

[OUT OF SCOPE]

**From:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] **On Behalf Of** Covid-19 Advisory Group Secretariat

**Sent:** 25 January 2021 08:54

**To:** Morrison E (Elizabeth) (Education Scotland) <Elizabeth.Morrison2@gov.scot>; Covid-19 Advisory Group Secretariat <C19AG\_Secretariat@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: URGENT: FOR CLEARANCE: media interview bid - DFM- Politics Scotland - lockdown restrictions: PARA ON HIGHER GRADE FACE COVERINGS NEEDED BY 10:00AM MONDAY

Hi Elizabeth,

[OUT OF SCOPE]

As far as I am aware the WHO has not recommended changing the guidance on face coverings. However, France, Germany, and Austria have all mandated FFP2 masks.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Scottish Government Covid-19 Advisory Group Secretariat | Scottish Government | 1E.09, St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

**From:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 25 January 2021 10:08

**To:** HSC Group Hub <HSCgroupclub@gov.scot>; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit <FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>

**Cc:** Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; McQueen F (Fiona)

<Fiona.McQueen@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19

<DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit

<FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>; Lloyd E (Elizabeth) <Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Hutchison D (David) <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>;

McAllister C (Colin) <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Ingebrigtsen R (Ross)

<Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport

<CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: Urgent Briefing Request: Information for the FM's Press Briefing - 25 January - deadline 09:30

Hi [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] and colleagues

Please see attached a briefing from me and [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)], face covering policy.



FOI 202100167648 -  
Enclosure 2 - Attach

Kind Regards

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Team Lead | Public Health Support for Decision Making | COVID-19 Ready Society

Scottish Government | 1ER St Andrew's House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

## Quality of Face Coverings

[OUT OF SCOPE]

**[Only if asked]**

[OUT OF SCOPE]

- School staff use higher performance PPE face masks, for example, when administering first aid.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

**From:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 25 January 2021 11:26

**To:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Cc:** Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; McQueen F (Fiona) <Fiona.McQueen@gov.scot>; DCMO Health COVID19 <DCMOHealth.COVID19@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; First Minister Covid Briefing Unit <FMcovidbriefingunit@gov.scot>; Lloyd E (Elizabeth) <Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Hutchison D (David) <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; McAllister C (Colin) <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Ingebrigtsen R (Ross) <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport <CabSecHS@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Drought A (Andrew) <Andrew.Drought@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** RE: Urgent Briefing Request: Information for the FM's Press Briefing - 25 January - deadline 09:30

Hi [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

I'm highlighting the following information in the briefing to be shared only if asked:

[OUT OF SCOPE]

- School staff use higher performance PPE face masks, for example, when administering first aid.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Team Lead | Public Health Support for Decision Making | COVID-19 Ready Society  
Scottish Government | 1ER St Andrew's House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

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

From: [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Sent: 28 January 2021 11:26

To: Morrison E (Elizabeth) (Education Scotland) <Elizabeth.Morrison2@gov.scot>;

Drought A (Andrew) <Andrew.Drought@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: Emailing: Decisions for Enhancing Face Coverings Performance

Hi Liz, Andy

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] asked that I forward this helpful doc on for your consideration.



FOI 202100167648 -  
Enclosure 4 - Attach

It attempts to set out the rationale for our current position re: face coverings and the risks associated with prescribing higher grades of masks.

Keen for any views you may have, and hope this is helpful for your wider considerations of face coverings in school settings.

Kind regards

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Covid-19 Health Policy Unit

Directorate for Covid Public Health

## Considerations for Enhancing Face Coverings

27 January 2021

[OUT OF SCOPE]

### **Background**

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Germany similarly started with mandating medical grade masks on public transport in early January and has now banned all fabric masks for use by the public, and requires them to wear medical grade Type IIR or FFP2 type masks instead.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

### **What are the options for face masks**

The table below sets out the spectrum of face coverings available. They start from community face coverings on the left and progress towards what might be considered medical grade on the right.

**Figure 1: Types of face coverings/masks and their filtration properties**



community face covering	BSI Standard Community Face Covering	Surgical Mask Type 1	Surgical mask Type II; Type II R, Type III	Respirator (N 95; FFP1/2/3)
<p>X However, evidence shows that home made coverings can filter at levels in excess of 70%</p>	<p>3.0 Microns: &gt;70% 0.1 Microns: X (Tests reveal &gt;98% achieved for Transcal masks)</p>	<p>3.0 Microns: &gt;95% 0.1 Microns: X</p>	<p>3.0 Microns: &gt;98%</p>	<p>0.3 microns: FFP1: &gt;80% FFP2: &gt;94% FFP3: &gt;99%</p>
<p>Recommended made of 2 or 3 layers to enhance filtration, Quality varies according to fabric used,</p>	<p>Can carry a kite mark standard approved by BSI. Standard: TBC (Feb 2021)</p>	<p>Standard: EN 14683 Must be CE marked when used as medical device</p>	<p>Standard: EN 14683 Must be CE marked when used as a medical device</p>	<p>EN149:2001 Must comply with European PPE standards, be certified by a notified body and carry a CE marking</p>
<p>Designed for use in community and socially distanced environments</p>	<p>Designed for use in community and socially distanced environments</p>	<p>Designed for use in public areas and socially distanced environments. Not intended for use in an operating room or in other medical settings with similar requirements.</p>	<p>designed to prevent infections in patients and treating personnel. Fluid resistant properties of Type IIR masks are specifically for close proximity environments such as care homes and hospitals and will protect against fluid transfer from coughs and sneezes principally intended for use by healthcare professionals in an operating room or other medical settings with similar requirements.</p>	<p>designed to protect the wearer from inhaling hazardous atmospheres, including fumes, vapours, gases and particulate matter such as dusts and airborne microorganisms. Wearer must be clean shaven. Requires 'fit testing' to ensure appropriate fit. Used in domestic, industrial and healthcare settings.</p>
<p>Reusable Transparent coverings available</p>	<p>Single use</p>	<p>Single use Transparent coverings available but not yet certified</p>	<p>Single use Transparent face coverings available but not yet certified</p>	<p>Single use and multi-use</p>

3.0 Microns: Bacteria Filtration Efficiency Standard

0.1 Microns: Particle Filtration Efficiency Standard

0.3 Microns: Used to represent the most penetrating particle sizes, which is the most difficult size to capture

X: no requirements

[OUT OF SCOPE]

**From:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 01 February 2021 11:58

**To:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills  
<DFMCSE@gov.scot>

**Cc:** First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Minister for Children and Young People <MinisterCYP@gov.scot>; Permanent Secretary <PermanentSecretary@gov.scot>; DG Education, Communities & Justice <DGECJ@gov.scot>; Lloyd E (Elizabeth) <Elizabeth.Lloyd@gov.scot>; McAllister C (Colin) <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Director of Learning <DirectorofLearning@gov.scot>; Wilson M (Mick) <Mick.Wilson@gov.scot>; Anson S (Sam) <Sam.Anson@gov.scot>; Drought A (Andrew) <Andrew.Drought@gov.scot>; Pentland MK (Malcolm) <Malcolm.Pentland@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Wightman S (Scott) <Scott.Wightman@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Peskett K (Katherine) <Katherine.Peskett@gov.scot>; Tannahill C (Carol) <Carol.Tannahill@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]; Morrison E (Elizabeth) (Education Scotland) <Elizabeth.Morrison2@gov.scot>; Cumming A (Alison) Early Learning & Childcare <Alison.Cumming@gov.scot>; [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** International evidence on school reopenings and exams - urgent

## **Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills**

Please find attached an update of international approaches on school reopenings and exams.



FOI 202100167648 -  
Enclosure 5 - Attach

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Thanks,  
[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]  
Head of Learning Analysis Unit | Education Analysis  
Scottish Government | [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]  
<https://www.gov.scot/collections/school-education-statistics/>

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

**International evidence on school reopenings and exams**

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]  
 Education Analysis  
 [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

Copy List:	For Action	For Comment	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
First Minister  Minister for Children and Young People			X		X
Leslie Evans, Permanent Secretary Paul Johnston, DG Education, Communities and Justice Liz Lloyd, Special Advisor Colin McAllister, Special Advisor Graeme Logan, Director of Learning Mick Wilson, Deputy Director, Education Analytical Services Sam Anson, Deputy Director Improvement, Attainment and Wellbeing Andy Drought, Deputy Director Workforce, Infrastructure and Reform Malcolm Pentland, Deputy Director Curriculum, Qualifications and Gaelic [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] Katherine Peskett [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] Elizabeth Morrison, Learning Directorate [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] Scott Wightman, Director for External Affairs [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)] Covid-19 Modelling and Analysis Hub Alison Cumming, Interim Director for Early Learning and Childcare [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]					

[OUT OF SCOPE]

**Annex B - Impact on teaching, learning and communication – from the wearing of face coverings by secondary pupils in other countries**

## **Austria**

### **Are face coverings being worn in secondary school classes?**

[OUT OF SCOPE]

The government has also provided FFP2 masks for teachers and administrative staff at public schools (on a voluntary basis).

[OUT OF SCOPE]

### **Any reports on the impact on teaching, learning, communication?**

[OUT OF SCOPE]

it appears that teachers are also increasingly taking up the offer of using FFP2 masks instead of ordinary masks during class lessons.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

**From:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Sent:** 03 February 2021 16:34

**To:** Morrison E (Elizabeth) (Education Scotland) <Elizabeth.Morrison2@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

**Subject:** Decisions for Enhancing Face Coverings Performance

Hi Elizabeth,

I attach the paper that I circulated last week and which has now been revised in lights of comments from others.



FOI 202100167648 -  
Enclosure 6 - Attach

It can be shared with your group next week.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)]

## **COVID-19 Advisory Sub-Group on Education & Children's Issues**

**Meeting 21, 9 February 2021**

### **Considerations for Enhancing Face Coverings**

[OUT OF SCOPE]

#### **Background**

[OUT OF SCOPE]

SAGE also suggested consideration could be given to higher quality coverings where transmission is high, but that this should be considered alongside other mitigations also in place.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Germany similarly started with mandating medical grade masks on public transport in early January and has now banned all fabric masks for use by the public, and requires them to wear medical grade Type IIR or FFP2 type masks instead.

[OUT OF SCOPE]

#### **What are the options for face coverings and face masks?**

The table below sets out the spectrum of face coverings available.

**Figure 1: Types of face coverings/masks and their filtration properties**

Community face coverings		Surgical Masks		
				
community face covering	BSI Standard Community Face Covering	Surgical Mask Type 1	Surgical mask Type II; Type II R, Type III	Respirator (N 95; FFP1/2/3)
X However, evidence shows that home made coverings can filter at levels in excess of 70% (see further info below)	3.0 Microns: >70% 0.1 Microns: X (Tests reveal >98% achieved for Transcal masks)	3.0 Microns: >95% 0.1 Microns: X	3.0 Microns: >98% 0.1 Microns X	0.3 microns: FFP1: >80% FFP2: >94% FFP3: >99%
Recommended made of 2 or 3 layers to enhance filtration, Quality varies according to fabric used,	Can carry a kite mark standard approved by BSI. Standard: TBC (Feb 2021)	Standard: EN 14683 Must be CE marked when used as medical device	Standard: EN 14683 Must be CE marked when used as a medical device	EN149:2001 Must comply with European PPE standards, be certified by a notified body and carry a CE marking
Designed for use in community and socially distanced environments	Designed for use in community and socially distanced environments	Designed for use in public areas and socially distanced environments. Not intended for use in an operating room or in other medical settings with similar requirements.	designed to prevent infections in patients and treating personnel. Fluid resistant properties of Type IIR masks are specifically for close proximity environments such as care homes and hospitals and will protect against fluid transfer from coughs and sneezes principally intended for use by healthcare professionals in an operating room	designed to protect the wearer from inhaling hazardous atmospheres, including fumes, vapours, gases and particulate matter such as dusts and airborne microorganisms. Wearer must be clean shaven. Requires 'fit testing' to ensure appropriate fit. Used in domestic, industrial and healthcare settings.
Reusable Transparent coverings available	Single use	Single use Transparent coverings available but not yet certified	Single use Transparent face coverings available but not yet certified	Single use and multi-use

3.0 Microns: Bacteria Filtration Efficiency Standard

0.1 Microns: Particle Filtration Efficiency Standard

0.3 Microns: Used to represent the most penetrating particle sizes, which is the most difficult size to capture

X: no requirements

Adapted from : [Comparison of Mask Standards, Ratings, and Filtration Effectiveness – Smart Air \(smartairfilters.com\)](https://www.smartairfilters.com/Comparison-of-Mask-Standards-Ratings-and-Filtration-Effectiveness)

[OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED – s.38(1)(b)], Covid Ready Society 03/02/21

**Summary**

Transitioning to a different grade of face covering or mask requires careful consideration and advice from professional bodies once a decision is made.