

Email 1

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 27 September 2020 10:47
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: DFM MEDIA BID - Sunday's Politics Scotland

To see.

Thanks

[redacted]

From: Robb DT (David) <David.Robb@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** SAAS Chief Executive
Sent: 26 September 2020 19:59
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted] (Communications) <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education <CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit <FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; McAllan M (Mary) <Mary.McAllan@gov.scot>; Economy Covid-19 Hub <BESTCovidHub@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Dornan B (Brian) <Brian.Dornan@gov.scot>; [redacted] (Comms) <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted] >; [redacted] [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: DFM MEDIA BID - Sunday's Politics Scotland

Hi [redacted],

Here's the material for DFM.

Colleagues in outbreak management are continuously updating the Covid stats and IMT reports, so the SitRep section will need adjusting in the light of developments.

Thanks to all contributors,

David

David Robb

Chief Executive, Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS)
Informing Choices, Funding Futures, Supporting Success

Due to the pandemic I am also currently working on Coronavirus Outbreak Management with colleagues in the Scottish Government Advanced Learning & Science Directorate

I am working from home at the moment so please get in touch on [redacted] or by Skype. Please note that I'm sending this at a time that works for me: I'm not expecting a reply at a time that doesn't work for you.

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

Sent: 25 September 2020 21:01

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted](Communications) <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education

<CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and

Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr

<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>;

SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit

<FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education

and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>;

McAllan M (Mary) <Mary.McAllan@gov.scot>; Economy Covid-19 Hub

<BESTCovidHub@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs

<dgcea@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General)

<Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>;

Dornan B (Brian) <Brian.Dornan@gov.scot>; [redacted](Comms)

<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Education,

Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Johnston P (Paul)

<Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; Leitch

J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>;

[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: DFM MEDIA BID - Sunday's Politics Scotland

Hi again folks

I've made some additions in red to the briefing request below after further thoughts from DFM. Grateful if you could note the additional requests.

I have also widened the copy list slightly.

Thanks

[redacted]
[redacted]
DPS to DFM
[redacted]

From: [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
Sent: 25 September 2020 20:11
Subject: RE: DFM MEDIA BID - Sunday's Politics Scotland

Hi [redacted]

Hope you're well! DFM will do this bid live via Skype at 10:00 on Sunday morning. Could you confirm approximately how long the interview will last please?

Briefing request:

Lorna, David, Roddy, Linda – grateful for relevant briefing on the position on students. DFM has specifically asked for briefing on why students returned, what precautions were taken, what support is in place, what are the numbers self-isolating etc.

[redacted], **Mary** – grateful for briefing on Rishi Sunak's emergency jobs plan and any other top line economy briefing you think may be helpful

Ken, Dominic, Brian – grateful if you could consider what briefing DFM may need from your end re Routemap/strategic position

FM Covid Briefing Unit – I will provide DFM with the most up-to-date Top Line Brief but if there is anything else you think might be useful, really grateful if you could send on

Duty Comms for Sat/Sun ([redacted]/ [redacted]) – grateful if you could send a brief overview first thing on Sunday morning of any running stories DFM should be aware of

[redacted], [redacted], [redacted] – DFM would appreciate briefing on position on testing and details on the new testing centres.

[redacted], [redacted] – please let me know if there is anything else you think DFM might need

I would appreciate all briefing by 20:00 tomorrow night however I appreciate things are ever changing so if that deadline causes any issues or doesn't make sense, please get in touch and we can have a chat.

Please could each group confirm that their respective briefing request has been picked up. I'm sorry to disturb your weekends and really appreciate your help.

Many thanks

[redacted]
DPS to DFM
[redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 25 September 2020 17:37
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted](Communications) <[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]<
[redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education
<CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>
Subject: MEDIA BID - Sunday's Politics Scotland
Importance: High

DFM PO,

Sunday's Politics Scotland have bid for the Deputy First Minister to appear on this Sunday's show either live between 10-10:30 or pre-recorded between 9:00-9:40.

This would be a one-to-one with [redacted] via Skype or Facetime covering latest topical issues around coronavirus including students and [redacted]emergency jobs plan.

Comms and SpAds recommend an accept. Can you confirm whether DFM is content to undertake this bid?

Many thanks,

[redacted]

Attachment 1

DFM MEDIA BID - Sunday's Politics Scotland

University Outbreaks - SitRep

[redacted – out of scope]

As of Friday night, the **HE/FE totals** were:

- 414 students tested positive
- * staff tested positive
- At least 2,900 students self-isolating (incomplete figures)
- No hospital admissions

([redacted], outbreak management – contact for IMT updates)

[redacted – out of scope]

Should there have been testing on arrival?

- We need to use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced
- Testing of asymptomatic close contacts may be deployed in outbreaks where the local IMT determines this to be proportionate in light of scale and risks

[See also separate notes on testing students, and on the schedule for the opening of the walkthrough centres]

[redacted – out of scope]

Universities Scotland announcement – voluntary hospitality ban

- On Thursday, in response to concerns about growing numbers of students testing positive, particularly in student halls of residence, Universities Scotland announced a package of proposals building on the clear guidance that is already in place for the sector.
- This included a request – not a ban – for this week-end only, to refrain from going to hospitality venues such as bars and restaurants and to avoid mixing beyond the immediate household.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

What about the local IMT/national IMT decisions to lock down large numbers of students in situations where there are a small number of cases?

- Decisions to ask a large number of students to self-isolate have been taken on the basis of the level of mixing, uncertainty around who has attended parties ahead of contact tracing, and identified suspected symptomatic cases awaiting testing and results.
- Parker Halls at Abertay in Dundee was a key example. At the point of decision making by the IMT to ask 500 students at the Halls to self-isolate there were only * positive cases but a number who had identified as having potential symptoms.
- The IMT took the proactive decision to ask all students in the residence to self-isolate (500) to reduce any risk of spread and to then allow contact tracing to progress.

- Generally, contact tracing among students has identified in different cases, a high level of close contacts linked to individual students. [For example [redacted] in Aberdeen identified 89 close contacts.] Whilst, following contact tracing interviews, the circle of close contacts among a group of students often turn out to be the same the individuals it is necessary to take a precautionary approach until this is fully identified.
- Any decision around proportionality is for the IMT and has been balanced alongside speed of access to testing and contact tracing.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

ALS
26 Sept 2020

Annex A

[redacted – out of scope]

Attachment 2 – out of scope

Email 2

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted]

[redacted – out of scope]

From: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>

Date: Sunday, 27 Sep 2020, 11:35 am

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>, First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning <MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>, Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>, Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland <ChiefScientificAdviser@gov.scot>, Bain MB (Marion) <Marion.Bain@gov.scot>, Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted][redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Russell GE (Gillian)[redacted]<[redacted]>,

[redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>, DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>, Director of Health Workforce <Directorofhealthworkforce@gov.scot>, DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>, Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>, Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>, SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>, Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, McKay D (Denise) <Denise.McKay@gov.scot>, Paterson J (John) <John.Paterson@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>, Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19) <Lesley.Sheppard@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Curtis PS (Penelope) <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Macniven R (Ruaraidh) <Ruaraidh.Macniven@gov.scot>, Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>[redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE: Student moves from student accommodation - Submission

Hi,

Mr Lochhead is content for his interests.

The Minister added that he would appreciate a Q&A regarding questions he has asked previously (shown below in bullet points for ease) and also level of fines, testing before coming back etc.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted]

Private Secretary to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead

Mr Lochhead's preferences can be found here - Ministerial Preferences

□: [redacted] Mobile [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]
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[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

Email 3

Part of email chain to email 2

From: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>

Sent: 27 September 2020 12:16

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: IMMEDIATE: Student moves from student accommodation - Submission

Initial thoughts below;

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 27 September 2020 11:36

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>, First

Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
<CabSecHS@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning

<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>, Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>, Chief
Scientific Adviser for Scotland <ChiefScientificAdviser@gov.scot>, Bain MB (Marion)
<Marion.Bain@gov.scot>, Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,[redacted][redacted][redacted]<[redacted]@gov.sc
ot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Russell GE (Gillian)[redacted]<[redacted]>,
[redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, DG Education, Communities & Justice
<DGECJ@gov.scot>, DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>,
Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>, Director of Health Workforce
<Directorofhealthworkforce@gov.scot>, DCMO Health COVID19
<DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>, Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Bell D (Donna)
<Donna.Bell@gov.scot>, Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>,
SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>, Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, McKay D
(Denise) <Denise.McKay@gov.scot>, Paterson J (John)
<John.Paterson@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted]
<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Munro D
(Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>, Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19)
<Lesley.Sheppard@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
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<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
Curtis PS (Penelope) <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<
[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]
<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Macniven R (Ruaraidh)
<Ruaraidh.Macniven@gov.scot>, Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot[redacted]<
[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<
[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE: Student moves from student accommodation -
Submission

Hi,

Mr Lochhead is content for his interests.

The Minister added that he would appreciate a Q&A regarding questions he has
asked previously (shown below in bullet points for ease) and also level of fines,
testing before coming back etc.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science –
Richard Lochhead

Mr Lochhead's preferences can be found here - Ministerial Preferences

□: [redacted] Mobile [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1
3DG

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Email 4

From: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Sent: 27 September 2020 13:03
To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief
Executive <saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Media Bids - Briefing Request

[redacted]

My understanding is that updates on cases are not sent out at weekends (see email from [redacted] so the figures used previously are as up to date as we have. We are exploring ways of getting daily updates from universities on a range of issues including self isolating students but there are sensitivities around that and a real reluctance from universities to put information into the public domain given the media onslaught. We are looking into that and will provide a separate update on data gathering (although that might not be until tomorrow).

Lorna

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 27 September 2020 12:42
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>, First

Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
<CabSecHS@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning

<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>, Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>, Chief
Scientific Adviser for Scotland <ChiefScientificAdviser@gov.scot>, Bain MB (Marion)
<Marion.Bain@gov.scot>, Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,[redacted][redacted][redacted]<[redacted]@gov.sc
ot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Russell GE (Gillian)[redacted]<[redacted]>,
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<DGECJ@gov.scot>, DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>,
Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>, Director of Health Workforce
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[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Bell D (Donna)
<Donna.Bell@gov.scot>, Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>,
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<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
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(Denise) <Denise.McKay@gov.scot>, Paterson J (John)
<John.Paterson@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted]
<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Munro D
(Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>, Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19)
<Lesley.Sheppard@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted]
<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,
Curtis PS (Penelope) <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>,
[redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<
[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]
<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Macniven R (Ruaraidh)
<Ruaraidh.Macniven@gov.scot>, Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot[redacted]<
[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<
[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: Media Bids - Briefing Request

In addition, Mr Lochhead has also requested up to date figures regarding positive cases in students and also self isolating figures.

[redacted]
[redacted]to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science –
Richard Lochhead

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 27 September 2020 11:36

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>, First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning <MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>, Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>, Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland <ChiefScientificAdviser@gov.scot>, Bain MB (Marion) <Marion.Bain@gov.scot>, Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>,[redacted][redacted][redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Russell GE (Gillian)[redacted]<[redacted]>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>, DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>, Director of Health Workforce <Directorofhealthworkforce@gov.scot>, DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>, Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>, Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>, SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>, Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, McKay D (Denise) <Denise.McKay@gov.scot>, Paterson J (John) <John.Paterson@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>, Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19) <Lesley.Sheppard@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted][redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, Curtis PS (Penelope) <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted] <[redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]<[redacted]>, Macniven R (Ruaraidh) <Ruaraidh.Macniven@gov.scot>, Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot[redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>, [redacted]< [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE: Student moves from student accommodation - Submission

Hi,

Mr Lochhead is content for his interests.

The Minister added that he would appreciate a Q&A regarding questions he has asked previously (shown below in bullet points for ease) and also level of fines, testing before coming back etc.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead

Mr Lochhead's preferences can be found here - Ministerial Preferences

□: [redacted] Mobile: [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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[rest of email part of email chain 3 and 4]

Attachment of email 4 [out of scope to request]

Email 5

From: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Sent: 27 September 2020 13:22
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Briefing for Minister - update

Thanks. Given time pressures I'd send it up as a working draft so he has time to consider and come back with comments \ questions.

For ease of reference I'd also send him again the briefing that [redacted] put to DFM yesterday.

Lorna

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 27 September 2020 13:08
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: Briefing for Minister - update

Here is the latest version of the briefing.

[redacted] and [redacted] need to concentrate on the comms (letter, nr) just now then will have a look.

Or Lorna if you are comfortable it covers the bases I can send it now – and can get any further questions back from the Minister.

You saw Mr Lochhead also just asked for latest figures on student cases and students self isolating. I've inserted the latest data as per your email about no updates at the weekend, but I have removed the bullet about no hospitalisations.

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Attachment of email 5 – same attachment of email 1's attachment

Email 6 – part of email chain 2

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 27 September 2020 15:03
To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Cc: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot> [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Briefing/Q&A on student guidance for media bids today

Hi [redacted]

Briefing now updated with the testing lines.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 27 September 2020 14:07
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and

Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Cc: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Briefing/Q&A on student guidance for media bids today

Hi [redacted]

The Minister has said that he may be asked about testing before running to campus – can you please send some lines on that point?

Thanks

[redacted]

[redacted]
DPS to DFM
[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 27 September 2020 13:35
To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Cc: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: Briefing/Q&A on student guidance for media bids today

Hi [redacted]

Can you please run this draft briefing past Mr Lochhead and he can let us know what else/different he is looking for. It picks up all of his questions from this morning plus Q&A on the guidance we're about to publish.

The Minister will also find it helpful to have the fuller background brief pulled together for DFM last night, attached here too for ease of reference.

[redacted]

Attachment for email 6

Students in accommodation: guidance on visits home, self isolation, returning home

Numbers

As of Friday night (25th September), the **HE/FE totals** were:

- 414 students tested positive
- * staff tested positive

- At least 2,900 students self-isolating (incomplete figures)

These figures will be updated on Monday 28th.

[redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]

Should there have been testing on arrival?

- We need to use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced.
- Testing of asymptomatic close contacts may be deployed in outbreaks where the local Incident Management Team determines this to be proportionate in light of scale and risks.

How do students access a test?

- Students needing a test should book one online on NHS Inform or by calling 0800 028 2816. If they require support to book a test they can contact 0300 303 2713. We are also setting up local testing sites which can be accessed without a car across the country. The focus of the initial locations is areas with large student populations:

Site no.	Area	Proposed date of implementation and status
1	St Andrews	Opened 28 Aug
2	Glasgow	Opened 18 Sept
3	Aberdeen	Opened 24 Sept
4	Edinburgh	Opened 25 Sept
7	Stirling	Opens Mon 5 October
8	Glasgow West End	Opens 2 October
5	Dundee	ASAP - new sites needed
6	Highland - Inverness	ASAP - new sites needed
9	Inverclyde/ Port Glasgow	Oct – indoor sites being assessed
10	Edinburgh West	Oct – new sites needed
11	Vale of Leven in West Dunbartonshire	Oct – indoor sites being assessed

Email 7

From: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 09:52
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Reducing transmission in HE and FE settings - next steps

Dr Linda Pooley, Deputy Director, Colleges, Young Workforce and Scottish Funding Council Sponsorship : TEL: [redacted] MOB: [redacted]

[redacted] | T [redacted] | [redacted]@gov.scot (Monday to Wednesday)

Check out the new Scottish Government resource <https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/>. Everything you need to know about student finance, including help for parents, carers and education professionals.

From: Kleinberg D (Daniel) <Daniel.Kleinberg@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 09:47
To: Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; MacDougall A (Audrey) <Audrey.MacDougall@gov.scot>; Wilson M (Mick) <Mick.Wilson@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; DL for Covid-19 Deputy Directors <DLHSCPCOVIDDEPDIR@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Reducing transmission in HE and FE settings - next steps

Thanks, Paul (and removing Ministerial offices and SPADs, adding in Covid Public Health Directorate colleagues for testing references),

I had a good conversation with David Robb last night and have shared material with him which would serve as the basis for the strategy at your point 3; he and I will speak again later and see what more use we can be to him in packaging any material. It is worth noting for new readers that some of this material was in the submission to DFM of 20 August, attached for ease of reference, but in partial form.

Daniel Kleinberg

I am currently working from home with my family so am working flexibly. Please ring mobile if immediate.

Daniel Kleinberg
COVID Public Health Directorate

Scottish Government, Health and Social Care Directorate

T: [redacted] | M[redacted]



We all have mental health, so it's okay to start talking about it. #PassTheBadge @seemescotland. Get involved at www.passthebadge.co.uk

From: Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>
Sent: 28 September 2020 20:32
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Kleinberg D (Daniel) <Daniel.Kleinberg@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; MacDougall A (Audrey) <Audrey.MacDougall@gov.scot>; Wilson M (Mick) <Mick.Wilson@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>
Subject: Reducing transmission in HE and FE settings - next steps
Importance: High

Colleagues

Following today's meeting with FM, DFM and other Cabinet Secretaries, we need to prepare urgent advice for Ministers on further steps that might be taken to (1) reduce transmission within HE and FE, and (2) prevent the spread of transmission into the wider community.

This note sets out what I think our priorities are over the next 48 hours. FM asked for advice as soon as possible. I'm copying DFM and Mr Lochhead for any comments on the approach. Our tasks are:

1. Rapidly explore policy options to address points (1) and (2) above, bringing in data and evidence as to likely effect wherever possible.
2. Work with partners (US, NUS, individual principals) on the possible options that are considered most effective and deliverable.
3. Engage with the C19 Advisory Group on these options. David has discussed with the C19 Secretariat today. As a first step, we will review the advice that they have provided to date and share this with Ministers. We may then develop an approach that we share with them for comments.

Let's be clear that in adopting any new approaches we are building on a great deal of existing work including:

- Detailed guidance that seeks to minimise transmission
- Substantial online teaching
- Readily accessible symptomatic testing
- Isolation for those testing positive and others in the same household
- An enhanced package of support from universities for those isolating
- Robust enforcement in the event of non-compliance with restrictions by both the university and Police Scotland
- Work on encouraging compliance, building on the insights from Steve Reicher.

We should be looking closely at the data in order to establish what effect these measures are having. We are hearing some reports from principals of increased compliance.

I've had calls with [redacted] and [redacted] since the meeting in order to get their thinking on other options that might be adopted. One word came from both of them: **testing**.

Subject to any immediate views from Ministers, I think we should explore this in further detail with clinical colleagues. [redacted] described an approach of "targeted disease control". In his view, we could look at the halls that have had few or no outbreaks, and begin a rigorous programme of asymptomatic testing in those residences, taking swift action to contain any outbreaks that occur through household isolation. We could also extend testing to all students arriving in the coming weeks, as an additional protection on top of isolation for those coming from countries where that is required. I recognise that we have looked at testing for international arrivals previously. I think we may need to revisit it in light of experience to date, though appreciate concerns about capacity.

Other options to consider:

- **Increasing expectations around remote learning:** According to [redacted], some institutions are trying to move as much of their course content to face to face as possible. Glasgow has been much more conservative than others, with online the default except in subjects where this is not possible.

- **Expecting those arriving from abroad to quarantine**, even when they are coming from a country where this is not required, potentially combined with testing.
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

I'll meet with the ALS team in the morning to discuss this further. Comments from others are most welcome now, or in the course of the day tomorrow.

Thanks

Paul

Paul Johnston

Director General
Education, Communities and Justice
Scottish Government

Tel: [redacted]

Attachment for Email 7 – Out of scope

Email 8

Email chain of Email 7

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science
Sent: 29 September 2020 10:03
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Reducing transmission in HE and FE settings - next steps

[redacted]

To see FM views

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: 29 September 2020 10:01
To: Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>
Cc: Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and

Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Reducing transmission in HE and FE settings - next steps

Paul,

The First Minister noted and made some comments which I have marked in red.

Generally, FM said this needs to move quickly from suggestions/consideration into practical, deliberate actions.

FM has asked if you and/or DFM could prioritise this and report back with an update by the end of the day.

Kind regards

[redacted]
[redacted]
DPS/First Minister of Scotland

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From: Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 08:36
To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>
Cc: Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Reducing transmission in HE and FE settings - next steps
Importance: High

[redacted]

[redacted – out of scope]

We'll get further material on this as per your request. I think an enhanced testing regime is likely to be preferable to delaying arrival.

Paul

Email 9

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: 30 September 2020 08:51

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>

Cc: Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; SG CoronaVirus Advanced Learning & Science <SGCoronaVirusALS@gov.scot>; CPS Group Hub <CPSGroupHubCovid@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Curtis PS (Penelope) <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Shepherd L (Lesley) <Lesley.Shepherd@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Gibbs L (Lorna) <Lorna.Gibbs@gov.scot>; Foggo R (Richard) <Richard.Foggo@gov.scot>; Mitchell E (Elinor) <Elinor.Mitchell@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Kleinberg D (Daniel) <Daniel.Kleinberg@gov.scot>; Dornan B (Brian) <Brian.Dornan@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland <ChiefScientificAdviser@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; Rogers D (David) (Constitution and Cabinet Director) <David.Rogers@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cameron J (Jonathan) <Jonathan.Cameron@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Learning <DirectorofLearning@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McKay D (Denise) <Denise.McKay@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DD Test and Protect Pathways <DDTestandProtectPathways@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Submission - Covid-19 transmission in the university population: further actions

Morning [redacted]

The First Minister has noted and is happy to approve and has asked to see concrete proposals on certain aspects i.e surveillance asap.

The First Minister has also made some amendments to the language in the attached document (noting that this document is not for publication) which should be taken in to account for anything that we do say/publish.

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Private Office to the First Minister

5th Floor| St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | T: [redacted] |

[redacted]



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From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 29 September 2020 21:40

To: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>

Cc: Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; SG CoronaVirus Advanced Learning & Science <SGCoronaVirusALS@gov.scot>; CPS Group Hub <CPSGroupHubCovid@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Curtis PS (Penelope) <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Shepherd L (Lesley) <Lesley.Shepherd@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Gibbs L (Lorna) <Lorna.Gibbs@gov.scot>; Foggo R (Richard) <Richard.Foggo@gov.scot>; Mitchell E (Elinor) <Elinor.Mitchell@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Kleinberg D (Daniel) <Daniel.Kleinberg@gov.scot>; Dornan B (Brian) <Brian.Dornan@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland <ChiefScientificAdviser@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; Rogers D (David) (Constitution and Cabinet Director) <David.Rogers@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F

(Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul)
<Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; Cameron J (Jonathan) <Jonathan.Cameron@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care
<DGHSC@gov.scot>; Director of Learning <DirectorofLearning@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; McKay D (Denise) <Denise.McKay@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19
<DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DD Test and Protect Pathways
<DDTestandProtectPathways@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: Submission - Covid-19 transmission in the university population: further actions

PS/ FM

PS/ DFM

PS/ Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport

PS/ Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Cc: As above

Please find attached a submission providing advice on action in relation to outbreaks and cases in universities.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Advanced Learning and Science Directorate

[redacted]

Attachment of email 9

First Minister

Covid-19 transmission in the university population: further actions

1. To provide an action plan for Ministers on further steps proposed to reduce transmission within universities, and prevent the spread of transmission into the wider community. This advice focuses on universities given outbreaks among their student population, which we are not seeing with colleges. We will continue to monitor the position with colleges, some of which do have halls and international students.

Current position

2. As of 29 September, out of an estimated total of 250,000 university students, of whom 45,000 students ordinarily reside in halls of residence and Purpose Built Student Accommodation (based on 2018-19 data; current occupancy rates are being sought):

- 553 students tested positive (0.2% of total; 1.3% of those in halls of residence)
- * staff tested positive
- Around 3,000 students self-isolating (incomplete figures)

3. We have now agreed with the universities that they will regularly submit institution level data on cases and self-isolation numbers to the Scottish Government. These will not be published but will be circulated to Ministers. Public health figures will remain the basis for the daily briefing.

4. We would not expect to see the effect of the SG's restrictions on social gatherings and the recent guidance on students in accommodation before three weeks. Over this period, given the outbreaks to date, we should expect that there will continue to be further cases.

[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]

5. Testing

- While the universities continue to press for more widespread testing, we remain mindful of advice from clinical colleagues about the limited efficacy of blanket testing and of the need to prioritise our testing capacity nationally.
- However we are now seeking further advice on the value of **some targeted surveillance testing** focused on institutions which present particular concerns, to understand level of asymptomatic cases. We can say publicly that we are exploring the merits of this option.

[redacted – out of scope]

Recommendation

The First Minister is invited to:

- agree and offer comment on the steps proposed in action plan and those further steps being considered;
- note that while the action plan is for internal use, Mr Lochhead will announce or trail these individual measures in his statement to Parliament tomorrow, Wednesday 30 September.

[redacted]
Advanced Learning and Science Directorate
[redacted]

Email 10

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 28 September 2020 09:29
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted][redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT : ACTION REQUIRED Briefing - Committee appearance DFM and Cab Sec Health - deadline Monday 28 Sept 10am

[redacted]

I don't know if [redacted] and [redacted] are in today as many of the folks dealing with this have been in all weekend and may (I hope) be taking a well earned break.

I have gone over and amended – my one significant comment is on testing – the FM came under a lot of fire on this issue at the press briefing on Friday and it may require 'beefing' up – particularly on why no pre-testing for student return – but TTP officials can advise.

[redacted]
[redacted]Head of Business Management
Advanced Learning and Science
Tel: [redacted]Mobile [redacted]



From: [redacted]
Sent: 27 September 2020 19:35
To: [redacted]; [redacted][redacted] ; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; Cackette PH (Paul) ; [redacted]
Subject: URGENT : ACTION REQUIRED Briefing - Committee appearance DFM and Cab Sec Health - deadline Monday 28 Sept 10am
Importance: High

[redacted], [redacted],

URGENT

I attach link to briefing for the Covid Committee session on 30 September. This is due back to HSC hub by 10am tomorrow (Monday) morning. I have developed this building on your FMQ and some of the more recent coverage relating to Universities Scotland announcement FMQ and sector guidance published today Sunday 27th Sept. I wonder if you are able to take a look please and make any additions/deletions, I am yet to fix format and ordering. Are there any other angles to cover? Key LTTs we can add?

Many thanks and happy to chat.

[redacted]

[redacted] Head of Briefing and Evidence
COVID-19 Local Interventions, Outbreak Management
Outbreak Management Directorate
Scottish Government
Mobile: [redacted]
[redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 25 September 2020 15:11

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: ACTION REQUIRED Briefing - Committee appearance DFM and Cab Sec Health - deadline Monday 28 Sept 10am

Hi [redacted],

For inclusion in this request and to seek your input to one of the points we are named against.

This ask below (pink highlight at bottom relating to **outbreak management of university clusters**) came through yesterday and am co-ordinating short responses from our Directorate back for 10am Monday. This week there has been extended discussion at the National IMT on this matter and aware of your close engagement with the sector and development of policy/guidance.

Could we co-ordinate in providing a response back? I will build on the attached briefing which [redacted] helped pull together and we can revisit Monday morning before sending back for 10am. I'll aim to circulate something later today if not over the weekend.

Happy to chat,

[redacted]

[redacted] Head of Briefing and Evidence
COVID-19 Local Interventions, Outbreak Management
Outbreak Management Directorate

Scottish Government
Mobile: [redacted]
[redacted]@gov.scot

From: [redacted]
Sent: 25 September 2020 13:53
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: ACTION REQUIRED Briefing - Committee appearance DFM and Cab
Sec Health - deadline Monday 28 Sept 10am

Hi Folks,

Just getting to look at the 4 different asks below and wonder if we can co-ordinate a bit;

- HE/FE - There is likely to be movement over the weekend in relation to HE/FE. At the moment, the approach is fully devolved and led locally as the NIMT is only just beginning to invite other relevant HBs into the picture to discuss but the issue is growing geographically. We can reflect this in whatever we offer so **I'll get a page started that we can work up further on Monday.**
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]

Grateful for thoughts/views on this approach/additional considerations/anything I've overlooked.

[redacted]
[redacted] Head of Briefing and Evidence
COVID-19 Local Interventions, Outbreak Management
Outbreak Management Directorate
Scottish Government
Mobile: [redacted][redacted]
[redacted]@gov.scot

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 25 September 2020 09:24
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: ACTION REQUIRED Briefing - Committee appearance DFM and Cab
Sec Health - deadline Monday 28 Sept 10am

Sorry, I've just noticed there's 2 other requests for us on that list! Could what I've done below be combined?

Happy to discuss.

From: [redacted]

Sent: 25 September 2020 09:21

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: ACTION REQUIRED Briefing - Committee appearance DFM and Cab Sec Health - deadline Monday 28 Sept 10am

Hi [redacted]

To see the below briefing request. I've pulled the attached together from previous lines provided for other purposes. Do you have anything to add? We could offer the outbreaks FMQ but that quickly becomes out of date.

Briefing - Covid Committee appearance - 30 September (A30163563)

Grateful for your thoughts.

Thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** HSC Group Hub

Sent: 24 September 2020 17:27

To: HSC Group Hub <HSCgroup@gov.scot>; Curtis PS (Penelope) <Penelope.Curtis@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; MacDougall A (Audrey) <Audrey.MacDougall@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Gillespie G (Gary) <Gary.Gillespie@gov.scot>; Pryce JM (Jonathan) <Jonathan.Pryce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Economy Covid-19 Hub <BESTCovidHub@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Watson AA (Andrew) <Andrew.Watson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Twyman K (Kerry) <Kerry.Twyman@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Covid Testing and Contact Tracing Performance and Delivery Division <Covid19TestingOperationalPolicy@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DL for SG Outbreak Management <DLODOPSGOM@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; HSC Analysis Hub <HSCAnalysisHub@gov.scot>; Population Health Hub <populationhealthhub@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; [redacted]@transport.gov.scot>; Mental Health - Strategy and Coordination Unit <MentalHealthStrategyandCoordinationUnit@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; covid-19 Policy <covid-19.policy@gov.scot>; Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19)

<Lesley.Sheppard@gov.scot>; Foggo R (Richard) <Richard.Foggo@gov.scot>; Care Homes Covid Support <CareHomesCovidSupport@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Health Resilience, Performance & Delivery - COVID-19 Response <hrpd-covid-19-response@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Covid Exit Strategy <covidexitstrategy@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: MacKinnon D (Donna) <Donna.MacKinnon@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Kellet M (Michael) (Constitution and Cabinet) <Michael.Kellet@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; HSC Group Hub <HSCgrouphub@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: ACTION REQUIRED Briefing - Committee appearance DFM and Cab Sec Health - deadline Monday 28 Sept 10am
Importance: High

Colleagues,

Both the Deputy First Minister and the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport have been invited to appear at the Covid-19 Committee next week.

The purpose of the meeting is to take evidence on the new measures to address Coronavirus announced by the First Minister, within the wider context of the Route Map and the Framework for Decision-Making.

Both Ministers have asked that we prepare;

1. Opening remarks – *HSC Group Hub will draft these from briefing material provided for point 2*
2. Briefing packs that cover key issues – *see below for topics (requested briefing to include Q&A on likely issues).*

The Mr Swinney will provide opening remarks on the Route Map and the Framework for Decision-Making and Ms Freeman will make opening remarks from a health perspective.

Briefing pack

We would be grateful if colleagues could provide clear and easy to navigate briefing contributions (including a short Q&A of any anticipated questions) in an FMQ style note **max 1 page**, with emphasis on the key issues and lines to take.

We have tried to identify who we think would lead on each subject, however we would be grateful if this commission could be forwarded on to any contacts who are not identified in the table below or in this emails recipient list. Also if you could please let us know by 1pm tomorrow that you are picking this request up or if your name is next to a topic and you are not the right contact- this would be very much appreciated! ☐

Exit Strategy		
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

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Children and Families		
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Economy		
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Finance and financial support		
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Health		
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[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Universities		
Due to current outbreak in universities, students being advised not go home		[redacted]
student mental health and wellbeing		[redacted]
outbreak management of university clusters		[redacted]
Transport		
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
Other issues		

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

And any other hot topic that policy areas wish to proactively flag

The Health and Social Care Group Hub will be the central coordination point for this briefing. Please ensure returns and any cascades of this commission have the HSCgrouphub@gov.scot inbox in copy.

With apologies for the tight turnaround, we ask that submissions reach our inbox **no later than 10am Monday 28th September**. We appreciate that this is a long weekend for some colleagues however, given the urgent nature of this work we are operating a 7-day Hub and are available to answer any questions on this process over the next 4 days. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

[redacted]

Covid-19 Response

HSC Group Hub

I am currently working from home with access to email and Skype.

Attachment to Email 10 – not in scope

Email 11

From: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>

Sent: 24 September 2020 15:54

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Mitchell E (Elinor) <Elinor.Mitchell@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGE CJ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Humphreys J (Julie) (ETSD) <Julie.Humphreys2@gov.scot>; Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; Rogers D (David) (Constitution and Cabinet Director) <David.Rogers@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Director of Health Workforce <Directorofhealthworkforce@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Grisewood A (Aidan) <Aidan.Grisewood@gov.scot>; Kellet M (Michael) (Constitution and Cabinet) <Michael.Kellet@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; MacKinnon D (Donna) <Donna.MacKinnon@gov.scot>; McCallum R (Richard) <Richard.McCallum@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine)

<Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; Neill S (Sean) <Sean.Neill@gov.scot>; Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>; Colvin I (Iona) <Iona.Colvin@gov.scot>; [redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning <MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>; Cumming A (Alison) Early Learning & Childcare <Alison.Cumming@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Director of Learning <DirectorofLearning@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education <CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications Healthier <CommunicationsHealthier@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SGoRR Major Events <sgorrmajorevents@gov.scot>; SGoRR Information <SGoRRInformation@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; PS/CDO <PS/CDO@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit <FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DL for SG Outbreak Response <DLODOPSOR@gov.scot>; DL for SG Outbreak Management <DLODOPSGOM@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Russell GE (Gillian) <Gillian.Russell@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; DL for SG Outbreak Management <DLODOPSGOM@gov.scot>; Director for Covid 19 Testing <directorcovid19testing@gov.scot>; Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19) <Lesley.Sheppard@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Hicks C (Clare) <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit <FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DL for Covid-19 Deputy Directors <DLHSCPCOVIDDEPDIR@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: URGENT - University Testing Centres

[redacted]

As requested by DFM, please find attached a short update note on the implementation of local testing sites.

Thanks,

John

John Nicholson

Deputy Director
Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government

Tel: [redacted]

Mob: [redacted]

E-mail: john.nicholson@gov.scot

I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FLEXIBLY FROM HOME – PLEASE CALL MY MOBILE IF IMMEDIATE

□ Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: [redacted] **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

Sent: 24 September 2020 13:44

To: Nicholson J (John) ; [redacted]; Covid-19 Director ; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills ; SAAS Chief Executive ; First Minister
Cc: [redacted]; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport ; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government ; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing ; Permanent Secretary ; DG Constitution and External Affairs ; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) ; DG Health & Social Care ; Mitchell E (Elinor) ; DG Economy ; DG Education, Communities & Justice ; [redacted]; Humphreys J (Julie) (ETSD) ; Johnston P (Paul) ; Rogers D (David) (Constitution and Cabinet Director) ; Griffin J (Joe) ; Director of Population Health ; [redacted]; Munro D (Dominic) ; Director of Health Workforce ; Cackette PH (Paul) ; [redacted]; [redacted]; Grisewood A (Aidan) ; Kellet M (Michael) (Constitution and Cabinet) ; [redacted]; MacKinnon D (Donna) ; McCallum R (Richard) ; McLaughlin C (Christine) ; Neill S (Sean) ; Bell D (Donna) ; Colvin I (Iona) ; [redacted]; [redacted] ; [redacted] ; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science ; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning ; Cumming A (Alison) Early Learning & Childcare ; Director of Advanced Learning and Science ; Director of Learning ; [redacted] ; [redacted]; Montgomery L (Lana) ; Monk IV (Iain) ; Communications DFM & Education <CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted] ; [redacted] ; [redacted]; Communications Healthier ; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; SGoRR Major Events ; SGoRR Information ; [redacted]; Leitch J (Jason) ; Chief Medical Officer ; Smith G (Gregor) ; DCMO Health COVID19 ; Murray D (Diane) ; [redacted] ; [redacted] ; [redacted][redacted]; PS/CDO ; [redacted]; [redacted]; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit ; [redacted]; [redacted] ; [redacted]; [redacted] ; DL for SG Outbreak Response ; DL for SG

Outbreak Management ; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted] ; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport ; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science ; Permanent Secretary ; DG Education, Communities & Justice ; Johnston P (Paul) ; DG Health & Social Care ; Russell GE (Gillian) ; DG Constitution and External Affairs ; Chief Medical Officer ; [redacted]; [redacted]; Leitch J (Jason) ; [redacted][redacted] [redacted] ; [redacted] ; Cackette PH (Paul) ; DL for SG Outbreak Management ; Director for Covid 19 Testing ; Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19) ; Munro D (Dominic) ; Griffin J (Joe) ; Hicks C (Clare) ; [redacted] ; Director of Advanced Learning and Science ; Pooley L (Linda) Dr ; Macdonald R (Roddy) ; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit ; O'Connor N (Niamh) ; McDiarmid F (Fiona)

Subject: RE: URGENT - University Testing Centres

Great – thanks John.

[redacted] Deputy Private Secretary to John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | The Scottish Government | Web: www.gov.scot |
☐ [redacted] Mobile: [redacted] Email: DFMCSE@gov.scot | [redacted]@gov.scot
5N.07 St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

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

From: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>

Sent: 24 September 2020 12:53

To: [redacted]@gov.scot; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Mitchell E (Elinor) <Elinor.Mitchell@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot; Humphreys J (Julie) (ETSD) <Julie.Humphreys2@gov.scot>; Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; Rogers D (David) (Constitution and Cabinet Director) <David.Rogers@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Director of Health Workforce <Directorofhealthworkforce@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul)

<Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
Grisewood A (Aidan) <Aidan.Grisewood@gov.scot>; Kellet M (Michael) (Constitution
and Cabinet) <Michael.Kellet@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; MacKinnon D
(Donna) <Donna.MacKinnon@gov.scot>; McCallum R (Richard)
<Richard.McCallum@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine)
<Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; Neill S (Sean) <Sean.Neill@gov.scot>; Bell D
(Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>; Colvin I (Iona) <Iona.Colvin@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@nrscotland.gov.uk>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning
<MinisterLGHP@gov.scot>; Cumming A (Alison) Early Learning & Childcare
<Alison.Cumming@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Director of Learning
<DirectorofLearning@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education
<CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications Healthier
<CommunicationsHealthier@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SGoRR Major Events
<sgorrmajorevents@gov.scot>; SGoRR Information
<SGoRRInformation@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason)
<Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19
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[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; PS/CDO
<PS/CDO@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; First Minister
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[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; First Minister
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<Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - University Testing Centres

We will provide an update note for DFM as requested below.

Thanks,

John

John Nicholson

Deputy Director
Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government

Tel: [redacted]
Mob: [redacted]
E-mail: john.nicholson@gov.scot

I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FLEXIBLY FROM HOME – PLEASE CALL MY MOBILE IF IMMEDIATE

□ Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 24 September 2020 12:51

To: Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Mitchell E (Elinor) <Elinor.Mitchell@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Humphreys J (Julie) (ETSD) <Julie.Humphreys2@gov.scot>; Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; Rogers D (David) (Constitution and Cabinet Director) <David.Rogers@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Director of Health Workforce <Directorofhealthworkforce@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul) <Paul.Cackette@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Grisewood A (Aidan) <Aidan.Grisewood@gov.scot>; Kellet M (Michael) (Constitution and Cabinet) <Michael.Kellet@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; MacKinnon D (Donna) <Donna.MacKinnon@gov.scot>; McCallum R (Richard) <Richard.McCallum@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; Neill S (Sean) <Sean.Neill@gov.scot>; Bell D

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Covid Briefing Unit <FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh)
<Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - University Testing Centres

Can I jump in here.

We put these lines out last night to BBC, with our health comms lead [redacted]
handling final wording.

The officials I dealt with were: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot, cc-ing here.

[redacted]

On campus walk-in centres.

A Scottish Government spokesperson said:

“In order to respond to the expected increased demand for testing at the start of the academic year, we are working with UK Government partners to establish 22 walk-in centres across Scotland over the autumn and winter with an initial focus on areas with a large student population.

“The first site opened in St Andrews and another opened at Glasgow Caledonian University's ARC sports centre last week, with more to follow shortly.

“The walk-through centres are open to anyone, with additional support available for vulnerable groups and people with disabilities, and will be a valuable enhancement to our system in the weeks and months to come.

“We believe most students are adhering to the guidelines and Scotland's most senior clinicians have recently written a joint open letter to college and university students with COVID guidance and advice about when to get a test.

“We are constantly scrutinising options which could help keep the virus suppressed while allowing peoples' lives to return to as close to normal as possible, including extending community testing. We are working closely and at pace with the UK Government and others to ensure we implement suitable options as soon as we are assured they are effective and practicable.

Background

Advanced booking is recommended at all testing centres through the nhsinform website or by phone on 0800 028 2816.

The walk through testing sites are part of the UK Government's testing programme and are in addition to the Regional Test Centres, Mobile Testing Units and home test kit provision. The Scottish Government has responsibility for overseeing the location of the centres in Scotland.

<https://www.gov.scot/news/health-guidance-for-students/>
<https://www.gov.scot/news/safe-return-to-campus/>

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Covid-19 Director

Sent: 24 September 2020 12:46

To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport

<CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
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Subject: RE: URGENT - University Testing Centres

Copying in community testing colleagues

[redacted]

[redacted] COVID Public Health Directorate | Head of Directorate Support Unit
The Scottish Government
Covid-19.director@gov.scot | Mob: [redacted]

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From: Farrell A (Antonia) <Antonia.Farrell@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
Sent: 24 September 2020 12:40
To: SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government <CabSecCLG@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing <MinisterPHSW@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Constitution and External Affairs <dgcea@gov.scot>; Thomson KAL (Ken) (Director-General) <Ken.Thomson@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; Mitchell E (Elinor) <Elinor.Mitchell@gov.scot>; DG Economy <DGEconomy@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Humphreys J (Julie) (ETSD) <Julie.Humphreys2@gov.scot>; Johnston P (Paul) <Paul.Johnston@gov.scot>; Rogers D (David) (Constitution and Cabinet Director) <David.Rogers@gov.scot>; Griffin J (Joe) <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Director of Population Health <Directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Munro D (Dominic) <Dominic.Munro@gov.scot>; Director of Health Workforce <Directorofhealthworkforce@gov.scot>; Cackette PH (Paul)

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Covid Briefing Unit <FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>;

Subject: URGENT - University Testing Centres
Importance: High

Good afternoon

The Deputy First Minister would appreciate immediate advice on where we are with University testing centres. It would be helpful to know which Universities have testing centres, which ones are due to have them and when they will be in place.

I'd be grateful for confirmation that this has been picked up and when we should expect to receive this information.

Kind Regards

[redacted]

[redacted] | [redacted] John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | The Scottish Government | Web: www.gov.scot | ☐ [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted] | Email: DFMCSE@gov.scot | [redacted]@gov.scot
5N.07 St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

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Attachment of email 11

WALKTHROUGH LOCAL TEST SITES (LTSS) – STUDENT ACCESS

The establishment of walkthrough tests sites has recently been agreed by our scientific and clinical advisors as long as the sites meet strict safety criteria. The UK Government have piloted the model and have also clinically assessed the risks and approved the model for implementation. The Local Test Site set up, processes and PPE requirements were authorised by Dr Tom Fowler, National Testing Programme Clinical Lead and PHE Virology Cell and are constantly reviewed and updated.

Local test sites are a new and an additional route for community testing from the UKG. They are now part of the UKG test site options that include Regional Test Centres, Mobile Testing Units and the delivery and pick up of Home Test Kits. The UKG are currently planning to set up 200 sites (including the Scottish sites). Each site varies in terms of daily testing capacity, but standard indoor/outdoor sites range from a capacity of 220-250 tests a day.

How many and when?

As part of the UKG testing programme, 22 Local Test Sites are being planned in Scotland. 11 are expected to be in place by the end of October with another 11 planned as we move into winter.

Initially our priority is to support students returning and therefore we have engaged with Universities, alongside Local Authority and Health Board partners to identify sites. The sites are a local community resource – not just for students - therefore we are looking for sites that can meet both the student population needs and the local community needs.

We have already delivered 2 sites in St Andrews and Glasgow and will have another two sites open by the end of this week in Aberdeen and Edinburgh.

We had originally planned for Inverness and Dundee sites to be set up for next week (w/c 28 September), but the specific site locations that were identified last week have been assessed as not being suitable. We have had good engagement with Inverness and Dundee this morning with further sites being identified and will now be forwarded to Deloitte for assessment. We are also focusing on establishing indoor sites over outdoor sites as the lead in times are faster.

In order to keep a pipeline of sites being delivered on a weekly basis we have been able to accelerate the Glasgow West and Stirling sites by around a week and expect these to be open on 2 and 5 October respectively).

The table below sets out the planned opening schedule for the first six sites.

	Planned Sites	Planned 'go live' date
1	St Andrews (Victory Memorial Hall)	Opened 28 August 2020
2	Glasgow Centre (ARC Glasgow Caledonian University)	Went live for bookings on Friday 18 th Sept (opened Saturday)
3	Aberdeen (Roy Strathdee Building)	Due to open for bookings 24 th Sep
4	Edinburgh Centre (Usher Hall)	Due to open for bookings on 25 th Sep
5	Glasgow West End (Riverside Museum Car Park)	Due to open 2 October
6	Stirling (Engine Shed, Forthside Way)	Due to open 5 October

We are still on track to deliver 11 sites by the end of October, and with Stirling and Glasgow West being planned for the beginning of Oct we will have 6 sites in University areas by the end of the first week of October.

Separately we have taken steps to deploy an available Mobile Testing Unit today (Thursday) across the street from Abertay University, in Dundee to assist with outbreak management and the Vice-Principal has been informed.

We will also liaise with Inverness and UHI as to whether additional testing capacity in the area is required. They have a RTC and MTU in the town already and we can work with University to ensure that students are supported to access these in the short term.

Some of the changes to the original planned schedule of opening sites has arisen as a result of DHSC (as of last week) changing the spec of their outdoor sites to use modular units rather than marquees for outdoor sites in Scotland and these require a longer lead in time to set up. The modular units are better insulated against the weather and, having learned from the MTU experiences of using marquees, will mean that a site is unlikely to be closed in bad weather. The additional time required to install the modular units means that we have had to rephrase the order of some sites, but we are still expecting these to come online in October.

The following additional sites are planned for October and each area has submitted a number of sites for assessment:

Planned Sites for October	
7	Inverness – looking at potential new sites
8	Dundee – looking at potential new sites
9	Inverclyde - Port Glasgow – potential indoor sites being assessed
10	Edinburgh West – looking at potential sites
11	Vale of Leven (West Dunbartonshire) – potential indoor sites being assessed

Planning for a further 11 sites as we move into winter

A walkthrough local test site is designed to meet the local community need. They are designed to be situated in urban areas of high population density and in areas where a high portion of local residents do not have access to a car. They can also be adapted to meet local cultural or religious needs (such as a women only area) and provide translated information in the local community languages if necessary.

Decisions around where to plan a site are being made with consideration of the overall national test site landscape and local area needs:

- Areas with high population density
- Areas with low car ownership
- Areas with higher deprivation
- Areas that are far away from an RCT/MTU and will improve access to tests in rural areas
- Areas with higher positive test rates

We have started to map potential areas based on the considerations above. We will put advice paper to Ministers on our options and proposed areas shortly. We will then engage with relevant Health Boards and Local Authorities where the considerations above are relevant and work with them to identifying suitable specific sites within the prioritised areas.

Other Access to Testing for Students

Beyond the introduction of the walk through test sites planned in University towns and cities (above), symptomatic students in Scotland will also have access to testing through the established routes of Regional Test Centres, Mobile Testing Units and Home Test kits – and as noted above MTU's are being used, where appropriate, to support testing in outbreak situations at Universities (as has happened at Abertay and Glasgow Universities).

Community Testing, Testing and Contact Tracing Policy, Test and Protect
24 September 2020

Email 12

From: [redacted]
Sent: 16 September 2020 08:58
To: McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>
Cc: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HSCMB discussion this morning

University students are included in the general symptomatic population line.

COVID Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 08:57
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>
Cc: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HSCMB discussion this morning

[redacted]

In terms of the modelling nils is doing just now – do you know what assumptions he has made on university students – I can't seem this in the table?

Best wishes
Christine

Christine McLaughlin
Director of Planning| DG Health and Social Care

[redacted]|Christine.mclaughlin@gov.scot

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 08:36
To: Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HSCMB discussion this morning

Just in terms specifically of students and testing;

The advice to FM committed us to 3 things;

1. We propose to have further conversations with NHS Boards and universities about ideas for **piloting different approaches to sample collection for symptomatic students**, both to strengthen arrangements for 'normal' demand from symptomatic students, and to prepare for times of higher demand. We will need to take a pragmatic view on which ideas for pilots should be pursued, but for example, there may be opportunities to pilot the use of rapid testing in community contexts with students, or to put in place alternative sample collection arrangements with university support.
 - This has been partially picked up, along with 3, in an initial workshop run by KPMG on Monday on the potential for using a satellite model type approach for symptomatic students (i.e. taking the work done for asymptomatic students and pivoting to symptomatic). Key issues at the moment include that the turnaround times for satellite tests are too slow to be useful for symptomatic testing, and that health protection teams have very limited capacity to be creative in this space.
 - There may be an opportunity for small-scale project on campus universities, but it feels like this is not our top priority in the next few weeks.
 - We will continue to listen out for UK innovations that could be piloted in Scottish universities.
 - It may be that as part of thinking about shifting sample collection to the NHS there could be university models.
 - My assessment is that we're entering a challenging phase with testing students – the walk throughs will help access a lot, but given the level of demand in England for home test kits, and the fact that we don't have a protected Scottish allocation, it seems likely that some students will not be able to access testing the first day they try.
2. We would therefore propose **introducing testing for students who are close contacts of a confirmed case of COVID** as the first stage of testing all close contacts, before this is made available to the general public. This is in recognition of the particular risks to transmission in the coming weeks of a large volume of movement of people, over a compressed period of time, largely comprised of an age cohort we know from evidence have lower compliance with non-pharmaceutical interventions. This would take place alongside strong messaging that a negative test does not mean that a close contact can leave self-isolation.

- this is on hold until there is sufficient testing capacity, but the pathways work to enable this to be delivered has been completed.

3. We propose conducting a **rapid feasibility assessment on the potential of piloting a different way of delivering testing to students in an outbreak**, for example looking at whether it would be feasible to use satellite channel testing resources.

As above – the satellite channel is not an option at the moment.

In terms of the local test sites, as expected, negotiations about finding a suitable site are the main challenge. Team continues to work hard to press partners to get issues resolved as quickly as possible. We had some bad news about the proposed Edinburgh sites yesterday (too small) but [redacted] is making sure partners are in no doubt that a site needs found.

[redacted]

COVID Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: Foggo R (Richard) <Richard.Foggo@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Covid-19 Director
Sent: 16 September 2020 07:58
To: McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HSCMB discussion this morning

Christine – thanks. I will update on the work we have been doing with HE/FE. Copying in [redacted], whose name is against the agenda item, so he can confirm that he can provide an update from outbreak management.

Richard

Richard Foggo |Director, Covid Public Health|The Scottish Government|twitter: @RichardFoggo|pronouns: he/him



I AM AN ALLY

From: McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 07:10
To: Foggo R (Richard) <Richard.Foggo@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: HSCMB discussion this morning

Richard

There's an agenda item on HSCMB which is called 'testing and HE/FE' which [redacted] had asked for.

Given recent events we are not doing a presentation as that is being worked on for Thursday's meeting with cab sec.

John and I will open up a discussion and it would be really helpful if you could bring in the HE/FE component if you are comfortable with that?

Best wishes

Christine

Christine McLaughlin

Director of Planning| DG Health and Social Care

[redacted]|Christine.mclaughlin@gov.scot

Email 13

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 16 September 2020 09:51

To: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

All, The key areas to share have been pulled out for the Ministers letter which will issue today/tomorrow. I am not keen on stuff being pulled from the report out of context. [redacted] is also doing a summary which will be issued as soon as it is ready hopefully this week. That work was a point on time. It is a dynamic situation and since the plans were submitted the guidance was issued and by the end of this week 6 workshops will be held. I see that work as the end of phase 1. We are moving into phase 2 building on that and doing so at speed. Also some of the lines below are not quite accurate timing got in the way as this is a rare day I haven't been at my computer at 7am.

I also provided a brief to the outbreak team the other day.

So going forward if HSCMB need briefs we can perhaps start to do something which just needs tweaked as things progress

We also have a comprehensive brief on compliance which we are happy to share.

[redacted]

From: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 09:13
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

Thanks [redacted]- wd be v interesting anyway
Deadline was always unrealistic!
f

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 09:12
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

Morning [redacted],

Apologies, we've already missed the 9am deadline but I will pull some of the key findings from [redacted] report and send them over.

Thanks,

[redacted]
[redacted] Policy Adviser | College Policy Team
Colleges, Young Workforce & SFC Sponsorship Division | Advanced Learning & Science Directorate
Scottish Government
□ [redacted]@gov.scot_

Check out the new Scottish Government resource <https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/>. Everything you need to know about student finance, including help for parents, carers and education professionals.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 08:55
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

[redacted] / [redacted]

To see below. Any immediate thoughts on bullet two? Needed by 9 a.m!

[redacted]

From: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>

Sent: 16 September 2020 08:52

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Subject: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

Importance: High

Morning folks.. Richard Foggo wants to update Ms Freeman and the Health Mgt Brd (which meets from 9 (!)) on progress on FE/HE, the below builds on a note by [redacted]. Any input on the yellows gratefully received!#

Ta

f

- Tuesday 18 August – Richard Lochhead wrote to university and college principals and student accommodation providers asking them to submit restart plans by 25 August and offering to host tailored workshops.
- All institutions submitted plans and these have been analysed with support from PHS, Advanced Learning and Skills Analysis and colleagues from Covid Ready Society. A detailed checklist was developed with PHS input. ALS colleagues are in the process of giving specific feedback to individual institutions. Key generic issues included []
- The guidance for the sector has been tightened up in a variety of areas, in particular to []. The updated version was approved by all the relevant Ministers and issued on [].
- Testing regimes remain work in progress and will depend to an extent on decisions on surveillance. They will of course be constrained by issues around capacity and delivery times. There has been no pressure from stakeholders for any routine testing.
- It is clear that key issues will be compliance – an acute manifestation of wider societal issues – and outbreak management (on which initial experience in St Andrews has been reassuring). It is helpful here that David Robb (head of Student Awards) has been tasked with overseeing work on FE/HE outbreak management over the next couple of months
- Over the past 3 week workshops have been held as follows. All have been well attended by the sector, with active and constructive participation
 - two mitigation focused workshops with Lorna Gibbs in the chair and related support from PHS.
 - two outbreak management workshops with [redacted] in the Chair and support from Paul Cackette's area ([redacted]). [redacted] in particular commented afterwards that she was reassured by what she had heard.
 - a workshop on enhanced surveillance arrangements (yesterday). This aimed to build on learning from the schools side and was supported by PHS ([redacted] and [redacted]) and me. The work package will take some time to deliver.

From: Foggo R (Richard) <Richard.Foggo@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Covid-19 Director
Sent: 16 September 2020 07:55
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Covid-19 Director <covid-19.director@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; Sheppard L (Lesley) (Covid-19) <Lesley.Sheppard@gov.scot>
Subject: HE/FE update
Importance: High

[redacted] – you are down on the Health and Social Care Management Board agenda (see below) to cover outbreak management in HE/FE. Are you aware of that? Last night’s St Andrew’s University situation would seem relevant here.

3. Testing & HE/FE Impact HSCMB/058/2020 [redacted]
Christine McLaughlin
[redacted]

Christine McLaughlin has just asked me to update on HE/FE. Frank/[redacted] (if around), could you knock me up half a dozen bullet points on the work we have been doing, building on the update [redacted] offered 2 weeks ago. I have copied in John and Lesley in case there are some bullet points they can offer.

Richard

Richard Foggo |Director, Covid Public Health|The Scottish Government|twitter: @RichardFoggo|pronouns: he/him



Email 14

[part of email chain 13]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 16 September 2020 13:30
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

Yes – when there is any. Right now trying to assess whether the UK pilot offer is real and sensible, or “aspirational” and of limited value.

COVID Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government

[redacted]
From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 13:20

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

[redacted], if poss can we be copied in on any student related testing updates to the Cab Sec and to Director etc, where appropriate? Thanks [redacted] [redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 13:06
To: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

Thanks – I'm exploring whether we can get one of the UKG pilots of asymptomatic testing for a Scottish university. Literally got someone in DHSC building today trying to improve the info flow on that.

COVID Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 12:54
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

[redacted] – thanks

Agree we need to keep testing in event of cases/outbreaks separate from testing of asymptomatic (which we do not have capacity to do for student population) That said, yes we are continually asked about it – and coverage of some universities down south offering testing to all students adds to that pressure (though often that is just how it is reported and is not the actual situation!!)

Linda

Dr Linda Pooley, Deputy Director, Colleges, Young Workforce and Scottish Funding Council Sponsorship : TEL: [redacted] MOB: [redacted]

PA [redacted] T [redacted] E [redacted]@gov.scot (Monday to Wednesday)

Check out the new Scottish Government resource <https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/>. Everything you need to know about student finance, including help for parents, carers and education professionals.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 September 2020 09:01
To: Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE update - any urgent input gratefully received!

Frank,

You may not have spotted my note on testing, see attached ;

Testing – the big issue here is going to be impact of current capacity challenges on students. I am concerned that very high rUK demand for home test kits may limit access for our students, LTS sites progressing, Cab Sec getting very frequent updates.

Surveillance – not sure that we’ve committed to testing as part of surveillance, and given current issues might be wiser to keep the question of surveillance testing completely separate from testing symptomatic and in outbreaks.

Routine testing – not true to say no pressure from stakeholders for any routine testing – sort of depends what is meant by “routine” but there is still demand for testing students for “reassurance” purposes. College lecturers asked Jason Leitch about access to asymptomatic testing along the lines of schools staff (he was pretty firm with them).

[redacted]
COVID Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government
[redacted]

Email 15

From: [redacted]
Sent: 17 September 2020 08:57
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Immediate for 8am FMQ on outbreaks.

[redacted] – I've also attached the T&P FMQ for contact tracing interests, if you have time (realise you're over your deadline already) you could also ask [redacted]/[redacted] for lines on The App.

[redacted]
COVID Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 17 September 2020 08:49
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Immediate for 8am FMQ on outbreaks.

[redacted] – it would be worth checking what the IMT has actually decided in relation to testing in this case. My reading of the press is that they are just testing people with symptoms, of course an IMT may take a decision to broaden testing.

COVID Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government
[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 17 September 2020 07:43
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: Immediate for 8am FMQ on outbreaks.
Importance: High

Hi All,

If anyone is around we have a FMQ on clusters at unis for 830. Below is lines we used before on testing are these still ok, anything else to add? . Thanks [redacted]

We will use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced

- We will use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced
- It is vital that anyone with symptoms, including students and people working in universities and colleges, self-isolate along with their whole household and arrange a test.

- Students must prepare for the possibility that they, or a housemate, will develop symptoms, and will need to isolate. And all of us must be ready to self-isolate for 14 days every time we are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case.

We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live

- We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live
- The new walk-through testing centre in St Andrews is operational and will provide a new way for people to access testing.
- Further walk-through testing centres will be established across the country between now and October.
- One of the priorities for these centres are locations where there are student populations.

Attachment of Email 15

TEST AND PROTECT

[redacted – out of scope]

TOP LINES

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

TESTING

We are constantly considering options which could help keep the virus suppressed while allowing peoples’ lives to return to as close to normal as is possible, including extending community testing.

- We have published a new Testing Strategy which sets out the role testing will play in the next phase of our response to the pandemic
- Our approach will continue to adapt as new evidence becomes available, as we learn more about virus behaviour, and as new innovations become available.
- We have started the rollout of walk-in local test sites to provide additional ways that people in the community can access testing.
- The site in St Andrews began operating on 28 August and we are initially prioritising sites to support universities, given students are beginning to return.
- We are setting up the next site this week in Glasgow at Glasgow Caledonian University, with further sites in Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee and Inverness scheduled to be set up by the end of the month.
- We are closely engaged with universities, in partnership with Health Boards and Local Authorities, in the delivery of these local test sites.
- We are working closely and at pace with the UK Government and others to ensure we implement suitable options as soon as we are assured they are effective and practicable.

TRACING

[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]

Email 16

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 17:28
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

Hi [redacted],

An addition to our lines added below in red.

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted] | Community Testing Policy | Test & Protect | COVID Testing & Contact Tracing Policy Division | COVID-19 Public Health Directorate | DG: Health & Social Care | Scottish Government
4 Atlantic Quay | 70 York Street | Glasgow | G2 8AE
Telephone: [redacted] | Email: [redacted]@gov.scot

From: [redacted]
Sent: 29 September 2020 17:18
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of

Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

Hi [redacted],

With apologies for the delay, please find a general testing contribution below.

Kind regards

[redacted]

Testing priorities

The Scottish Government published testing priorities are as set out in the Testing Strategy are :

1. Whole Population Testing of anyone with symptoms (Test & Protect).
2. Proactive Case Finding by testing contacts and testing in outbreaks.
3. Protecting the vulnerable and preventing outbreaks in high risk settings by routine testing.
4. Testing for direct patient care, to diagnose and to treat, and to support safe patient care as NHS services restart.
5. Surveillance to understand the disease, track prevalence, understand transmission and monitor key sectors.

Testing demand

The number of samples taken across all testing channels has fluctuated over the past couple of weeks with testing levels last week being slightly up on the previous week but below the higher levels seen two weeks ago. Sampling demand is variable day by day but it rarely exceeds Scotland's population share of UK Government testing capacity. The days where sampling was highest were the days when routine care home testing was registered on the system. This routine care home testing is currently in the process of being transferred to our NHS laboratories, the aim of this change is to free up additional capacity within the UK Government laboratories which process tests from the general public, including students. **This additional capacity in the testing system will be very important as we move into the winter months when we expect to see an increase in the level of demand for symptomatic testing and the need to have capacity to meet that anticipated demand.** Scotland's population share of UK Government laboratory testing capacity is currently 14,832 tests a day.

Delays encountered when booking a test have improved and we are no longer aware of people experiencing delays when booking a test at a Regional Testing Site, Mobile Testing Unit or a Local Testing Site. The channel that is currently experiencing delays is the home test kit channel. These delay are being caused by the capacity of the channel being reduced to ensure that overall UK Government laboratory capacity is not overwhelmed. We aim to ensure that this causes the lowest level of negative impact on the general populations access to testing and we are supporting students in several ways, detailed below.

Turnaround times for testing have been a challenge recently but they have improved. By the end of last week over 40% of test results were reported within 48 hours and over 93% were reported within the upper limit of 72 hours.

Testing symptomatic students

Anyone in Scotland who develops symptoms of COVID-19 should isolate immediately and arrange a test. University students, as with the wider population, have access to testing through Regional Testing Centres, Mobile Testing Units, Local Testing Sites and by ordering a Home Test Kit. In anticipation of high levels of testing demand and low levels of car ownership within the student population we have been working to improve access to testing either within or close to university settings in a way that is accessible to the student population.

The deployment of Local Test Sites has been initially prioritised within university towns and cities. These have been deployed in St Andrews, Glasgow, Edinburgh & Aberdeen, with further sites in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Inverness to follow. This initiative will make available an extra 2,304 tests a day that the student population can utilise.

In an outbreak situation a Mobile Testing Unit can be deployed to a university setting as has already been done in response to Glasgow and Dundee outbreaks and they have been modified from their standard drive-through sampling model to take walk-in only bookings more suited to the student population.

In addition to the above we are developing pathways that could allow the direct deployment of testing kits to universities to provide further access to testing symptomatic students who are unable to access testing through any of the established routes.

Testing innovations

The UK Government is in the process of procuring and assessing the viability of new testing technology and we are working with them with the view to setup trials in Scotland that could include pilots targeting symptomatic students or asymptomatic students. Different new testing technology is suitable for different settings and we are proactively exploring using universities as an appropriate setting for some of these test testing options.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 15:34

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine
Importance: High

All

We are preparing urgent advice for Ministers on further actions that can be taken to limit the further spread of the virus in the student population and FE/HE settings.

One area we are being heavily pushed on is testing and test and protect issues

Grateful for urgent thoughts on what more we may be able to consider as measures to be adopted

Our thinking is around

[redacted]

Be clear it's asymptomatic testing the Universities are calling for and we will continue to resist however we should perhaps consider what further local testing we can do to encourage students to be tested as soon as symptomatic. (i.e. making it easier to comply)

Grateful for urgent advice and further thoughts if we are missing anything. Please share more widely if I missed anyone from the copy list

[redacted][redacted] Advanced Learning and Science
Tel: [redacted] **Mobile :** [redacted]



Email 17

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 15:47
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
Paterson G (Gordon) <Gordon.Paterson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh)
<Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

Hello [redacted]

We went through a lot of this in the call this morning with DFM and I have added some very quick notes. Others will have more to add.

Kind regards
Marion

[redacted]

[redacted]

Scottish Government

Mob: [redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 15:34

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

Importance: High

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[redacted]

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Grateful for urgent advice and further thoughts if we are missing anything. Please share more widely if I missed anyone from the copy list

[redacted][redacted]
Advanced Learning and Science
Tel: [redacted] Mobile : [redacted]



Email 18

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 17:54
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]t>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Meffan-Main A (Angie) <Angie.Meffan-Main@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

All – just to clarify that we discussed this on a call with DFM a short while ago [redacted]. As it stands, it isn't a measure we will be advising Ministers to progress. Universities may of course wish to make their own local arrangements on grouping students and providing them with appropriate support.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 17:52
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

[redacted – out of scope]

Regards

[redacted][redacted]Community Surveillance | Directorate for Covid Public Health | Scottish Government | Tel: [redacted] | Email: [redacted]@gov.scot
MS Teams: [redacted]@nes.scot.nhs.uk



Be kind and be the reason someone Smiles today.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 17:45
To: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F (Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

In relation to international arrivals, the current regulations require passengers arriving from non-exempt countries to quarantine for 14 days. At this time evidence suggests this is the most effective way to limit onwards transmission. If adhered to it reduces infectious arrivals into the community by around 99% compared to no quarantine.

Studies by Public Health England suggest that testing on entry would capture around 7% of cases but is not effective as a means to identify all cases of infection due to the incubation period of up to 14 days.

Any decision to require students from all international countries (not just non-exempt) to quarantine on arrival would require the regulations to be amended. We'd need to take legal advice as to whether it would be possible to only apply this to students or if it would need to apply to all travellers.

[redacted]
[redacted][redacted] Community Surveillance Division
Covid-19 Public Health Directorate | Scottish Government | [redacted] [redacted]
Mobile [redacted]

From: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 16:08
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh)
<Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>;[redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F
(Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing
and quarantine

Adding in colleagues that deal with international travel requirements.

John Nicholson
Deputy Director
Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government

Tel: [redacted]
Mob: [redacted]
E-mail: john.nicholson@gov.scot

**I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FLEXIBLY FROM HOME – PLEASE CALL MY
MOBILE IF IMMEDIATE**

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 15:47
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John)
<John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>;
[redacted]>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Strang F
(Frank) <Frank.Strang@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

Hello [redacted]

We went through a lot of this in the call this morning with DFM and I have added some very quick notes. Others will have more to add.

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] **Scottish Government**

Mob: [redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 15:34

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: URGENT - Advice required - FE and HE further measures - testing and quarantine

Importance: High

All

We are preparing urgent advice for Ministers on further actions that can be taken to limit the further spread of the virus in the student population and FE/HE settings.

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[redacted]

Be clear it's asymptomatic testing the Universities are calling for and we will continue to resist however we should perhaps consider what further local testing we can do to encourage students to be tested as soon as symptomatic. (i.e. making it easier to comply)

Grateful for urgent advice and further thoughts if we are missing anything. Please share more widely if I missed anyone from the copy list

[redacted][redacted]
Advanced Learning and Science
Tel: [redacted] Mobile : [redacted]



Email 19

From: [redacted]
Sent: 21 September 2020 14:42
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

Thanks, [redacted].

[redacted] has captured most (all?) of this in the outbreak FMQ and it'll be ready to send by the deadline tomorrow.

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M: [redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science
Sent: 21 September 2020 14:39
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

[redacted] as per skype

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 21 September 2020 14:30
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

Colleagues,

Thank you for submitting the HE/FE FMQ brief today. We are expecting that the FM may make a statement to Parliament tomorrow afternoon and are looking to use some of the briefings submitted for this week's FMQs for her statement briefing pack. With that in mind, please could you update the attached note to cover recent media below and return by 10am tomorrow? (you'll see we've made a couple of suggestions tracked in re. sections that could now be removed from the briefing too).

- The Press and Journal (Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire) 3 **Parental concerns as two living in halls test positive for the virus** Two Aberdeen students in city halls of residence have tested positive for Covid-19. Robert Gordon University (RGU) last night confirmed it had been made aware of the cases at the U-Student run ABeleven halls. Bosses at the facility, in Willowbank Road, confirmed that four students had been tested for Covid-19, with two returning positive results. They are not showing symptoms at this time. All residents in the affected flat have (Saturday)
- Scotland on Sunday 4 **Greens call for university lockdown 'clarity'** Scottish Greens Fife MSP Mark Ruskell has called on the University of St Andrews to give students "clear advice and adequate support" following the introduction of a voluntary lockdown by the university on Friday. In a message to students on Friday principal Prof Sally Mapstone urged all students to remain in their rooms from 7pm, stating the situation now "is just as serious" as when the pandemic took hold in (Sunday)
- The Press and Journal (Inverness, Highlands & Islands) 6 **University staff worried over a return to campus** Frustrated staff at a university have hit out at "unnecessary" plans for them to return to campus amid the pandemic. Last week department heads at Robert Gordon University (RGU) were told to ensure their areas have at least some members of staff on site on a daily basis. In an email to staff, the new principal and vicechancellor Steve Olivier said: "An appropriate physical presence will help us to retain (Monday)
- Daily Express (Scotland) 6 **Students could be suspended if they break virus rules** STUDENTS have been warned they face suspension for breaching social distancing rules after police were called to break up parties. The University of Edinburgh said "immature" students will face punishment for "reckless" behaviour which wastes police time. Police have been called out repeatedly to break up parties at Pollock Halls, when students refused to disperse after being asked to do so, and outdoor seating has been taken away. Gavin Douglas, (Friday)

Grateful if you could confirm this is being picked up.

Thank you,
[redacted]

[redacted] | FM Covid Briefing Unit | Scottish Government | 5N.02 St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG | [redacted] | [redacted]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Attachment for email 19

Universities, Colleges, CLD and Science Centres

[redacted – out of scope]

ISSUE 21 August: Independent SAGE report recommending mandatory Covid testing for university staff and students as well as face coverings and physical distancing.

Top Lines

- I want to firstly welcome students starting the new academic year, particularly those who have come from outside Scotland to study.
- Our revised guidance, published on 1 September, makes clear the measures that need to be in place to reduce the risk of infection.
- This includes blended learning to significantly reduce numbers on campus.
- Face-to-face teaching groups should be kept small and public health measures, including 2m physical distancing must also be in place.
- This includes the use of face coverings in corridors and communal spaces, and anywhere else on campus that 2m physical distancing cannot be guaranteed.
- Everyone on campus or in student accommodation must follow the rules around quarantine, self-isolation, physical distancing and using face coverings.
- We will use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing people who have symptoms so that those who have COVID-19 can continue to isolate, and their close contacts can be traced.
- Testing is not being provided to students on arrival because other effective mitigations are in place to reduce the risk of transmission.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

We will use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced

- It is vital that anyone with symptoms, including students and people working in universities and colleges, self-isolate along with their whole household and arrange a test.

- Students must prepare for the possibility that they, or a housemate, will develop symptoms, and will need to isolate. And all of us must be ready to self-isolate for 14 days every time we are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case.

We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live

- The new walk-through testing centre in St Andrews will be provide a new way for people to access testing.
- Further walk-through testing centres will be established across the country between now and October.
- One of the priorities for these centres are locations where there are student populations.

Testing is not being provided to students on arrival because other effective mitigations are in place to reduce the risk of transmission

- Testing has an important part to play in our response to COVID-19, but it cannot provide reassurance that a person will not go on to become infectious.
- COVID-19 has a 14 day incubation period – if a person tests negative before the end of the incubation period, they could still go on to develop the disease and infect others.
- That is why staff and students from countries currently on our quarantine list are required by law to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Scotland.
- That is why students who have been identified as a close contact prior to travelling to university or college must complete their isolation period before arriving at their institution – and must have the support of their institution if this means they miss activities at the start of time.
- And that is why it is also vital that universities and colleges support all their students to know what symptoms to look out for, to self-isolate immediately along with their household and arrange a test.
- Students will get support from their college, university or accommodation provider on arrival, and throughout quarantine/ self-isolation. Examples of the support on offer include welcome packages, welfare calls and help organising grocery deliveries.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

Email 20

From: [redacted]

Sent: 22 September 2020 13:06

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: HE supplementary by 1pm

Thanks, [redacted] – appreciated!

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M: [redacted] Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 September 2020 13:02
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE supplementary by 1pm

Hi [redacted],

Supplementary lines below and FMQ (with apologies for the delay) attached. Just to flag that the situation with outbreaks at colleges and universities is fast moving so it is highly likely that we will have to provide a further update before FMQs.

[redacted]

[redacted – out of scope]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 September 2020 12:15
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE supplementary by 1pm

Ok thank you

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 September 2020 12:14
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE supplementary by 1pm

Hi [redacted],

Apologies for the delay with the FMQ note – we're just awaiting final DD clearance.

We'll pick up the supplementary question below – note the 1pm deadline.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 September 2020 12:12
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE supplementary by 1pm
Importance: High

[redacted],

Apologies if I've missed this but I don't think I've seen the brief come back?

Meantime, I've got a further ask I'm afraid. We're expecting the following supplementary question following FM's statement today. Please could you draft a short (125 word max) answer to this? With apologies again for the deadline, could you get this back to us by 1pm please?

[redacted – out of scope]

Grateful for confirmation this is being picked up.

Thanks,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 22 September 2020 10:41
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

Ok, thanks. We're looking to finalise the folder by 11:30 so can you send as much as you possibly can in the next half hour please? [redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 September 2020 10:23
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

Hi [redacted],

I sent an email to the ET hub to let you know we're still updating the FMQ with some intelligence on outbreaks we received this morning. We're trying to get this to you ASAP.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 22 September 2020 10:22
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox
<ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

[redacted],

Apologies if this has come back already and I've missed it but I don't think I've seen an updated HE FMQ come up yet. Can I check it's on its way please?

Thank you,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 21 September 2020 14:53
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox
<ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>;[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

Hi [redacted],

That's fine. If you send it to as a separate brief in the morning we'll take a view on where this best sits – we might include as an annex to the FE/HE brief or include in our wider Local Outbreaks brief.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science
Sent: 21 September 2020 14:49
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox
<ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

[redacted]
[redacted] is doing a separate outbreak management FMQ for FE/HE which will capture all this – we think this was better than trying to slot into the standard FE/HE FMQ

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]Advanced Learning and Science
Tel: [redacted]**Mobile :** [redacted]



From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 21 September 2020 14:30
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; ET FMQ/PQ Mailbox <ETFMQPQ@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: HE FMQ - Updates by 10am tomorrow

Colleagues,

Thank you for submitting the HE/FE FMQ brief today. We are expecting that the FM may make a statement to Parliament tomorrow afternoon and are looking to use some of the briefings submitted for this week's FMQs for her statement briefing pack. With that in mind, please could you update the attached note to cover recent media below and return by 10am tomorrow? (you'll see we've made a couple of suggestions tracked in re. sections that could now be removed from the briefing too).

- The Press and Journal (Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire) 3 **Parental concerns as two living in halls test positive for the virus** Two Aberdeen students in city halls of residence have tested positive for Covid-19. Robert Gordon University (RGU) last night confirmed it had been made aware of the cases at the U-Student run ABeleven halls. Bosses at the facility, in Willowbank Road, confirmed that four students had been tested for Covid-19, with two returning positive results. They are not showing symptoms at this time. All residents in the affected flat have (Saturday)
- Scotland on Sunday 4 **Greens call for university lockdown 'clarity'** Scottish Greens Fife MSP Mark Ruskell has called on the University of St Andrews to give students "clear advice and adequate support" following the introduction of a voluntary lockdown by the university on Friday. In a message to students on Friday principal Prof Sally Mapstone urged all students to remain in their rooms from 7pm, stating the situation now "is just as serious" as when the pandemic took hold in (Sunday)

- The Press and Journal (Inverness, Highlands & Islands) 6 **University staff worried over a return to campus** Frustrated staff at a university have hit out at "unnecessary" plans for them to return to campus amid the pandemic. Last week department heads at Robert Gordon University (RGU) were told to ensure their areas have at least some members of staff on site on a daily basis. In an email to staff, the new principal and vicechancellor Steve Olivier said: "An appropriate physical presence will help us to retain (Monday)
- Daily Express (Scotland) 6 **Students could be suspended if they break virus rules** STUDENTS have been warned they face suspension for breaching social distancing rules after police were called to break up parties. The University of Edinburgh said "immature" students will face punishment for "reckless" behaviour which wastes police time. Police have been called out repeatedly to break up parties at Pollock Halls, when students refused to disperse after being asked to do so, and outdoor seating has been taken away. Gavin Douglas, (Friday)

Grateful if you could confirm this is being picked up.

Thank you,
[redacted]

[redacted] FM Covid Briefing Unit | Scottish Government | 5N.02 St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG | [redacted] [redacted]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Attachment of Email 20

[redacted – out of scope]

- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]
- [redacted – out of scope]

We will use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced

- It is vital that anyone with symptoms, including students and people working in universities and colleges, self-isolate along with their whole household and arrange a test.
- Students must prepare for the possibility that they, or a housemate, will develop symptoms, and will need to isolate.
- We all must be ready to self-isolate for 14 days every time we are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case.

We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live

- We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live
- The new walk-through testing centre in St Andrews is operational and will provide a new way for people to access testing.
- Further walk-through testing centres will be established across the country between now and October.
- One of the priorities for these centres are locations where there are student populations.

Email 21

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 24 September 2020 19:19

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>;

Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and

Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced

Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Medical

Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; CNOD - Covid 19 <CNOD.Covid-19@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief

Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR MINISTER'S CONSIDERATION Interview bid for Mr Lochhead - BBC Scotland The Nine

[redacted], [redacted],

With thanks for the extension, we have adapted today's FMQ notes to cover the Minister's media appearances. They also cover the information he asked for and we've also attached a briefing on local test sites for the Minister's information.

Regards,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 24 September 2020 16:00

To: Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr

<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot> [redacted]@gov.scot>; Gibbs L (Lorna)

<Lorna.Gibbs@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Medical

Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; CNOD - Covid 19 <CNOD.Covid-19@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and
Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: FOR MINISTER'S CONSIDERATION Interview bid for Mr Lochhead -
BBC Scotland The Nine

Good afternoon,

Grateful if it can be confirmed that this has been picked up?

Many thanks,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher
Education and Science
Sent: 24 September 2020 15:04
To: Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; Gibbs L (Lorna) <Lorna.Gibbs@gov.scot>; Director of
Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Medical
Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; CNOD - Covid 19 <CNOD.Covid-19@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and
Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: FOR MINISTER'S CONSIDERATION Interview bid for Mr Lochhead -
BBC Scotland The Nine

Hi,

Mr Lochhead has specified that he would like the following information to be covered
in the briefing:

- Overall student numbers and numbers in halls of residence
- Number of student & staff cases & self-isolation cases so far - overall numbers and where
- Key points from our guidance re student accommodation & face to face teaching
- Off campus accommodation
- Private student accommodation providers - what engagement have we with them
- National guidance students have to abide by
- Testing issues and rebuttal
- Our messages to parents and students worried
- What are doing now going forward in light of spike in cases?

- Why didn't we ask students to stay at home til Xmas rather than go to halls of residence that are super spreaders?
- Welfare issues and how self-isolating students are being supported
- My advice to parents and students not already at uni - should they go?

Grateful if it can please be confirmed that this is being picked up?

Many thanks,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 24 September 2020 14:57
To: Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Gibbs L (Lorna) <Lorna.Gibbs@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; CNOD - Covid 19 <CNOD.Covid-19@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: FOR MINISTER'S CONSIDERATION Interview bid for Mr Lochhead - BBC Scotland The Nine
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

Mr Lochhead has accepted this bid and will be pre-recording at 19:40.

Grateful for appropriate briefing by 18:30.

Many thanks,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 24 September 2020 14:21
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education <CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education

<CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;[redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Gibbs L (Lorna)
<Lorna.Gibbs@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FOR MINISTER'S CONSIDERATION Interview bid for Mr Lochhead -
BBC Scotland The Nine

Hi [redacted],

Mr Lochhead would like to accept the bid.

Grateful if you can let me know the format and timings so I can let the minister know.
It would also be useful to know which officials are supporting with briefing?

Many thanks,
[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 24 September 2020 14:10

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM &
Education <CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>;
SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Communications DFM & Education
<CommunicationsDFM&Education@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Gibbs L (Lorna)
<Lorna.Gibbs@gov.scot>

Subject: FOR MINISTER'S CONSIDERATION Interview bid for Mr Lochhead - BBC
Scotland The Nine

Importance: High

PO, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

For awareness:

PO, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

The Nine, BBC Scotland's daily news programme @9pm, is bidding to have Mr
Lochhead ideally on live at around the start of broadcast.

I'm told, its two top stories this evening are likely to be the Budget delay and its
consequences for Scotland (and bear in mind it has also bid for Ms Forbes, and
that's likely to be accepted) and the Glasgow Uny+others outbreak.

As background, note Jason Leitch has already talked this morning on BBC Breakfast and R4 The Today programme on the university outbreaks, and on Call Kaye this morning, Alastair Sim the head of Universities Scotland was involved in a phone in on the subject. Glasgow Uny tells me it's likely to put out another updated statement late afternoon, but doesn't expect to put forward anyone for interview.

The Nine says Mr Lochhead could do also a pre-record with Mr Lochhead 6-7pm, if that helps.

Spads/officials are happy for him to do it, if his diary allows.

Grateful for his guidance on whether to accept, please?

Best.

=====

From: [redacted]@bbc.co.uk>
Sent: 24 September 2020 11:16
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: BBC The Nien bid for Richard Lochhead

Hi [redacted],

Can we bid for Richard Lochhead to come on and discuss the covid outbreaks among Scottish students.

Thanks,

[redacted].

[redacted]
Senior Journalist, The Nine
News and Current Affairs
BBC Scotland, Pacific Quay,
Glasgow, G51 1DA

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]@bbc.co.uk

Attachment 1 – copy of attachment from email 11
Attachment 2 – out of scope
Attachment 3 – below

ISSUE 23 Sept: Monica Lennon MSP calls for ‘mass testing system,’ including bringing mobile testing units to colleges, universities and student accommodation. Followed by questioning from all opposition leaders at FMQs today.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

We will use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced

- We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live
- The new walk-through testing centre in St Andrews is providing a new way for people to access testing. A further unit has opened in Glasgow.
- Further walk-through testing centres will be established across the country between now and October.
- One of the priorities for these centres are locations where there are student populations.
- These sites will provide an additional route for students (and others) to access community testing across Scotland, in addition to the other established testing routes for symptomatic students in Scotland.
- We are continuing to look at other ways in which we can enhance our current approach and access to testing, as set out in our published Testing Strategy.

Testing is not being provided to students on arrival because other effective mitigations are in place to reduce the risk of transmission.

- Testing has an important part to play in our response to COVID-19, but it cannot provide reassurance that a person will not go on to become infectious.
- COVID-19 has a 14 day incubation period – if a person tests negative before the end of the incubation period, they could still go on to develop the disease and infect others.
- That is why staff and students from countries currently on our quarantine list are required by law to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Scotland.
- That is why students who have been identified as a close contact prior to travelling to university or college must complete their isolation period before arriving at their institution – and must have the support of their institution if this means they miss activities at the start of time.
- And that is why it is also vital that universities and colleges support all their students to know what symptoms to look out for, to self-isolate immediately along with their household and arrange a test.
- Students will get support from their college, university or accommodation provider on arrival, and throughout quarantine/ self-isolation. Examples of the support on offer include welcome packages, welfare calls and help organising grocery deliveries.

[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]

ANNEX A

[redacted – out of scope]

ANNEX B

[redacted – out of scope]

Email 22

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 14:33
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Test and Protect FM Brief <testandprotectFMbrief@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Testing FMQ - deadline 3.30pm

Hi [redacted],

Thanks. I've suggested some lines below on students/testing you may wish to add. They're a paired down version of the lines we currently have in our own FMQ.

[redacted]

We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live

- The new walk-through testing centre in St Andrews is providing a new way for people to access testing. A further unit has opened in Glasgow.
- Further walk-through testing centres will be established across the country between now and October.
- One of the priorities for these centres are locations where there are student populations.

Testing is not being provided to students on arrival because other effective mitigations are in place to reduce the risk of transmission

- Testing has an important part to play in our response to COVID-19, but it cannot provide reassurance that a person will not go on to become infectious.
- COVID-19 has a 14 day incubation period – if a person tests negative before the end of the incubation period, they could still go on to develop the disease and infect others.
- Students must prepare for the possibility that they, or a housemate, will develop symptoms, and will need to isolate.

- All of us must be ready to self-isolate for 14 days every time we are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 12:23
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: Test and Protect FM Brief <testandprotectFMbrief@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Testing FMQ - deadline 3.30pm
Importance: High

Dear all,

Please see the request below for additional information for the testing FMQ based on press coverage over the weekend. Note the press lines are in the email below and also copied into the word document attached.

Greens' call for mass testing, and Katy has requested stronger lines. Lines from last week are below:

"We welcome this additional investment in testing and we will work with the UK to ensure Scotland fully benefits from this programme as we expand testing capacity and develop new testing technologies to support our Testing Strategy.

"Just last month NHS Scotland agreed a £6.76 million deal with life sciences company LumiraDX, which has research and manufacturing facilities in Scotland, to purchase new machines capable of turning around coronavirus (COVID-19) tests in 12 minutes.

"Our Testing Strategy sets out the role of testing in our response to COVID-19, which will continue to evolve in line with the different stages of the pandemic and as the scientific and clinical understanding of the virus develops."

[redacted], additional information on rapid testing kit – details below

When were these bought? Could we also get the addition of a more general line i.e. what is our ultimate aim for these machines? How will they help us to suppress the virus?

[redacted], if there is any specifics we should add to cover university students and staff from your side.

[redacted], any lines on capacity and building Scotland's own capacity that I might not have come across yet. The issues of incompatibility with the UKG tests is referred to again in coverage.

Grateful for responses by 15:00 to meet deadline of 15:30.

Thanks
[redacted]

[redacted] Covid Testing and Contact Tracing
Performance and Delivery Division
Scottish Government

Mobile: [redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 29 September 2020 11:40

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Covid Testing and Contact Tracing Performance and Delivery Division <Covid19TestingOperationalPolicy@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: Testing FMQ - deadline 3.30pm

[redacted]

Thanks for your work on the Testing FMQ I've added a few comments in the attached. There are also a number of updates needed to account for recent press from the weekend (see below). If you're struggling to access any of the articles, let me know and I can send on.

On the **Greens' call for mass testing** I've attached an email train on the same theme from last week for information. However, these lines aren't sufficient to be dropped in here – we need to have clear lines on our approach to mass testing, not just on the UKG programme, including on each point of the Green's proposal – increased access for HE/FE, targeted weekly testing etc. Grateful if you can work with colleagues to ensure we have robust lines on this issue.

The second email train attached is referred to in the comments in the document.

I'd appreciate a revised version for 3.30pm today but if that is going to be a stretch then let me know. Please also confirm this has been picked up.

Thanks,

[redacted]

- The Times (Scotland) 8 **Swinney backs limited testing despite the number of cases soaring** John Swinney has claimed that the government's testing strategy is "a robust way to keep coronavirus under control" even as cases run out of control in Scotland. The deputy first minister said that there was "adequate" capacity to fulfil the existing strategy of only testing people with symptoms despite the failure to stop what Scottish ministers are now describing as a "second wave". (Monday);
- Daily Express (Scotland) 7 **Greens call for 100,000 Covid tests every day** THE Scottish Greens have pushed for mass Covid-19 testing of up to 100,000 people every day. In a letter to the First Minister, the party's health

spokeswoman Alison Johnstone has called for an expansion to include increased weekly testing for NHS staff and carers, increased access for university students and staff, and "targeted weekly testing" for teachers. Ms Johnstone also pushed for "frontline workers" - including bar staff – to (Saturday);

- Daily Mail (Scotland) 9 **Slump in virus testing as spread of infection soars** THE number of people being tested for Covid-19 in Scotland has plummeted since the start of the month, despite concerns about the rapid spread of the virus. Fears have been voiced that failings on screening earlier in the pandemic are being repeated amid the prospect of a second wave over autumn and winter. (Friday) ;
- The Sun (Scotland) 6 **NHS labs' tests woe** By JOHN JEFFAY NHS labs can't help clear a backlog of Covid-19 samples at private sites — as they use different test tubes. Allan Wilson, president of the Institute of Biomedical Science, said the system in the Lighthouse lab at Glasgow's Queen Elizabeth University Hospital was incompatible. He has now called for NHS Scotland to take charge of the site to ease pressure and tackle the pile-up. (Monday)

[redacted]

First Minister's Covid Briefing Unit
Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
Mob: [redacted]

Email 23

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 16:54
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Linda and roddy are on call tonight for FMQs

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 16:43
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Thanks – going with this version for the pack.

Can I double check who is out of hours cover tonight and have a best contact number in the event I have follow-ups?

Thank you for your efforts on this today.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 16:41

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr

<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Hi, yes, this is covered.

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M[redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 16:41

To: [redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of

Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr

<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

[redacted] have u looked at statement to see if anything be tweaked, please can you connect in with [redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 16:39

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning

and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda)

Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Hi [redacted],

Revised version attached.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 16:38

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

We're getting tight for time – can I have a revise next 10 mins max please

[redacted]

From: [redacted][redacted]
Sent: 30 September 2020 15:30
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Thanks again – some updates across the brief (testing, Christmas, outbreaks) to reflect the statement.

Grateful for a final revise filling in remaining blanks by 16:30 latest please – as we will be seeing FM shortly after that.

Thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 15:23
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]gov.scot>; [redacted]gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Hi [redacted],

Thanks and noted. I've attached a copy of the statement.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 15:16
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

[redacted],

From looking at coverage of the statement so far we'll need relevant updates to the numbers and also lines on surveillance testing. Ahead of that are you able to send me a copy of Mr Lochhead's statement?

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 30 September 2020 15:04
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

[redacted],

Thanks for this – more changes as attached and now formatted throughout.

We're still missing a background box on finance and then any follow-through from the statement.

Could we get a final revise for 16:00 which includes these please?

Thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 14:48
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

[redacted],

FMQ attached.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 14:38
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Ok thanks – be good to see a version asap

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 14:23
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

[redacted]

I havent seen a final version as yet – but I am sure the team once they have finished doing that can look at the FMQ

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 14:20
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Ok – thanks. I'll feedback further on the version you send and we can then consider anything further following the statement – though presumably you can include details of that and what is being said in this version – just not any follow through?

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 14:17
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Hi

We should have a version with you in the next 15mins.

We are still working on getting SAGE advice lines cleared so they will need to be included later.

Part of this issue is the Minister is making a statement currently and things remain fluid – so we will need to reflect further on this if there are things falling out of the statement/media that we need to update.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 13:57
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30

Can I check this is on the way please?

From: [redacted]
Sent: 30 September 2020 11:20
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 13:30
Importance: High

[redacted],

Thanks for this – I have re-ordered this and got rid of a lot of duplicated lines etc.

As you suggest this still needs further work. In particular we are missing material on:

- Richard Leonard's referral on human rights grounds
- International comparisons
- Material on the point at which students signed lease agreements
- Position on students going home for Christmas

You will also see that I have tracked in some more specific comments as attached.

Can the next version be returned for 13:30 please?

Thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science
Sent: 30 September 2020 10:59
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 10:30

[redacted]

Most the points raised yesterday and some of this now captured in the FMQ. [redacted] and I will continue to review and can send another version in a couple of hours – meantime feel free to offer comment.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 08:24
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 10:30

Thanks [redacted] – my take on the press below:

[redacted – out of scope]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science
Sent: 30 September 2020 07:36
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 10:30

[redacted]

The press trawl would be helpful – and as published yesterday we have some useful international commentary.

I will focus on reworking this a little this morning

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 07:32

To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted] @gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 10:30

Thanks for this. On a first read it is heading in the right direction, but as you suggest there is work still to do, including on the addition of the material to cover Richard Leonard's points and the international examples.

Can I ask for another version which gets as close as possible to covering all the points by 10:30 tomorrow after which I will give more specific detailed feedback on the text?

I'll also do a press trawl first thing, so will feedback any additional material at that point too.

Many thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 17:25

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 17:00

[redacted]

So what we have done is chunked one FMQ into 3 sections

1. FE/HE – thing like guidance and compliance
2. Outbreak Management
3. Student

As much as possible we have picked up on all the points you have raised but I think there is more to go in the issues boxes – but running out of time.

Anywhere here you go – and if you give me feedback I can get on to it again in the morning.

[redacted] FE/HE and Students FMQ 29 sept (A30207168)

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 17:14
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 17:00

Just a quick note to see how this is going. I can look at a version later this evening if it is still possible to get one tonight?

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 29 September 2020 12:07
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 17:00

Thanks – After speaking with colleagues could I also ask for a couple more issues to be covered in the FMQ?

- Richard Leonard's position around this contravening human rights
- International examples – I can't identify a place where universities have not gone back, but many have issues, for example the recent coverage of the Sorbonne. Can we develop some lines showing how we learnt from this (i.e. in Sorbonne example we have stipulated no crowded lecture theatres...)

From: [redacted]
Sent: 29 September 2020 11:36
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr
<Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 17:00

Thanks – I think some of those wider issues are slightly less relevant in the current context, so I am not necessarily suggesting a fresh FMQ, but editing carefully the wider material in the existing draft to focus it onto the issues we think are likely to come-up this week. For my money these would be the ones I highlighted, but you / colleagues will have better sight of detail, so there may be things you think also worthwhile to retain?

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science
Sent: 29 September 2020 11:32
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 17:00

[redacted]

Can I just check – should we do a ‘fresh’ FMQ specifically focussed on these issues – and exclude the other info which would normally be covered in the FMQ such as Finance?

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 11:27
To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Subject: HE/FE FMQ - Updates Requested - Deadline 17:00
Importance: High

BMU,

Thank you for your work on the HE/FE FMQ this week. As I am sure you can imagine I have several pages of press updates from the week so far which I could send you. However, I am not sure that would add any value. Instead in trying to shape the FMQ for this week I am going to set out below the key issues which I think we need to cover. I am also aware both that this is a moving picture and also that you are fielding multiple requests, so will suggest that we try and get to a position where we have a draft FMQ in place for the end of today and then we can look to re-iterate it tomorrow.

Key issues for me would be:

- Material on the Times story and our position re: guidance (see separate thread from this morning)
- Position on students going home – including at Christmas and any follow through from Gavin Williamson statement today
- Support for isolating students – including the UofE story from today and more general material on how students are being supported
- Details of most high-profile outbreaks (Glasgow / Edinburgh?) and what actions we have taken
- Financial support for universities – what have we given to support them and what funding can they draw on for themselves

I think some top lines and then individual sections on each of the above may make the brief more useable?

I'm happy to speak about how best to handle this and to support the development of briefing where we can usefully do this.

Many thanks

[redacted]

Attachment of Email 23

Testing

ISSUE 30 Sept: Scottish Green press release – Scottish universities left behind on routine testing – Mark Ruskell says SG reluctance to expand asymptomatic testing 'defies logic' Cites some universities in England using their own lab capacity to conduct asymptomatic testing.

ISSUE 23 Sept: Monica Lennon calls for 'mass testing system,' including bringing mobile testing units to colleges, universities and student accommodation.

We will use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced

- It is vital that anyone with symptoms, including students and people working in universities and colleges, self-isolate along with their whole household and arrange a test.
- Students must prepare for the possibility that they, or a housemate, will develop symptoms, and will need to isolate.
- All of us must be ready to self-isolate for 14 days every time we are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case.
- We remain mindful of clinical advice about the limitations of asymptomatic testing and the need to prioritise our testing capacity, in line with the Testing Strategy.
- However, we are exploring the merits of some targeted surveillance testing focused on individual institutions to understand the level of asymptomatic cases.

We are continuing to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities where they live

- We are initially prioritising sites to support universities and sites in St Andrews, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Edinburgh have started testing.
- A site in Glasgow West is scheduled to open this week (2 October) and a site in Stirling is scheduled to be built on Monday (5 October) and go live by the end of week.
- Sites in Inverness, Dundee, Edinburgh West, Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire are also scheduled to be set up in October.
- We are closely engaged with universities, in partnership with Health Boards and Local Authorities, in the delivery of these local test sites.
- We have also deployed mobile testing units to Dundee and Glasgow to support the response to outbreaks in these locations.

Testing is not being provided to students on arrival because other effective mitigations are in place to reduce the risk of transmission

- Testing has an important part to play in our response to COVID-19, but it cannot provide reassurance that a person will not go on to become infectious.
- COVID-19 has a 14 day incubation period – if a person tests negative before the end of the incubation period, they could still go on to develop the disease and infect others.
- That is why staff and students from countries currently on our quarantine list are required by law to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Scotland.
- That is why students who have been identified as a close contact prior to travelling to university or college must complete their isolation period before arriving at their institution – and must have the support of their institution if this means they miss activities at the start of time.
- And that is why it is also vital that universities and colleges support all their students to know what symptoms to look out for, to self-isolate immediately along with their household and arrange a test.
- Students will get support from their college, university or accommodation provider on arrival, and throughout quarantine/ self-isolation. Examples of the support on offer include welcome packages, welfare calls and help organising grocery deliveries.

Email 24

From: [redacted]

Sent: 30 September 2020 15:21

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: Final Version - Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

Can you amend the infection figure to 759?

[redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M[redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]
Sent: 30 September 2020 14:28
To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Final Version - Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"
Importance: High

[redacted] with apologies – I have identified a typo with one of the figures.

The number of students testing positive should read **759** (not 760 as it currently reads).

Can you please ensure the Minister uses the correct figure in his statement?

[redacted]
From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 30 September 2020 13:51
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>
Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: Final Version - Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

Final version attached which has been sent to opposition parties (standard one hour before delivery).

Thanks to everyone with this.

[redacted] Private Secretary to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 13:32
To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>
Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley
L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global
pandemic"

Hi [redacted],

Updated version attached which includes the fact-checked figures, including some
additional percentages in relation to infection levels.

I've signalled this in brackets, in case the Minister would prefer to remove for brevity.

Please also note that I've updated the par on working with students associations as
we cannot at this stage confirm additional resources.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M: 0[redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher
Education and Science

Sent: 30 September 2020 13:12

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19
<DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and
Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R
(Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive
<saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global
pandemic"

Importance: High

[redacted],

Revised version with changes from Mr Lochhead attached.

[redacted] – Mr Lochhead appreciated your email following your earlier call. He has tried to summarise and made the following insert into the statement – grateful if you could confirm this is ok or amend so [redacted] can finalise this doc ?

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted] [redacted] to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 30 September 2020 11:25

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley

L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: “Supporting students through the global pandemic”

Importance: High

[redacted],

Apologies – please replace this version for DFM’s consideration.

[redacted][redacted] to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead

Mr Lochhead’s preferences can be found here - Ministerial Preferences

□: [redacted] Mobile: [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 30 September 2020 10:03
To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"
Importance: High

[redacted],

Please replace DFM's statement with the attached revised version so he can consider after his committee appearance around 12 noon.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead**

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Sent: 30 September 2020 08:17
To: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"
Importance: High

[redacted],

Mr Lochhead has sent the attached version for DFM'd clearance please asap.

Mr Lochhead still has to cut number of words etc and polish which can be done later this morning.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead**

□: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 29 September 2020 23:05

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley

L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

[redacted],

With apologies for the lateness, please find attached a revised version that includes Mr Lochhead's comments and the headline actions woven in (this is subject to the caveat that FM clearance is still pending).

It's still running a wee bit over time but I've resisted taking anything else out until the Minister has had a chance to review and feed back.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M: [redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 20:54

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

Importance: High

Just to reiterate, Mr Lochhead would appreciate a revised, polished draft with actions built in and his earlier comments taken on board regarding proposed changes.

The Minister will then look at it tonight with a view of then sending to the DFM for clearance thereafter.

Thanks again,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead**

[redacted] | Mobile: [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 20:22

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

[redacted]@gov.scot[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"
Importance: High

Hi,

In addition to my earlier email below (20:01), Mr Lochhead has also sent the following comments regarding the draft statement (attached again for ease):

Changes needed:

[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope].

The paras on testing does not explain the rationale of our testing regime and that needs to be clearly explained and punchy. But of course say we are seeking further advice on role of testing in current situation

[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]
[redacted – out of scope]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 20:01

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

[redacted],

Mr Lochhead has said this is a good start but needs a bit of work. Are the actions from the plans being inserted tonight so he can look at a further draft?

[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead**

Mr Lochhead's preferences can be found here - Ministerial Preferences

[redacted] Mobile [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 29 September 2020 18:33

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley

L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

[redacted],

Please find attached a draft statement for the Minister's consideration.

It's currently running a little over time and I've signalled one section that can come out for brevity. I can slim down further based on Ministerial feedback – and also add in action plan content once Ministers have considered.

The figures will also be updated tomorrow.

I'll be offline for a bit tonight but please call my mobile with anything urgent.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M: [redacted] Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 18:01

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley
L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: “Supporting students through the global
pandemic”

Hi,

On briefing, Mr Lochhead has said it would be good to have stats regarding number
of Scots students tested so far as he can see this is raised in coverage down south.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and
Science – Richard Lochhead**

□: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted] | St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1
3DG

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recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.
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** Minister for Further Education, Higher
Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 17:07

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and
Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R
(Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive
<saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Subject: Ministerial Statement: “Supporting students through the global pandemic”

Hi,

I have managed to get an extension so that the “near as final version” must be with
FM's by early tomorrow morning.

Sorry, but that means we need to have a cleared version by Mr Lochhead and then
DFM beforehand.

So, grateful for draft as soon as possible (which I know you are doing already with
competing pressures – so thanks for your help).

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted] to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead

Mr Lochhead's preferences can be found here - Ministerial Preferences

□: [redacted] Mobile: [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 11:48

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley
L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: meeting 14:45 Pre-brief with officials ahead of Ministerial Statement:
"Supporting students through the global pandemic"

Hi [redacted],

Linda Pooley is covering the meeting, please use the below teleconference details.

Ministerial and DMT- card number 1

[redacted]

Let me know if you require any further information.

Kind Regards,

[redacted] Directorate of Advance Learning and Science Directorate
The Scottish Government, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU
Email: [redacted]@gov.scot

Check out the new Scottish Government resource
<https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/>. Everything you need to know about
student finance, including help for parents, carers and education professionals.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher
Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 11:32

To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>
Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: meeting 14:45 Pre-brief with officials ahead of Ministerial Statement:
“Supporting students through the global pandemic”

[redacted] / [redacted],

Can you confirm dial-in codes and who will be attending for this meeting to discuss the draft statement ?

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead**

□: [redacted] Mobile[redacted]St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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-----Original Appointment-----

From: [redacted] **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 25 September 2020 18:34

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science; 'Lochhead R (Richard), MSP'; Director of Advanced Learning and Science; SAAS Chief Executive; Macdonald R (Roddy); Pooley L (Linda) Dr; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: 14:45 Pre-brief with officials ahead of Ministerial Statement: “Supporting students through the global pandemic”

When: 29 September 2020 14:45-15:15 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London.

Where: Dial-in details TBC by officials

Pre-brief to discuss draft statement (initial draft due 12noon Tuesday) and briefing requirements for the Minister.

Please forward on to relevant officials.

Grateful for confirmation of teleconference details.
Thanks,
[redacted]25/9

Attachment of email 24

Introduction

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

Current position - outbreaks

While we have no evidence to date of transmission with an FE or HE teaching setting, we do have outbreaks amongst our student population, with significant clusters in university student accommodation.

From the approximately 250,000 students who attend our universities around 45,000 of them usually stay in student halls, with around 43% being first year undergraduate students.

From data received from public health as of today we are in the unfortunate position that around 760 of these have tested positive for Covid.

We are using testing, in line with our published Testing Strategy, to ensure it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 can be identified, be asked to self-isolate, and their close contacts traced.

Test and Protect was ready for the new academic year and is working.

But we are always working to improve access to testing for students and the wider communities.

Kits have been provided and mobile test units dispatched in Glasgow and Dundee.

There are now walk through test centres in St Andrews, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Edinburgh, with further centres in Stirling and Glasgow opening in the next week and more sites under active development.

We remain mindful of clinical advice about the limitations of asymptomatic testing and the need to prioritise our testing capacity, in line with the Testing Strategy. However, we are exploring the merits of some targeted surveillance testing focused on individual institutions to understand the level of asymptomatic cases.

And to be clear, due to the incubation period of this virus and the testing that is taking place, we expect to see more positive cases in the coming days.

That is why everyone with symptoms should self-isolate, along with their household.

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

END

Email 25

From: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 10:02

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh)

<Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive

<saasce@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

[redacted]

I am just collating a few comments on the statement from colleagues in testing and will send over as soon as I can.

Thanks,

John

John Nicholson

Deputy Director

Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division

COVID Public Health Directorate

Scottish Government

Tel: [redacted]

Mob: [redacted]

E-mail: john.nicholson@gov.scot

I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FLEXIBLY FROM HOME – PLEASE CALL MY MOBILE IF IMMEDIATE

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 09:59

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N

(Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive
<saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap
and by 10am WED, please

That's fantastic, thanks [redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M: [redacted] Please note my
working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 09:57
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot> [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N
(Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;
[redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive
<saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap
and by 10am WED, please

Hi [redacted]

The number of people tested through the Local Test Sites that are based close to
Universities across Scotland is 6,723 – it should be noted that these sites are not
exclusively for Students but can also be accessed by members of the local
community. See table below for breakdown.

Site Name	Number of kits registered
LTS - Glasgow - Arc Centre	2847
LTS - Fife - St Hall	2505
Edinburgh Usher Hall - Walk through site	840
LTS - Aberdeen - TBD TBD	528
Riverside Car Park - Walk through site	*

We have also deployed Mobile Testing Units to University's in Glasgow and Dundee,
we are still awaiting details of numbers that have gone through the Dundee Unit but
suspect this is around 410. The two units combined in Glasgow have processed a
total of 602 – 424 in Morano Street and 178 at Cairncross and Queen Margaret.

In summary, based on the numbers of tests carried out through these routes we can
estimate that circa 7,735 students have been tested. This is against the caveat that

non students can access local test sites and that students can also access testing via home kits and RTC's therefore the overall number could be higher.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 08:52
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Thanks, all.

I've also attached an updated draft of the Minister's statement, which has been revised in line with his feedback – the text on testing has changed, so another urgent sense check would be appreciated.

It's currently with DFM and will go to FM shortly.

[redacted], just as soon as you can let me know this morning about the testing stats would be helpful, as we'll be looking to finalise the briefing around lunchtime.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M[redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 08:47
To: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Hi John

I am not sure we can provide this with any level of intelligence. We could provide the number of people that have gone through the LTS route as a proxy but there will be

students that have used alternative routes also. I will confirm this though with my colleagues in NSS.

[redacted]

From: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 08:42
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Christine/[redacted]/[redacted]

Please see below – is it possible to provide a figure for the numbers of students that have been tested in Scotland – noting the deadline of 10am today?

Thanks,

John

John Nicholson
Deputy Director
Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government

Tel: [redacted]
Mob: [redacted]
E-mail: john.nicholson@gov.scot

I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FLEXIBLY FROM HOME – PLEASE CALL MY MOBILE IF IMMEDIATE

□ Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 29 September 2020 18:44
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please
Importance: High

Dear all,

You may be aware that Mr Lochhead is giving a statement to Parliament on Wednesday afternoon.

Grateful for a quick fact-check of the attached draft.

Also, you will see from the email trail below that the Minister has asked for some stats on the number of students who have been tested – do we have this, please?

A quick response would be appreciated, and by no later than **10am Wed if possible**.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M: [redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]

Sent: 29 September 2020 18:33

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley
L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

[redacted],

Please find attached a draft statement for the Minister's consideration.

It's currently running a little over time and I've signalled one section that can come out for brevity. I can slim down further based on Ministerial feedback – and also add in action plan content once Ministers have considered.

The figures will also be updated tomorrow.

I'll be offline for a bit tonight but please call my mobile with anything urgent.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted] | College Policy | Scottish Government | M[redacted]

Please note my working pattern is Mon - Thurs. Friday is my non-working day.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 18:01

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science
<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)
<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley
L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

Hi,

On briefing, Mr Lochhead has said it would be good to have stats regarding number of Scots students tested so far as he can see this is raised in coverage down south.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead**

□: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted] | St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments. 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** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 17:07

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and
Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R
(Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive

<saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>
Subject: Ministerial Statement: “Supporting students through the global pandemic”

Hi,

I have managed to get an extension so that the “near as final version” must be with FM’s by early tomorrow morning.

Sorry, but that means we need to have a cleared version by Mr Lochhead and then DFM beforehand.

So, grateful for draft as soon as possible (which I know you are doing already with competing pressures – so thanks for your help).

[redacted]
[redacted][redacted]to **Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science – Richard Lochhead**

Mr Lochhead’s preferences can be found here - Ministerial Preferences

□: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Director of Advanced Learning and Science
Sent: 29 September 2020 11:48
To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science <MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>; Director of Advanced Learning and Science <DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; Pooley L (Linda) Dr <Linda.Pooley@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: meeting 14:45 Pre-brief with officials ahead of Ministerial Statement: “Supporting students through the global pandemic”

Hi [redacted],

Linda Pooley is covering the meeting, please use the below teleconference details.

Ministerial and DMT- card number 1

[redacted]

Let me know if you require any further information.

Kind Regards,

[redacted] Directorate of Advance Learning and Science Directorate
The Scottish Government, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU
Email: [redacted]@gov.scot

Check out the new Scottish Government resource
<https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/>. Everything you need to know about
student finance, including help for parents, carers and education professionals.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher
Education and Science

Sent: 29 September 2020 11:32

To: Director of Advanced Learning and Science

<DirectorofAdvancedLearningandScience@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)

<Roddy.Macdonald@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>

Cc: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science

<MinisterFEHES@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: meeting 14:45 Pre-brief with officials ahead of Ministerial Statement:
"Supporting students through the global pandemic"

[redacted] / [redacted],

Can you confirm dial-in codes and who will be attending for this meeting to discuss
the draft statement ?

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted][redacted]to Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and
Science – Richard Lochhead

□: [redacted] Mobile: [redacted] St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1
3DG

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on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a
Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the
recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.
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terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

-----Original Appointment-----

From: [redacted] **On Behalf Of** Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and
Science

Sent: 25 September 2020 18:34

To: Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science; 'Lochhead R (Richard), MSP'; Director of Advanced Learning and Science; SAAS Chief Executive; Macdonald R (Roddy); Pooley L (Linda) Dr; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: 14:45 Pre-brief with officials ahead of Ministerial Statement: "Supporting students through the global pandemic"

When: 29 September 2020 14:45-15:15 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London.

Where: Dial-in details TBC by officials

Pre-brief to discuss draft statement (initial draft due 12noon Tuesday) and briefing requirements for the Minister.

Please forward on to relevant officials.

Grateful for confirmation of teleconference details.

Thanks,

[redacted]

25/9

Email 26

Part of email 25

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 09:12

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot> [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N

(Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>;

[redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

I suspect only PHS can run ECOSS reports but copying in [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] who might be able to help.

[redacted] [redacted], [redacted] – question is if we're able to run a report to get testing data by birth year and/or student hall postcodes ([redacted], not sure if we even have this readily available?)

[redacted]

[redacted] | Team Leader: Contact Tracing | Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division | COVID Public Health Directorate | DG: Health & Social Care | Scottish Government | t: [redacted] | m: [redacted] | email: [redacted]@gov.scot

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 09:06

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Thanks [redacted]

Would be need to get PHS to run the report or is there someone in Sg with access that we could ask?

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 September 2020 08:54

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

[redacted], John,

Not sure if this will be possible within the timescales but might it be an option to run a report in ECOSS based on birth year or student hall postcodes? It's by no means perfect but might give a slightly more nuanced picture than LTS and MTU testing alone. I know these are the means used by contact tracers to filter CMS to identify and prioritise students for contact tracing

[redacted]

[redacted] | Team Leader: Contact Tracing | Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division | COVID Public Health Directorate | DG: Health & Social Care | Scottish Government | t:[redacted] | m: [redacted] | email: [redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 08:47
To: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Hi John

I am not sure we can provide this with any level of intelligence. We could provide the number of people that have gone through the LTS route as a proxy but there will be students that have used alternative routes also. I will confirm this though with my colleagues in NSS.

[redacted]

Email 27
Part of email 25 chain

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 10:33
To: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Hi John

For Glasgow the cut-off date was 25 Sept – testing in these sites have been concluded.

[redacted]

From: Nicholson J (John) <John.Nicholson@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 10:07
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; O'Connor N (Niamh) <Niamh.O'Connor@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; McLaughlin C (Christine) <Christine.McLaughlin@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; SAAS Chief Executive <saasce@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Hi [redacted],

Thanks for this.

When was the cut off for the LTS data below - Glasgow number looks very low and presumably isn't the total number of people since it opened at the weekend?

Thanks,

John

John Nicholson

Deputy Director
Testing and Contact Tracing Policy Division
COVID Public Health Directorate
Scottish Government

Tel: [redacted]

Mob: [redacted]

E-mail: john.nicholson@gov.scot

I AM CURRENTLY WORKING FLEXIBLY FROM HOME – PLEASE CALL MY MOBILE IF IMMEDIATE

□ Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

Email 28

Part of email 25 chain

From: [redacted]

Sent: 30 September 2020 10:46

To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Thanks, [redacted].

[redacted – out scope]

Email 29

Part of email 25 and 27

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 10:47
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Thanks [redacted] – much appreciated.

[redacted]/[redacted] – to note that I have updated the speaking note in eRDM as per [redacted]'s email below. The relevant section now reads as follows:

From data received from public health as of 30 September we are in the unfortunate position that around 760 of these have tested positive for Covid.

You can let me know if any further changes are required. I have also updated the briefing pack accordingly. Both eRDM links below for ease:

Minister briefing 30 September - Supporting students through the global pandemic (A30220376)

Supporting students through the global pandemic - parliamentary statement FINAL (A30220107)

[redacted] – I have updated the briefing pack with the number of positive cases which will knock out the percentages previously used. Grateful if you can advise what the below highlights should now be.

- 759 students tested positive (0.2% of total; 1.3% of those in halls of residence)

Thanks

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 10:28
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap and by 10am WED, please

Thanks [redacted].

I'm updating the items [redacted] asked me to but wanted to let you know that I've dropped in the updated table from the Outbreak teams FMQ, which now shows the number of positive cases in students at 759. The numbers of those self-isolating hasn't changed but the figures are different to those shared by David R yesterday (which is where I got the approx. 3000 self-isolating figure from).

I seen some email traffic about which figures to use but not sure if that was resolved...

Sorry if that confuses things!

Thanks,
[redacted].

[redacted] Policy Adviser | College Policy Team
Colleges, Young Workforce & SFC Sponsorship Division | Advanced Learning &
Science Directorate
Scottish Government
□ [redacted]@gov.scot

Check out the new Scottish Government resource
<https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/>. Everything you need to know about
student finance, including help for parents, carers and education professionals.

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: 30 September 2020 10:19
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: VERY URGENT - MINISTERIAL STATEMENT/ BRIEFING - due asap
and by 10am WED, please

Hi All,

Please see eRDM link to the latest briefing pack – I have added in the local test
numbers provided below by [redacted].

Any further updates can be added here:
Minister briefing 30 September - Supporting students through the global pandemic
(A30220376)

Thanks
[redacted]
Attachment of Email 29

30 September

Students in accommodation: guidance on visits home, self isolation, returning home

Numbers

As of 30/09 the **HE/FE totals** were, out of an estimated total of 250,000 university students, of whom 45,000 students ordinarily reside in halls of residence and Purpose Built Student Accommodation (PBSA) (based on 2018-19 data; current occupancy rates are being sought):

- 759 students tested positive (0.3% of total; 1.7% of those in halls of residence)
- * staff tested positive

- Around 3,000 students self-isolating (incomplete figures)
- **** Students leaving accommodation (Figures not available yet)

Number of people tested through the Local Test Sites based close to universities

As of latest data at 30/09 the total number is 6,723 – it should be noted that these sites are not exclusively for students but can also be accessed by members of the local community. See table below for breakdown.

Site Name	Number of kits registered
LTS - Glasgow - Arc Centre	2847
LTS - Fife - St Hall	2505
Edinburgh Usher Hall - Walk through site	840
LTS - Aberdeen - TBD TBD	528
Riverside Car Park - Walk through site	*

Mobile Testing Units have been deployed at universities in Glasgow and Dundee:

- 485 people have gone through the Dundee Unit.
- The two units in Glasgow have processed a total of 602 – 424 in Morano Street and 178 at Cairncross and Queen Margaret.

In summary, based on the numbers of tests carried out through these routes we can estimate that **circa 7,810 students have been tested**. This is against the caveat that non-students can access local test sites and that students can also access testing via home kits and RTC's therefore the overall number could be higher.

[redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]
 [redacted – out of scope]

Should there have been testing on arrival?

- We need to use testing where it will have the greatest impact in reducing the risk of disease transmission – by testing those with symptoms so that those with COVID-19 continue to isolate and their close contacts are traced.

- Testing of asymptomatic close contacts may be deployed in outbreaks where the local Incident Management Team determines this to be proportionate in light of scale and risks.

How do students access a test?

- Students needing a test should book one online on NHS Inform or by calling 0800 028 2816. If they require support to book a test they can contact 0300 303 2713. We are also setting up local testing sites which can be accessed without a car across the country. The focus of the initial locations is areas with large student populations:

Site no.	Area	Proposed date of implementation and status
1	St Andrews	Opened 28 Aug
2	Glasgow	Opened 18 Sept
3	Aberdeen	Opened 24 Sept
4	Edinburgh	Opened 25 Sept
7	Stirling	Opens Mon 5 October
8	Glasgow West End	Opens 2 October
5	Dundee	ASAP - new sites needed
6	Highland - Inverness	ASAP - new sites needed
9	Inverclyde/ Port Glasgow	Oct – indoor sites being assessed
10	Edinburgh West	Oct – new sites needed
11	Vale of Leven in West Dunbartonshire	Oct – indoor sites being assessed

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted – out of scope]

TIMELINE

[redacted – out of scope]