

From: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>
Sent: 31 March 2020 10:41
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: GPSMIG - possible borders paper
Importance: High

Just in 23 pages long but looks like a more targeted approach than previously suggested.

Grateful for a quick read through and thoughts. Our previous deadline has been 11 but we may need a little longer.

[REDACTED] could you touch base with the transport hub people to see if they want to contribute. Also we may need to pick up our conversation once we have this briefing away

R

Rachel Sunderland

Population and Migration Division | Directorate for External Affairs | 2H South | Victoria Quay | EH66QQ

Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot | 0131 2440155 | [Redacted]

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From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Sent: 31 March 2020 10:32
To: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>
Cc: Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley) <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: GPSMIG - possible borders paper
Importance: High

Rachel

Paper now in.

I have your top lines and background put up on Friday.

However, further top line type material welcome on the back of what's just received .

I'll also send to SCJD hub and transport hub for awareness.

Many thanks.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 31 March 2020 10:23

To: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>

Cc: Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley) <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [Redacted] [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: GPSMIG - possible borders paper

Rachel

To see, agenda for today's GPSMIG.

Looks as though the 'borders' item the only substantive item (no sign of paper yet).

[REDACTED]

From: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>

Sent: 30 March 2020 17:02

To: [REDACTED]TS Covid-19 Mailbox <TSCovid-19Mailbox@transport.gov.scot>

Cc: Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@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: GPSMIG - possible borders paper

[REDACTED]

I still think this is for Mr Macpherson or Ms Forbes

- [REDACTED] - justice
- [REDACTED] **will be of interested to health colleagues**
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- **this looks to me to be the agenda item that the paper which was circulated was referring to – notably the reference to policy options to restrict transit across the border. This is an important policy issue and one for Ms Forbes/Mr Macpherson in the first instance**
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] **this is about the practical impacts of the policy discussion re the border so potential to reallocate staff and reasonable worst case and mitigations**
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]

It would be helpful to see papers as soon as possible but at the moment for our policy interests the key issue still appears to be whether you close the border (previous briefing applies) and if so what the operational impacts of such a decision would be. Key issue still seems to be whether you close/partially close the border

R

Rachel Sunderland

Population and Migration Division | Directorate for External Affairs | 2H South | Victoria Quay | EH66QQ
[erland@gov.scot](mailto:rachel.sunderland@gov.scot) | 0131 2440155 | [REDACTED] Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot

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From: [Redacted]

Sent: 30 March 2020 16:49

To: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Cc: Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley) <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: GPSMIG - possible borders paper

Importance: High

Rachel/TS colleagues

(Please extend to others as necessary – noting the nature of this discussion now looks significantly different – and more of an operational nature - from that anticipated last week)

Many thanks for providing briefing to Ms Forbes and Mr Macpherson last week.

Cabinet Office have now confirmed a 'borders planning and resilience' item for tomorrow's GPSMIG (as well as a prisons update).

Mr Yousaf is attending for the latter – we have contacted Ms Forbes and Mr Macpherson re the former (though, on your advice, you may consider that the nature of the discussion is more suited to Mr Matheson attending for this item).

I attach the Cabinet Office email which sets out the commission which went out re the Borders planning item. It is not immediately clear how closely – or not - this relates to the paper circulated (then pulled) last week. However, it does indicate those issues likely to form the basis of discussion.

As such, briefing needs to allow the Minister attending to address the specific issues raised in the commission in order for Scottish perspectives to be taken in to account. **We would request briefing by 11.00am.**

We'll forward on agenda, paper(s), zoom dial in details etc once received.

Happy to discuss – and for others to be brought into this chain. I'd also request confirmation from TS covid hub colleagues that this has been picked up and actioned for TS interests (and advice on Minister best placed to speak to this item).

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>

Sent: 27 March 2020 17:59

To: Cabinet Secretary for Finance <CabSecFinance@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance and Migration <MinisterPFM@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, Europe and External Affairs <CabSecCEAEA@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott)

<Scott.Wightman@gov.scot[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley)

<Shirley.Rogers@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: GPSMIG - possible borders paper

Cabinet Secretary for Finance
Minister for Public Finance and Migration

Copy as above

The Home Office have drafted a paper setting out options for the imposition of additional restrictions on entry to the UK as a response to COVID19. The paper is due to be discussed at a meeting of the General Public Sector Ministerial Implementation Group next week. It is possible that updated information will be provided in advance of that discussion and if so we will update any advice in advance of the meeting. I understand that the Cabinet Secretary is likely to attend the discussion.

A number of countries in Europe and beyond have introduced restrictions on entry and therefore it is understandable that the UK Government would be looking to explore options in relation to the UK border. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

If the issue is discussed at the meeting on Tuesday we would therefore suggest the follow lines:

- Concerned that any response should be proportionate and that resources need to be directed at those areas which are likely to have the greatest impact on the spread of COVID 19 in the UK;
- Note the latest advice from SAGE and the Chief Medical Officer at set out in the paper that action at the UK Border would have a negligible impact on spread;
- Seeking therefore to understand the evidence base for any action and assessment which has been taken of potential impact on efforts to return UK citizens from overseas; and
- Given the importance of such a decision and its long term reputational and economic impact such a serious step should be fully considered at Cobra prior to any decision

I am happy to discuss.

Rachel Sunderland

Rachel Sunderland

Population and Migration Division | Directorate for External Affairs | 2H South | Victoria Quay | EH66QQ
erland@gov.scot | 0131 2440155 | [REDACTED] [Rachel.Sund](#)

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From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Sent: 27 March 2020 17:16

To: Cabinet Secretary for Finance <CabSecFinance@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance and Migration <MinisterPFM@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, Europe and External Affairs <CabSecCEAEA@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] gov.scot[REDACTED]ov.scot>

Subject: GPSMIG - possible borders paper

Apologies

Bringing in Mr Russell's office and [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 March 2020 17:03

To: Cabinet Secretary for Finance <CabSecFinance@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance and Migration <MinisterPFM@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot[REDACTED]

@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley) <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

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

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

Subject: GPSMIG - possible borders paper

[REDACTED]

Ms Forbes and Mr Macpherson will wish to be aware of a paper received for – but subsequently not tabled at – a meeting of the General Public Sector Ministerial Implementation Group.

While we have as yet to receive official notification, we understand that this subject will now be discussed at a meeting of the Group next week (probably Tuesday).

This email is therefore to alert you to this (key officials are also included).

We will keep you informed of arrangements for the anticipated meeting (the Group currently meeting on a daily basis) but would at this stage ask that the paper be handled with sensitivity.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Organisational Readiness (Covid-19 response)

WFH, please email/IM

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GOVERNMENT**

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18. [REDACTED]
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OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

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26. [REDACTED]

27. [REDACTED]

Annex A: Excerpt from SAGE Minutes 23/03/2020

Eighteenth SAGE meeting on Covid-19, 23rd March 2020

Held in 10 Victoria Street

UK Borders

- 27. SAGE, on the advice of SPI-M, reconfirmed its previous advice that the effect of closing borders would have a negligible effect on spread.
- 28. Numbers of cases arriving from other countries are estimated to be insignificant in comparison with domestic cases, comprising approximately 0.5%. Compliance with protective measures by those entering the UK is unknown and should be explored.
- 29. SAGE noted that it is unlikely that current migration rates pose significant additional risk to border force workers.

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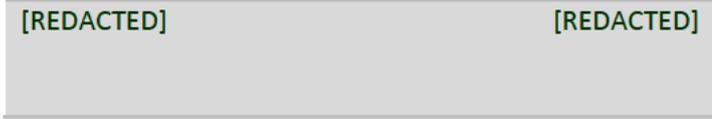
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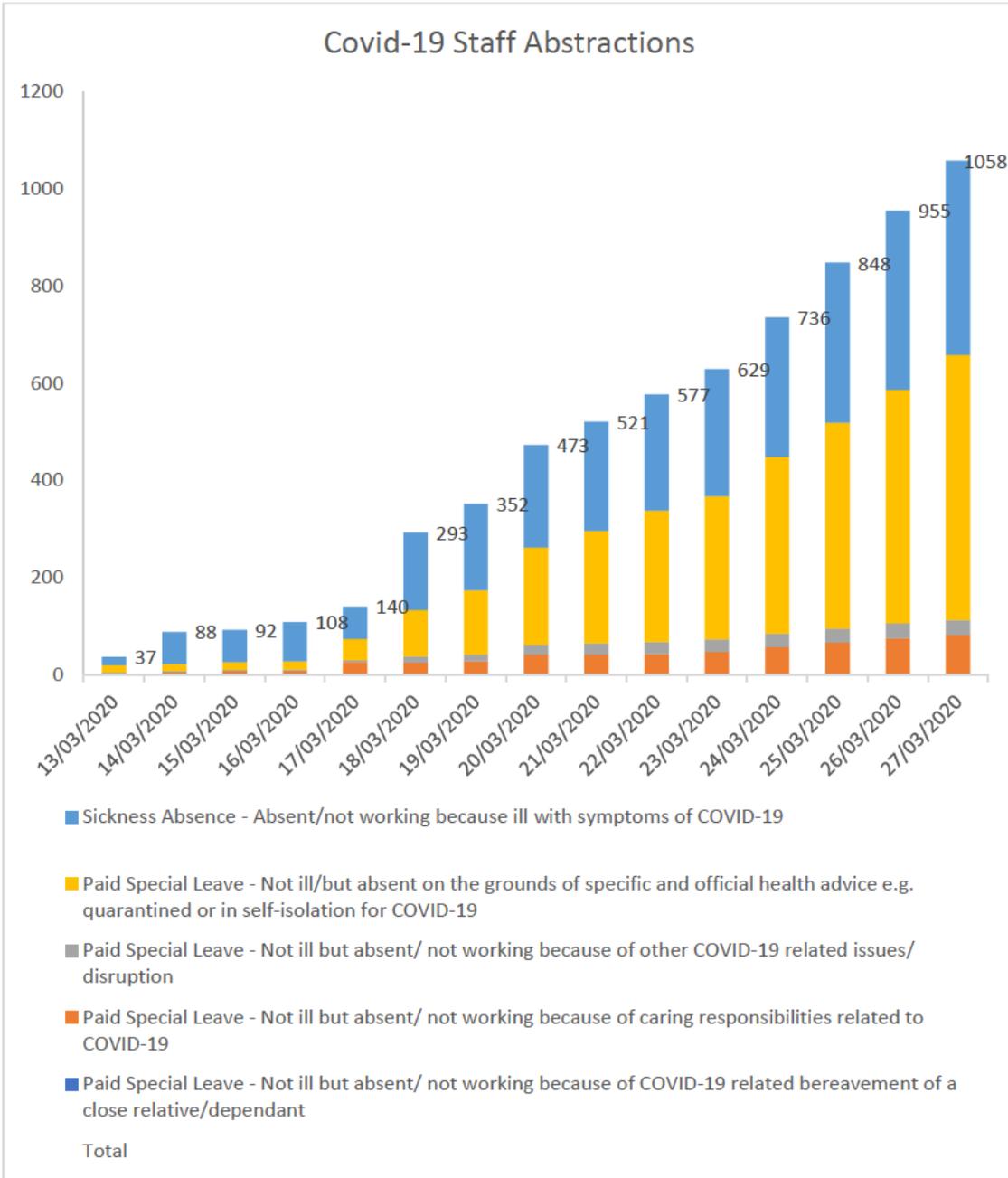


[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Sent: 31 March 2020 12:26

To: Cabinet Secretary for Justice <CabSecJustice@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Finance and Migration <MinisterPFM@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Finance <CabSecFinance@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley) <Shirley.Rogers@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>; Rennick NS (Neil) <Neil.Rennick@gov.scot>; MacKinnon D (Donna) <Donna.MacKinnon@gov.scot>[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @gov.scot>; Nisbet H (Helen) <Helen.Nisbet@gov.scot>[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] @gov.scot>; SCJD COVID-19 Coordination Hub <SCJDCOVID19@gov.scot>; Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>;[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]gov.scot>; [Redacted] [Redacted]

Subject: GPSMIG briefing

Importance: High

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Organisational Readiness (Covid-19 response)

WFH, please email/IM

From: Sunderland RE (Rachel) <Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot>

Sent: 31 March 2020 14:17

To: Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: Border Paper

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Rachel Sunderland

Population and Migration Division | Directorate for External Affairs | 2H South | Victoria Quay | EH66QQ

Rachel.Sunderland@gov.scot | [REDACTED]

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GPS MIG – 30 March 2020

[REDACTED]SG Attendees

Mr Yousaf – Cabinet Secretary for Justice

Mr Macpherson – Minister for Public Finance and Migration

John McFarlane – Special Adviser, Transport and Justice

[REDACTED]– Director Support and Delivery, Organisational Readiness

Rachel Sunderland – Population and Migration Division, Directorate for External Affairs

Neil Rennick – Director of Justice

[REDACTED]– Organisational Readiness

[REDACTED]– Organisational Readiness

Summary of actions

No specific actions but UKG Depts were asked to keep DAs up to date with developments relating to the border.

1. COVID-19 Dashboard

[REDACTED].

2. Borders Planning and Resilience

[REDACTED]

SG – Minister for Public Finance and Migration – Mr Macpherson

[REDACTED]The Minister highlighted that although matters are reserved, there are significant impacts on many devolved areas – including Scottish economy. Therefore grateful if the SG could be kept up to date and urged that any decision should be taken at COBR level so appropriate level of input from DAs.

[REDACTED]

CDL: closed the discussion by thanking the Home Secretary and SoS Transport for their leadership on this. He also noted that he respects the importance of TOs and DAs being fully involved in this issue.

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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COVID-19 GPSMIG (M)(31)(14)

COVID-19 Public Sector Committee

1300 Tuesday 31 March 2020

Zoom

ACTIONS

[REDACTED]

DECISIONS

1. [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]cabinetoffice.gov.uk>

Sent: 30 March 2020 15:24

To: Organisational Readiness <OrganisationalReadiness@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Rogers S (Shirley) <Shirley.Rogers@gov.scot>; secretariat@nihub.gov.uk; NIHUB Head of Secretariat <Head.Secretariat@nihub.gov.uk>; ProjectCovid-19@gov.wales; PS.FirstMinister@gov.wales; Situation.Cell@gov.wales; COVID19 DAs Liaisons <covid19-das@cabinetoffice.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@cabinetoffice.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@cabinetoffice.gov.uk>

Subject: GPSMIG 31.03 - Prisons and Borders planning and resilience

Hi all,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]I am copying in [REDACTED] who leads on this commission in the [REDACTED].
Hope this is useful and please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
COVID-19 Secretariat - Devolved Administrations Liaison General Public Services MIG
[REDACTED]

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