

ANNEX - MATERIAL IN RESPONSE TO POINT 1) OF YOUR REQUEST

All confidential information has been redacted in line with section 38 of FOISA Act 2002.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 22 January 2021 10:12
To: [Redacted] Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Dates for Vaccine & Prisons Meeting - Early February . . .

Thanks [Redacted] – Both dates and time are good for me.

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted] > **On Behalf Of** [Redacted]
Sent: 22 January 2021 09:04
To: Director of Justice <DirectorofJustice@gov.scot>; [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] **Subject:** Dates for Vaccine & Prisons Meeting - Early February . . .

Good Morning

I'm looking to set up the meeting regarding Vaccine & Prisons and the following date are looking like a possibility –

Tuesday 2 February – 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Thursday 4 February – 11.00 am – 12.00 noon

Grateful if you can please let me know if either of the above dates would suit and I will send a calendar invite out with the Teams link attached for the meeting/call.

[Redacted] – grateful if you can please let me know [Redacted] availability.

Thanks.

Regards.

[Redacted]
SG: Community Justice Division
SAH

e-mail: [Redacted]
αβχδ

From: [Redacted] **Sent:** 29 January 2021 10:57
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Vaccine Letters [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Morning [Redacted],

If we don't manage to get to this in our meeting with vaccination colleagues this morning, will you have time to stay behind for a quick chat re the highlighted section below? Before going back to [Redacted] I'd keen to hear your thoughts on the arrangements that need to be put in place to support deployment to prisons based on the current JCVI approach but also looking ahead to the possibility that at some point – say when the priority groups are vaccinated - there may be a move towards whole prison vaccination.

Thank you. [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 29 January 2021 09:00
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Vaccine Letters [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Morning [Redacted] and [Redacted],

Further to the below, [Redacted] has been in touch and states that he is not aware of a C-19 vaccination invite letter coming through the system. [Redacted] plans on sending the standard AZ vaccine information leaflet with an internal drafted invite letter. This only pertains to Dumfries, I am not aware of the approach being taken by other prison health centres.

As before with the shielding letter, is there merit in adapting the standard community covid-19 vaccination invite letter? and distributed by the Healthcare Centres, to provide a standard national, consistent message to all prisoners? I know from discussions there are resources being developed as well that may be appropriate for the prison setting?

Whilst I am encouraged from conversations with [Redacted] that there is good engagement with the Board Vaccination Leads, there are still areas for further consideration as the c-19 vaccination roll out develops within the prisons estate. It would be good to understand the forum(s) the prison programme is being discussed and if there is a need for a national co-ordinated approach to be taken and who lead on this?

Happy to discuss further

Best wishes – [Redacted]

[Redacted] [Redacted] **National Prison Care Network**

[Redacted]

**** Please note my email address has changed to [Redacted] ****

From: [Redacted] **Sent:** 29 January 2021 08:17
To: [Redacted] **Cc:** [Redacted] **Subject:** RE: Vaccine Letters [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **Sent:** 29 January 2021 08:13
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Vaccine Letters [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Morning [Redacted]

Thanks for raising this. I have to say I'm not entirely sure so suggest we raise it at the 10am meeting this morning. If we can't get the answer from this group then I'm sure there will be another contact within SG with responsibility for patient communication on the vaccine we can speak to.

See you at 10.

Kind regards

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted] Health & Justice Collaboration Improvement Team
Scottish Government

📞 [Redacted]
Follow us on Twitter @SGHealthJustice

Please note Wednesday is my non-working day.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 29 January 2021 07:57
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Vaccine Letters [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good Morning,

Are either of you able to advise if people in custody will be provided with a letter from NHS informing them about the vaccine, just as those in the community are receiving?

If they are not being provided with a letter, do you know what is being done to ensure that those in custody are provided with the same level of information on vaccines as those in the community?

Regards,
[Redacted]

[Redacted] I Strategy & Stakeholder Engagement Directorate I SPS HQ I Direct Dial: [Redacted] Mobile: [Redacted]

If you have a query regarding COVID-19 please send to HQcoronavirus@sps.pnn.gov.uk or contact 0131 330 3645



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From: [Redacted] **Sent:** 08 March 2021 13:01
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Update - Mandatory Wearing of Face Coverings & Vaccinations

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 21 January 2021 12:27
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Update - Mandatory Wearing of Face Coverings & Vaccinations

SPS Colleagues,

Following last week's meeting on the mandatory wearing of face coverings in the workplace, [Redacted] has updated me that it is now very unlikely that this will be regulated. Following engagement with a range of stakeholders and fuller consideration of the proposal a number of issues raised has made it apparent that this would not be possible at this time. I will update you if there are any further developments.

On vaccinations, through our engagement with the 5 Nations COVID contact group some of you will have been aware of yesterday's 4 Nations meeting on vaccinations (RoI were not part of the discussion due to different regulatory arrangements in place for vaccination). There will be a formal note but I'm sharing a summary of the main points I took away from the discussion for your information. Both [Redacted] and [Redacted] are linking in with the work [Redacted] and I are doing with SG vaccinations colleagues but I thought this was useful context to our work and reassuring to know that the current approach being taken in Scotland is in line with that being taken by E&W.

The main points I took away from the meeting were as follows:

- Agreement that it would be helpful to collaborate on the delivery of vaccinations to prisons across the 4 nations, whilst recognising that what will be possible in different parts of the UK will vary due to the differential size and configuration of our prison estates.
- Opportunities to collaborate on research and learn from experience of incidents/outbreaks post vaccination in care homes and to apply the lessons learned to prisons. For example, in England and Wales, they are already applying learning from vaccinating at sites with an outbreak to develop guidance for justice settings.
- As is the case in Scotland, England and Wales are vaccinating in line with JCVI priority list prioritising people in prison in line with their age groups. Vaccination will commence this week. Due to logistical considerations (the E&W prison population is roughly 10 times larger than the Scottish population) significant effort has been invested in planning for the deployment of vaccine to prisons.
- I will share the E&W deployment slides when they are available but one of the key point I took away from the presentation was that partnership working between Dept H&J, PHE and HMPPS on deployment plans was essential due to the complexity of the setting. Other considerations included management of the patients clinical record on admission and release where an individual required a second dose of the vaccine, a clear system and process in place for tracking vaccination deployment to prisons, contingency plans for the deployment of additional vaccinator capacity to prisons if needed, and the need for a process for prisoners not registered with their GP accessing a second dose post liberation (release template).

- NI (where the estate is much smaller – 3 prison establishments with a total population of 1,352 prisoners) has just secured approval to vaccinate the over 50 population on mass. This was driven by logistical considerations due to small population size.
- E,W & NI using AZ vaccine in prison settings.
- There was also some discussion around uptake of the vaccine. I highlighted that accessible comms were being developed as part of the wider programme approach. E&W are developing a script for prison radio. HMPPS are doing some work around uptake and will share with the group in due course.
- PHE have made representations to the JCVI for a settings based approach to prisons and, as [Redacted] has already said, further advice on justice settings is under consideration.

Kind regards, [Redacted]

[Redacted] | **Health & Justice Collaboration Unit** | **The Scottish Government** | **St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG** | **Tel: [Redacted] (diverts to mobile)** | [Redacted]



At times this can feel really hard, mentally and physically. Check out [Home | clearyourhead.scot](https://www.clearyourhead.scot) for advice on looking after yourself and others.

Health Improvement's three top tips for wellbeing at work:

- 50-minute meetings with 10 mins breaks between
- Take a lunch break and walk
- Regular 1:1s with wellbeing check-ins

[PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BELOW EMAIL THREAD CONTAINED AN ATTACHED DOCUMENT, WHICH I HAVE ATTACHED TO THE OVERALL RESPONSE]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 17 December 2020 12:01

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Covid 19 Vaccination Programme – Update for SPS & National Prisons Pharmacy Advisor [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [Redacted] – Thanks for your reply.

We'll share your feedback on the usefulness of an adapted Q&A with the programme – this may already form part of the work they are doing on accessible resources. I'll get back to you when I have more information.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 16 December 2020 06:33

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Covid 19 Vaccination Programme – Update for SPS & National Prisons Pharmacy Advisor [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good Morning [Redacted],

Thank you for this update, it is really helpful.

On the back of your email I intend to share the presentation of the vaccine programme with Governors so they can have further discussions with local NHS health boards.

With regards the FAQs it would be really good if we could share this with people in custody and perhaps amend it slightly to suit the prison environment?

I am going to raise this at the NCRG today so I will get back to you once I have more information.

Regards,
[Redacted]

[Redacted] I I Strategy & Stakeholder Engagement Directorate I SPS HQ I Direct Dial:

[Redacted] Mobile: [Redacted]

If you have a query regarding COVID-19 please send to HQcoronavirus@sps.pnn.gov.uk or contact [redacted]



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From: [Redacted]

Sent: 15 December 2020 18:02

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]; [Redacted]; [Redacted]

Subject: Covid 19 Vaccination Programme – Update for SPS & National Prisons Pharmacy Advisor

Hi [Redacted] & [Redacted]– Hope you are both well.

Following on from our recent exchanges on vaccinations, I'm writing to give you an update following recent meeting with the Scottish Government's COVID 19 vaccine policy team and the prison policy team to discuss how the vaccine would be deployed in prisons.

Before I set out the key points from the meeting, I wanted to make you aware of recently published documents which provide useful information on the current position for the entire population, available via the following link: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): update on vaccinations - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Topics/Health/Coronavirus/COVID-19/vaccinations), including:

- Letter to Presiding Officer, Scottish Parliament and MSPs from the Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing, 8 December 2020.
- FAQs on vaccine effectiveness and safety
- Powerpoint presentation: An Overview of the Vaccine Programme - Service Delivery Framework Wave One

In addition, I also attach a copy of the Chief Medical Officer letter to Health Boards setting out implementation arrangements, 4 December 2020.

Key Points from the meeting:

- COVID vaccination policy has agreed to share Health Board's COVID vaccine deployment plans with my team to allow us to review the content in respect of prisons.

- In light of current Joint Committee on Vaccine Immunisation (JCVI) advice on priority groups who can be offered the vaccine, it is our expectation that people in prison will access the vaccine in an equitable way to people in the wider community.
- The review of deployment plans will give us the opportunity to identify any gaps or inconsistencies and, if needed, to provide some additional direction via the National Planning Forum.
- At this stage, the JCIV have prioritised “patient facing, frontline healthcare workers” within the first cohort and have not provided any specific advice on key workers, including prison officers. We will continue to keep this under review with [Redacted] and the prison policy team as the programme develops and update you as more information becomes available.
- The SG has been working on a four nations basis to secure the supply of the vaccine. For prisons, we will engage with the 5 Nations Health and Justice COVID-19 Group to ascertain the position across the nations.
- Looking ahead, and reflecting on the lessons learned from our work on shielding, we will consider how to promote the uptake of the vaccine in prisons. The programme is currently developing some accessible resources to encourage people to have the vaccine. We will want to make these available for prisoners and we will follow up with you on this in due course.

SPS contact with Health Boards:

We understand that some establishments have been contacted directly by individual health boards to discuss deployment of the vaccine to prisons. It would be helpful if you could update us on the level of engagement with individual prisons, including those which have not had any contact from their local Board.

Procurement of the Vaccine:

[Redacted] has asked the question about whether he requires to procure the vaccine for prisons. We have taken this to the COVID vaccine policy team, and we will get back to you once we hear from them.

Engagement going forward:

As you are aware, the roll out of the vaccine is developing at pace. We will maintain regular contact with the SG vaccine policy team and continue to update you accordingly. Our next meeting is scheduled for early in the New Year.

I'm sure we'll speak before then but please get in touch with me or [Redacted] if you have any questions or any issues which arise in the meantime.

Kind regards, [Redacted]

[Redacted] | **Health & Justice Collaboration Unit | The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG | Tel: [Redacted](diverts to mobile) | [Redacted]**

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