Initially, we are giving particular consideration to businesses in the construction, retail and manufacturing sectors – and also to some outdoor and rural businesses.

However, where home working is possible, we are likely to insist on that for the foreseeable future.

And I want to be clear that as of now current guidance to business remains in place.

Finally, I have said before that one of the hardest decisions I have ever taken was the closure of schools. I know the impact this is having on young people and families.

The Deputy First Minister chairs the Education Recovery Group, which is considering options for how pupils might gradually return to school.

Now, again, I need to be clear - a return to school may not be possible at all this side of the summer holidays.

But we are considering whether some groups of students – such as vulnerable children, children who are making the transition from primary to secondary school, or who are studying for national qualifications – could return to school ahead of others.

Any initial return to school - when it does happen - is likely to require a mixture of time in school and learning at home.

For example it's possible that different groups could attend school part-time in blocks of a few days - or a week at a time - to enable physical distancing and deep cleaning of schools between sessions. In all of this, we must try to find the right balance between children's educational and wider needs, and public health imperatives.

But I want to be crystal clear that while we will take the greatest care in all of this, that is particularly the case with schools. We will not compromise the safety of your children.

As you will understand from the detail I have just given, none of these decisions are easy. There are no absolute certainties and complex judgments will have to be made.

As I've said before, 'lifting the lockdown' will not be like flicking a switch.

It will be a gradual process which will happen in phases.

What we are seeking to do is find a path to a new normal – one which is less restrictive than the current lockdown, but which doesn't risk the virus running rampant again.

We have not yet put definite dates on any of what I've just set out. But I will update you on an ongoing basis as our evidence, assessments and planning develops.

And as soon as we can start to attach even tentative dates, we will.

In parallel, we will continue to build the 'test, trace, isolate' capacity that I spoke about yesterday.

But the most important task for all of us in the here and now is to get the virus under more control than it is now. We are at a critical stage in that.

That means sticking rigorously to the current rules. It means thinking hard about our own compliance - and tightening that now, not easing up on it. If you have been going out a bit more than you should, please rectify that.

Please stay at home except for essential purposes - and remember, at this stage, essential purposes means only food supplies, medicines and daily exercise.

Stay 2 metres from others when you have to be out.

Don't meet up with people from other households.

Isolate completely if you or anyone else in your household has symptoms.

Wash your hands regularly. And wear a face covering if you are in an enclosed space with other people - like a shop or public transport.

This is tough - I know that.

But if all we keep doing the right things, we will get there. Our light at the end of the tunnel will get brighter. And we will find the way through.

Thank you for everything you are doing to help.

3. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 05 May 2020 13:24
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Coronavirus Public Enquiries <CPE@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning
<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Letter from The salvation Army

Hi [Redacted],

Just to make you aware we have had several identical letters come in from Salvation Army. I am currently drafting a response to be sent from Mr Stewart.

I will ensure that the response to [Redacted] covers this correspondence to Ms Campbell.

If you need anything else please let me know.

Many Thanks,
[Redacted]

Homelessness Briefing and Correspondence Officer | Housing and Social Justice
Division | Better Homes | Homelessness Support and Homelessness Unit | Scottish
Government

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Communities and
Local Government
Sent: 05 May 2020 08:45
To: Coronavirus Public Enquiries <CPE@gov.scot>
Cc: Homelessness Team; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning
<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Letter from The salvation Army

For response please.

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

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terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

4. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of General Public Sector MIG
Sent: 05 May 2020 14:32
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning
<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>
Cc: General Public Sector MIG; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
<CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
<MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at
Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

Thanks [Redacted]

PS Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
PS Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning

As below, we would suggest that if possible Ms Campbell dials in on Thursday, as the majority of this agenda leaning towards health/community and local government. If Ms Campbell isn't available, perhaps Mr Stewart or Ms Freeman can step in?

Could Mr Fitzpatrick dial in for the death management agenda item?

Thanks

[Redacted] | Policy Officer
Organisational Readiness (COVID-19 Response)
Readiness and Transition Directorate | Scottish Government

Please note I am working from home and Friday is my Non-Working day. Please contact GPSMIG@gov.scot on Fridays if you need a response. If you need to speak to me Monday to Thursday, please contact me on my email, Skype or mobile number above.

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People
Sent: 05 May 2020 13:19
To: General Public Sector MIG; Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People <CabSecSSOP@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning <MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

[Redacted]

Industry support for the funerals sector is actually Mr Fitzpatrick. Nor do we do funeral poverty (which is Ms Campbell). The only thing we do is the actual payment of the Funeral Support Payment (not to industry)

Sorry

[Redacted]

Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Social Security & Older People
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1
3DG

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From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of General Public Sector MIG

Sent: 05 May 2020 12:41

To: Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People

<CabSecSSOP@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning

<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>

Cc: General Public Sector MIG

Subject: FW: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

PS Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People

PS Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning

Good Afternoon

As below, we are looking for representation at Thursday's GPSMIG meeting, which at the moment has the confirmed agenda item death management - industry support for the funerals sector. We are also expecting public sector PPE and rough sleeping to be part of the agenda, but have yet to receive commissions from the Cabinet Office for these yet.

Can you please let me know if Ms Somerville is available between 13:00-14:00 on Thursday to represent the death management item, with Mr Stewart lined up to represent PPE and rough sleeping should these be confirmed later today by Cabinet Office?

Thanks

[Redacted] | Policy Officer

Organisational Readiness (COVID-19 Response)

Readiness and Transition Directorate | Scottish Government

Please note I am working from home and Friday is my Non-Working day. Please contact GPSMIG@gov.scot on Fridays if you need a response.

If you need to speak to me Monday to Thursday, please contact me on my email, Skype or mobile number above.

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Minister for Community Safety
Sent: 05 May 2020 12:28
To: Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>;
General Public Sector MIG <GPSMIG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for
Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for
Community Safety <MinisterCS@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at
Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

[Redacted],

Funeral poverty sits with Ms Sommerville but I am not sure if the death management item will relate to individuals or the wider funeral sector. Mr Stewart covers rough sleeping but the wider public sector PPE crosses a number of portfolios.

For Ms Denham, there is no link to her portfolio from what you've mentioned but do come back to me if you think otherwise.

Regards,

[Redacted] | Private Secretary
Office of Humza Yousaf MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Sent: 05 May 2020 10:44
To: General Public Sector MIG <GPSMIG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Community Safety <MinisterCS@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

Thanks [Redacted]. Public Sector PPE and rough sleeping would not be for Mr F to speak to so maybe worth teeing up another minister too.

Thanks
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of General Public Sector MIG
Sent: 05 May 2020 10:41
To: Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>;
Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; General Public Sector MIG <GPSMIG@gov.scot>;
Minister for Community Safety <MinisterCS@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

Hi [Redacted],

At the moment, we are expecting public sector PPE and rough sleeping to also feature on the agenda. This is, as always with GPSMIG, subject to change but this is the most current information we have at present.

Thanks

[Redacted] | Policy Officer
Organisational Readiness (COVID-19 Response)
Readiness and Transition Directorate | Scottish Government

Please note I am working from home and Friday is my Non-Working day. Please contact GPSMIG@gov.scot on Fridays if you need a response. If you need to speak to me Monday to Thursday, please contact me on my email, Skype or mobile number above.

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Sent: 05 May 2020 10:37
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; General Public Sector MIG <GPSMIG@gov.scot>; Minister for Community Safety <MinisterCS@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

Thanks [Redacted].

[Redacted] – can we make a decision after we have seen the full agenda?

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary
Private Office of Mr. Joe FitzPatrick MSP, Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing
Room 1E.10 | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
Sent: 05 May 2020 09:59
To: General Public Sector MIG <GPSMIG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Community Safety <MinisterCS@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

Hi [Redacted],

I think this would be one for Mr Fitzpatrick?

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of General Public Sector MIG
Sent: 05 May 2020 09:41
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Community Safety <MinisterCS@gov.scot>
Cc: General Public Sector MIG <GPSMIG@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector - Ministerial Attendance at Meeting Thu 07 May 13:00-14:00

PS Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
PS Minister for Community Safety

Good Morning

As below, we have been informed that death management - industry support for the funerals sector will be an agenda item for an update at the Thursday 7th May GPSMIG meeting, running from 13:00-14:00. Can you please confirm whether Ms Campbell or Ms Denham would be available to represent this item?

Thanks

[Redacted] | Policy Officer
Organisational Readiness (COVID-19 Response)
Readiness and Transition Directorate | Scottish Government

Please note I am working from home and Friday is my Non-Working day. Please contact GPSMIG@gov.scot on Fridays if you need a response. If you need to speak to me Monday to Thursday, please contact me on my email, Skype or mobile number above.

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 05 May 2020 09:18
To: TEO ECCMC Secretariat; [Redacted]@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk; [5 Redacted]@gov.wales; Organisational Readiness; General Public Sector MIG; [9 Redacted]@gov.scot

Cc: COVID19 DAs Liaisons

Subject: GPSMIG 7.04 Commission on funeral sector

Hi all,

Here is the commission sent to MoJ for the update on support for the death management sector.

The General Public Sector Ministerial Implementation Group (GPSMIG) is chaired by CDL and meets daily at 1pm. At the GPSMIG on Wednesday 8th April the COMMITTEE agreed that the MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY, and HM TREASURY should work together to design and be ready to implement a support package for the funerals sector.

CDL would like an update on industry support for the funerals sector on Thursday 7 May. This discussion should seek to surface gaps in current support for the sector and propose a range of options that could be explored further.

Working with Cabinet Office (CCS), MHCLG, BEIS, HMT, and other departments as appropriate, please could you prepare a clear and concise paper or slides (no more than 5 pages or 5 slides) covering the below points by 3pm Wednesday 6 May for the Lord Chancellor, with support from other relevant ministers, to speak to in the meeting.

- A brief update on national (CCS) and local (MHCLG) planning and capacity.
- As a result of COVID-19, what are the major issues for the funerals sector? This should cover impacts on the private and public segments of the sector in the short and long term. In particular, has there been an impact on throughput in the sector?
- What support is currently available to the sector, and whether additional additional support is required?
- If there are gaps in provision, what are the options being considered?
- How will any proposed interventions align with support for bereaved families?

The commission was addressed to:

Rutherford, Fiona" <Fiona.Rutherford@justice.gov.uk>,

Peter Tallantire <peter.tallantire@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

DA colleagues - I would be grateful for any comments, including any particular issues your Ministers might wish to raise regarding the above points, before 3 tomorrow.

Best,

[Redacted]@gov.scot

COVID-19 Secretariat - Devolved Administrations Liaison General Public Services
MIG

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
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5. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 05 May 2020 15:01
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Subject: CTR - MiCase 202000032027

Grateful if you can confirm if Ms Campbell is CTR this response?

Many thanks,
[Redacted]

EMAIL 5 PDF document contents

Aileen Campbell MSP
[Redacted]

Our Reference: 202000032027
Your Reference: AC049

05 May 2020

Dear Aileen,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 23rd April 2020, on behalf of your constituent regarding places at St Andrew's University for Scottish applicants.

Education in Scotland remains one of the fundamental priorities of this government which is why we have invested over £1 billion per year since 2012/13 in higher education. Scotland has a world-class higher education system which contributes significantly to our inclusive growth ambitions and the diversity of our society.

We continue to see a growing increase in the number of Scottish domiciled full-time first degree entrants from 25,790 in 2006-07 to 31,065 in 2018-19, or 20%. In 2019/20 the total number of funded places in Scottish universities was over 128,200. With that said, Scottish universities are autonomous bodies and decisions relating to entry and admissions criteria are for the individual institutions to make and not an issue that Scottish Ministers can intervene with.

I am sure you will appreciate Scottish universities have an excellent reputation both within Scotland and around the world and as such, the selection process is highly competitive, with universities, receiving significantly more applications than they have places.

In relation to the feedback your constituent received from St Andrew's University I can confirm that there is no formal cap or quota in place on the number of funded places we support but there is a finite amount of money that is allocated to such places. Therefore it might be helpful if I explain how the current funding model works.

Our funding is deployed via the Scottish Funding Council. From this, each institution is allocated a number of full time equivalent funded placements and it is for the universities themselves, as autonomous institutions, to

decide how to distribute the places between faculties, the courses they offer and how many of the total funded places will be available on each course.

Additionally to enable flexibility in student recruitment, the Scottish Funding Council allows universities to recruit up to 10% above the number of funded places awarded for eligible Scottish/EU domiciled students on full-time undergraduate courses.

It is important to note that International students and those from other parts of the UK (rUK) are not eligible to access the funded places which have been protected for Scottish students. Universities then decide how many non-funded places they will make available to fee-paying students over and above the funded places for Scottish and EU students.

I hope this information will be useful when responding to your constituent and I would like to take this opportunity and wish him well in his academic future.

Yours sincerely

Richard Lochhead

M: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

6. Email

From: [Redacted]@oxfam.org.uk
Sent: 05 May 2020 15:42
To: Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People
<CabSecSSOP@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local
Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Subject: Open Letter: Care and Poverty

For the attention of:

- Aileen Campbell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government; and
- Shirley Anne Sommerville MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People.

Dear Aileen and Shirley Anne,

I hope this finds you both well.

Please see attached correspondence in which I provide details of some public-facing advocacy Oxfam will issue tomorrow (Wed, 6 May). This involves an open letter on care and poverty signed by more than 100 organisations across the UK. The open letter – which is also attached – is addressed to politicians across Britain – MPs, MSPs in Scotland and MSs in Wales – and, at the time of writing, has been signed by at least 35 Scottish organisations.

Together, signatories make an urgent plea for more action to protect carers from poverty. They say carers have been undervalued for too long, with inadequate social security provision, and poverty wages, leaving many paid and unpaid carers – particularly women who deliver most care – in poverty. COVID-19 is highlighting and exacerbating this injustice and the letter warns that a failure to tackle it would be ‘truly unforgivable’.

While recognising measures the Scottish Government has taken to enhance support for carers, alongside wider anti-poverty measures, the open letter makes clear that all governments must do more to protect carers from poverty. As outlined more fully in my attached letter to you both, Oxfam will also release new polling tomorrow which will show strong public concern about the under valuing of care by the UK and Scottish Governments, and high levels of support to address this.

I understand the Scottish Government is convening a separate poverty-focused telecon with a number of stakeholders tomorrow. While I am not involved in that particular discussion, I wished to provide you both with early sight of this open letter and I would be more than happy to discuss it further with you, or your officials, should that be helpful.

Best regards,
[Redacted]

Head of Oxfam Scotland

Oxfam Scotland
[Redacted]
10 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 6LU.
www.oxfam.org.uk/scotland

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EMAIL 7 DOCUMENT A CONTENTS

Aileen Campbell MSP,
Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government.
Shirley Anne Sommerville MSP,
Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People.
5 May 2020

Dear Aileen and Shirley Anne,

I hope you and your loved ones are staying safe and please accept my personal thanks for all that you, and your colleagues across the Scottish Government, are doing in response to COVID-19. I am sure, like me, you are hugely appreciative of all those at the forefront of the response. I am writing with a specific focus on those caring – whether for a child, an older person, or someone with an illness or additional needs – and to confidentially update you on some public output we are issuing on the links between care and poverty.

Tomorrow, **Wednesday 6 May**, Oxfam will release the enclosed open letter to politicians across Britain – MPs, MSPs in Scotland, and MSs in Wales – signed by more than 100 stakeholders include caring, anti-poverty and women’s rights organisations along with think tanks, unions and others. Amongst the diverse list are at least 35 Scottish organisations including Carers Scotland, the Scottish Women’s Budget Group, One Parent Families Scotland, the STUC, The Poverty Alliance, SCVO and Business in the Community Scotland.

Signatories make an urgent plea for more action to protect carers from poverty. They say carers have been undervalued for too long, with inadequate social security provision, and poverty wages, leaving many paid and unpaid carers – particularly women who deliver most care – in poverty. COVID-19 is highlighting and exacerbating this injustice and the letter warns that a failure to tackle it would be ‘truly unforgivable’.

The letter acknowledges that governments across Britain have introduced welcome measures to help mitigate some of the impacts on people’s incomes caused by COVID-19 – as well as the consequences of the measures put in place to tackle it – but say more needs to be done to protect carers. Together, the organisations call for increases to key benefits, including Carer’s Allowance – which in Scotland could be done by increasing the Supplement – and Child Benefit. The letter calls for immediate changes to Universal Credit, including removing the five week wait, the two-child limit, and the benefit cap while ending the ‘no recourse to public funds’ policy which limits support to carers who are not UK citizens. The organisations also urge a significant cash injection into social care to enable all UK providers to pay their workers at least the Real Living Wage.

Here in Scotland, the Scottish Government has rightly acknowledged that while caring can be a rewarding experience, it is also associated with a higher risk of poverty. There have been some welcome measures to help address this including the £460 per year Carer’s Allowance Supplement and the fast-tracking of the pay rise for social care workers delivering direct adult support; though funding the latter sufficiently will be critical. Oxfam has also welcomed the increase in the Scottish Welfare Fund, while stressing this will only prove effective if those facing an income crisis are aware of the Fund, can access it quickly, and receive enough money. This is essential if the Government is to realise its positive commitment to a ‘cash-first’ model.

However, all governments across Britain must do more to protect every carer from poverty now, and to better value their contribution for good. Tomorrow, Oxfam will also release the results of polling at UK and Scotland levels showing strong public concern that care work is not valued highly enough

by governments. There is also significant public support for measures to boost the incomes of paid carers, those on low incomes who look after sick or disabled people, and parents who work on very low incomes.

Tomorrow's open call letter comes after a survey by Carers Scotland showed that 78% of unpaid carers in Scotland reported they are providing increased levels of care, with 79% saying they are having to spend more money during the outbreak, including on food and other household bills. One woman who provides unpaid care for her husband told us she has been suffering panic attacks in recent weeks, and that this crisis "*has really brought home the fact that my partner and I are on our own; there's no safety net*". I'm sure you will agree that the last thing carers should be worrying about, in the short- or long-term, is poverty.

The open letter calls for action in all parts of the UK, and I hope the Scottish Government will reconsider the financial support available to all those with caring responsibilities in Scotland. As well as considering a swift increase to the Carers Allowance Supplement ahead of next month's scheduled instalment, I would highlight the call from Carers Scotland for a new Carer Wellbeing Fund. Additionally, while the ongoing prioritisation of the Scottish Child Payment is very welcome, I would urge further consideration of how urgent financial support can reach low income families in advance of the new Payment being in place. Measures to boost awareness of the support available from the Scottish Welfare Fund, and enhancing access to it, are also critical.

Finally, I would like to share two UK-wide Oxfam reports published last week: Make Care Count examines the pre-pandemic link between care, poverty and gender injustice, and our briefing, Care, Poverty and Coronavirus Across Britain explores the impact of COVID-19. Both reports frontline the views of carers and we would strongly urge the Scottish Government to ensure that carers – whether unpaid or unpaid – are empowered to contribute to the design of measures to ensure we fully recognise their significant contribution.

If you wish to discuss this letter, please feel free to contact me directly at [Redacted].

Best regards,
Jamie Livingstone
Head of Oxfam Scotland

EMAIL 7 DOCUMENT B CONTENTS

Open letter to all MPs, MSPs and MSs,

Please, act now to end poverty for Britain's carers.

Carers were already facing a poverty crisis, and our organisations are seeing this exacerbated by Covid-19. Whether paid or unpaid, carers have faced a social security system that has not always protected them from poverty while paid carers have had to survive on poverty wages and insecure contracts.

All of us depend on someone to care for us at some point in our life – as a child, in older age, or due to ill health or additional needs. More than ever, this pandemic has made us all appreciate the incredible value and dedication of carers – both those who are paid and those who provide unpaid care for family or friends. Many are facing unprecedented levels of danger to protect us all. Failing to ensure carers are protected from poverty would be truly unforgivable.

The vast majority of carers are women, many of whom also face age, disability and race inequality. There has been insufficient action to share care more evenly, and carers have been under-valued for too long.

While governments have tried to cushion the immediate impact of this crisis, more needs to be done to alleviate the intolerable pressure carers face. The measures needed include: increasing Carer's Allowance and Child Benefit; fixing Universal Credit by removing the five-week wait, the two-child limit and the benefit cap; ending the 'no recourse to public funds' policy which limits the support available to carers who are not UK citizens; and injecting cash into social care so employers can pay their workers at least the Real Living Wage.

Right now, the focus is rightly on saving lives but we urge you to use your influence to ensure governments across the UK use every tool they have to protect people from poverty.

They should also build back better by ensuring the decisions they take now and in the future tackle existing inequalities.

By ensuring no carer faces poverty, we will honour those doing so much to care for so many.

Yours sincerely,

Danny Sriskandarajah, Chief Executive, Oxfam GB
Alison Garnham, Chief Executive, Child Poverty Action Group
Helen Walker, Chief Executive, Carers UK
Matthew Bolton, Executive Director, Citizens UK
Dr Mary-Ann Stephenson, Director, UK Women's Budget Group
Victoria Benson, Chief Executive Officer, Gingerbread
Dave Prentis, General Secretary, UNISON
Barbara Plant, National President, GMB

Paddy Lillis, General Secretary, Usdaw
Dr. Mary Bousted and Kevin Courtney, Joint General Secretaries of the National Education Union
Jesika Parmar, Regional Officer for South East and Siobhan Endean, National Officer for Community Youth and Not for Profit Sector, Unite
Graham Whitham, Director, Greater Manchester Poverty Action
Jane van Zyl, Chief Executive, Working Families
Katy Styles, We Care Campaign
Sam Smethers, Chief Executive, The Fawcett Society
Dr. Nick Owen MBE, CEO, The Mighty Creatives
Laura Payne, Project Manager, 4in10 London Child Poverty Network
Vic Rayner, Executive Director, National Care Forum
Jane Williams, Chief Executive, The Magpie Project
Thomas Croft and Diana Skelton, National Coordination Team, ATD Fourth World
Thomas Lawson, Chief Executive Officer, Turn2us
Anna Feuchtwang, Chief Executive, National Children's Bureau / Chair, End Child Poverty Coalition
Sabine Goodwin, Coordinator, Independent Food Aid Network
Carys Roberts, Executive Director, Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)
Peter Grigg, Chief Executive, Home-Start UK
Dr Hilda Hayo, Chief Admiral Nurse and CEO, Dementia UK
Miatta Fahnbulleh, Chief Executive, New Economics Foundation
Amanda Mackenzie, Chief Executive Officer, Business in the Community
June O'Sullivan MBE, Chief Executive, London Early Years Foundation
Edel Harris, Chief Executive Officer, Royal Mencap Society
Sally Light, Chief Executive, Motor Neurone Disease Association
Sarah-Jayne Clifton, Director, Jubilee Debt Campaign
Caroline Abrahams, Emily Holzhausen and Jackie O'Sullivan, Chairs of the Care and Support Alliance
Nick Moberly, Chief Executive, MS Society
Joe Levenson, Director of Communications and Campaigns, Young Women's Trust
Sally Bonnie and Diane Baxter, Inspire Women
Steve Ford, Chief Executive, Parkinson's UK
Caroline Stevens, Chief Executive, National Autistic Society
Deborah Alsina MBE, Chief Executive, Independent Age
Joeli Brearley, Founder, Pregnant Then Screwed
Niall Cooper, Director, Church Action on Poverty
John, The Lord Bird MBE; Founder, The Big Issue
Kathy Evans, Chief Executive, Children England
Marc Francis, Policy and Campaigns Director, Z2K Trust
Cerys Furlong, Chief Executive, Chwarae Teg
Jemima Olchawski, Chief Executive, Agenda: Alliance for Women and Girls at Risk
Mark Winstanley, Chief Executive Officer, Rethink Mental Illness
Iqbal Nasim MBE, Chief Executive, National Zakat Foundation (NZF)
Sabina Kelly RN, CEO, The National Association of Care & Support Workers (NACAS)
Eleanor Lisney, Co-founder, Sisters of Frida
Dr Omar Khan, Director, Runnymede Trust
Sarab Bajwa, Chief Executive, The British Psychological Society
Laurence Guinness, Chief Executive, The Childhood Trust

Mark Lee, Chief Executive of the Together Trust
Mark Davis, Chief Executive, Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency (MVDA)
David Ramsden, CEO, Cystic Fibrosis Trust
Anne Meikle, Convenor, The Scottish Women's Budget Group
John Dickie, Director of Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland
Rozanne Foyer, General Secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress
Mike Kirby, Scottish Secretary, UNISON Scotland
Claire Cairns, Coalition of Carers in Scotland
Irene Audain MBE, Chief Executive, Scottish Out of School Care Network
Ghizala Avan & Dilraj Sokhi Watson, Co-Chief Executive Officers, Amina Muslim Women Resource Centre
Sally Ann Kelly, Chief Executive, Aberlour Child Care Trust
Ewan Aitken, Chief Executive, Cyrenians
Mary Glasgow, Chief Executive, Children 1st
Billy Watson, Chief Executive, Scottish Association for Mental Health
Ian Bruce, Chief Executive Officer, Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector
Satwat Rehman, Director, One Parent Families Scotland
David Liddell, OBE, Chief Executive, Scottish Drugs Forum
Susan Paxton, Head of Programmes, Community Health Exchange (CHEX)
Claire Stevens, Chief Executive, Voluntary Health Scotland
Alan Thornburrow, Director, Business in the Community Scotland
Marie Ward, Chief Executive, Cranhill Development Trust
Simon Hodgson, Director, Carers Scotland
Peter Kelly, Director, The Poverty Alliance
Derek Mitchell, Chief Executive Officer, Citizens Advice Scotland
Professor Ian Welsh OBE, Chief Executive, Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)
Dr Donald Macaskill, Chief Executive, Scottish Care
Anna Fowlie, Chief Executive, The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations
Shaben Begum, Director, Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance
Betty Stevenson, Convenor, Edinburgh Tenants Federation
Shruti Jain, Chair, Saheliya
Russell Gunson, Director, Institute for Public Policy Research Scotland (IPPR Scotland)
Talat Yaqoob, Chair of Women 50:50
Sinéad Butters, Chief Executive, Aspire Housing Group, Chair PlaceShapers
Craig Samuel, Scotland representative, The National Association of Welfare Rights Advisers (NAWRA)
Dr Angela O'Hagan, WISE Centre for Economic Justice at Glasgow Caledonian University
Fiona Garven, Director, Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC)
Joanna Murphy, Chair, The National Parent Forum of Scotland
Don Williamson, Chief Executive, Shared Care Scotland
Gemma Bone Dodds, Trustee, on behalf of the Wellbeing Economy Alliance Scotland
Ellie Harwood, Wales Development Manager, Child Poverty Action Group
Dr Victoria Winckler, Director, Bevan Foundation
Alicja Zalesinka, Director, Tai Pawb

Claire Morgan, Director, Carers Wales
Catherine Fookes, Director, Women's Equality Network Wales
Allison Hulmes, National Director, The British Association of Social Workers, Wales
Bethan Webber, Chief Executive, Home-Start Cymru
Bill Freeman, Chief Executive, CTA
Dr Sally Rees, Chair, Fair Treatment for the Women of Wales
Jim Barnaville, Coordinator, Caritas Archdiocese of Cardiff
Mark Russell, Chief Executive, The Children's Society
Sean Oneill, Policy Director, Children in Wales
Sue Husband, Director, Business in the Community Cymru
Shavanah Taj, General Secretary, Wales Trade Union Congress
Derek Walker, Chief Executive, Wales Co-operative Centre
Rocio Cifuentes, Chief Executive, Ethnic Minorities and Youth Support Team Wales
(EYST Wales)
Professor Laura McAllister
Ruth Marks, Chief Executive, Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Kay Polley and Sam Rex-Edwards, Co-directors, TCC (Trefnu Cymunedol Cymru /
Together Creating Communities)
John Puzey, Director, Shelter Cymru
Mutale Merrill, Chief Executive Officer, Bawso

7. Email

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Finance

Sent: 05 May 2020 15:46

To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Finance

<CabSecFinance@gov.scot>

Cc: [8 Redacted]@gov.scot; Director of Budget and Public Spending; McCaig C (Callum); DG Education, Communities & Justice; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning <MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Cabinet Secretary Ms Forbes reply to COSLA , Unison and Unite - Updated final letters

[Redacted]

Are you happy for us to amend to "a couple" instead of "several" meetings?

Thanks

[Redacted]

Private Secretary to Ben Macpherson MSP

Minister for Public Finance and Migration

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

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-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Sent: 05 May 2020 15:38

To: Cabinet Secretary for Finance <CabSecFinance@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>

Cc: [8 Redacted]@gov.scot; Director of Budget and Public Spending; McCaig C (Callum); DG Education, Communities & Justice; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning <MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Cabinet Secretary Ms Forbes reply to COSLA , Unison and Unite - Updated final letters

Thanks [Redacted]. Ms Campbell is fine with the letters but has asked that we tone down the section in the letters to the unions that say she has attended 'several' workforce meetings - it was only two.

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

8. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Sent: 05 May 2020 15:46

To: [Redacted]@gov.scot; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>

Cc: Director for Housing and Social Justice; [7 Redacted]@gov.scot; Campbell J (Jeanette) (Special Adviser) <Jeanette.Campbell@gov.scot>; Communications CSSE

Subject: RE: SURF PROPOSAL FOR 2020/21 RESPONSE TO COVID-19

[Redacted]

Ms Campbell is content with the proposals – apologies for the delay.

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

9. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
Sent: 05 May 2020 15:54
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: GPSMIG 6 May now happening

[Redacted],

The DFM has seen that there is a GPSMIG on non-shielded vulnerable.

He said that Ms Campbell can do this. Otherwise he is able to take it on.

Let me know what the Cab Sec's thoughts are.

Thanks

[Redacted]

Interim Private Secretary to John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | The Scottish Government | Web: www.gov.scot | Email: DFMCSE@gov.scot

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10. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 05 May 2020 16:12
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: FW: Cab Sec attendance at COSLA Workforce Issues Group - cancelled

[Redacted]

To see email from COSLA re: wig meeting on Thursday. This can be removed from the diary.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]cosla.gov.uk
Sent: 05 May 2020 16:09
To: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: Cab Sec attendance at COSLA Workforce Issues Group

Good afternoon [Redacted],

Further to our conversation today I can confirm that at present the group are focusing on some practical matters and as such would not ask the Cabinet Secretary to join us. We do very much recognise and acknowledge that the Cab Sec does stand ready and is willing to attend as and when request. We thank her for this and will be in touch following our next meeting.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

Acting Chief Officer - Employers Team | Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA)

Verity House | 19 Haymarket Yards | Edinburgh EH12 5BH

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11. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
Sent: 05 May 2020 16:19
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; [Redacted]@gov.scot; Public Engagement Unit <CorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot>
Cc: Campbell J (Jeanette) (Special Adviser); [2 Redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Urgent - Re-Employ

Hi [Redacted],

Another one to add to this. Can you confirm asap that someone has been in touch with Re-employ?

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
Sent: 05 May 2020 14:47
To: [Redacted]@gov.scot; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Public Engagement Unit <CorrespondenceUnit@gov.scot>
Cc: Campbell J (Jeanette) (Special Adviser)
Subject: RE: Urgent - Re-Employ

[Redacted],

To see further correspondence on this. Can you take this into account in the response please?

Thanks,
[Redacted]

Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

[ATTACHMENTS WITHHELD – OUT OF SCOPE]

12. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture

Sent: 05 May 2020 17:53

To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture
<CabSecEFWC@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning
<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: URGENT: COVID-19 – SG LIQUIDITY SUPPORT FOR SMALL TO MEDIUM ENTERPRISE (SME) HOUSEBUILDERS

Good Afternoon [Redacted],

Thanks for this.

Cab Sec is supportive.

[Redacted]

Deputy Private Secretary to Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

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13. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot On Behalf Of General Public Sector MIG
Sent: 05 May 2020 17:54
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Older People and Equalities <MinisterOPE@gov.scot>; General
Public Sector MIG; [Redacted]@gov.scot
Subject: GPSMIG - 6 May - non shielded vulnerable

PS DFM
PS Ms Campbell

(copying Ms McKelvie's office for awareness)

We have received a little more information in respect of tomorrow's belatedly
arranged GPSMIG which I relay below:

'As a bit of additional context - the small ministerial group has been doing some
initial thinking on the England strategy for supporting non-shielded vulnerable people
and is developing a volunteering dashboard. The objective of the conversation will
therefore be to introduce the NSV/ volunteering dashboard, review performance in
key areas and identify and resolve obstacles to delivery. It will not be a full GPSMIG
meeting as not all usual attendees will be part of the conversation. The small
ministerial group is however content with your Ministers being part of the
conversation on this issue from now on, to ensure you get early sight of the overall
programme.'

While I understand DFM is likely to attend I am circulating this additional information
for awareness – and to assist in informing any further discussion on attendance.

We expect a paper in the morning.

Grateful for confirmation of Ministerial attendance in due course.

Regards

[Redacted]
Organisational Readiness (Covid-19 response)
WFH, please email/IM

14. Email

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot

Sent: 05 May 2020 18:24

To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People

<CabSecSSOP@gov.scot>; Communications Covid-19; [17 Redacted]@gov.scot

News Desk; Director for Housing and Social Justice; Campbell J (Jeanette) (Special Adviser) <Jeanette.Campbell@gov.scot>

Subject: URGENT - Planned publication of a commissioned report on organisations responding to food insecurity in Scotland on 7 May

PS/Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government,

cc. for awareness and portfolio interest: Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and Older People

Just to update you that this report is now scheduled to be published at 09:30 on Thursday 7 May. Comms colleagues have just sent proposed comms handling and lines to take (attached).

Thanks,

[Redacted]

Senior Researcher | Equality, Poverty and Social Justice Research
Scottish Government

EMAIL 14 EMAIL ATTACHED – DOCUMENT B

From: [Redacted]@gov.scot
Sent: 05 May 2020 18:11
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Cc: Communications Covid-19; [17 Redacted]@gov.scot; News Desk; Director for Housing and Social Justice; Campbell J (Jeanette) (Special Adviser)
Subject: Cab Sec view - comms handling - food insecurity report

Communities PO.

Grateful for Ms Campbell's view on our proposed Comms handling and lines to take for this Thursday's planned publication of the Food Insecurity Report.

The Cabinet Secretary will be aware that the collected data has now been overtaken by the coronavirus crisis but we still have an obligation to publish the report. Comms advice is that we publish to the SG website but without any proactive comms to highlight that it's there. We've drafted the following lines to take in case of any media queries, and will be looking to potentially highlight a food insecurity map which we understand colleagues in policy are currently working on.

Scottish Government spokesperson said:

"This research was undertaken before the COVID-19 crisis which has now brought about significant changes in the way that organisations respond to food insecurity.

"The information gathered has provided insights that have enabled us to work with local authorities and third sector organisations to improve the coordination of responses to food insecurity – now aided with additional resource from our £70 million Food Fund."

Background

Anyone worried about being able to access food should contact the national helpline on 0800 111 4000.

The Scottish Government continues to work with organisations including the Trussell Trust, Independent Food Network, and FareShare to help people to access food

[Redacted]
Scottish Government Communications
St Andrews House, Edinburgh
[Redacted]

15. Email

From: Campbell J (Jeanette) (Special Adviser)
Sent: 05 May 2020 20:09
To: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
<CabSecCLG@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Scotcash

[Redacted] – another reminder this time from Carnegie – I think you had something this week though so assume will go out by end week?