

Annex A

From: [redacted]
Sent: 13 January 2021 17:35
To: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Thanks Scott

From: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Sent: 13 January 2021 17:26
To: [redacted] ; [redacted] ; Bell D (Donna)
Cc: Fiona MacKenzie ; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Hi all

Here's the final letter from the OSR. In meetings until 6.30 but happy to speak after that if that would help, or first thing tomorrow,

Scott

From: [redacted]
Sent: 13 January 2021 17:21
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; donna.bell <donna.bell@gov.scot>
Cc: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot> [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Thanks Scott – do you have a draft OSR letter? It may help us with briefing on specific issues raised?

[redacted]

From: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Sent: 13 January 2021 15:52
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Hi [redacted]

Attached is my letter. I'm still waiting on the final letter from OSR – expecting to get it this afternoon. Will forward as soon as I get it.

Happy to discuss,

Thanks

Scott

From: [redacted]

Sent: 13 January 2021 15:48

To: [redacted]; Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot; donna.bell

<donna.bell@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Hi Scott – hope all going ok there today.

Noted that the OSR letter is scheduled to be published tomorrow.

Could you please share the OSR letter and your response or let us know when you expect that would be possible?

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 12 January 2021 21:14

To: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot; Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]

Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Hi Scott,

Thanks for the update. We'll alert Ministers to the publication of the letter.

Copying in HSCA colleagues for awareness.

[redacted].

From: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot

Sent: 12 January 2021 18:36

To: [redacted]; Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>

Cc: Fiona MacKenzie

Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Hi [redacted]

Helpful discussion with OSR today – they plan to share their letter with me tomorrow (taking on Board comments we've fed back) and I'll finalise my response to them. I'll share with you as soon as I have them. OSR plan to release at 11am on Thursday. [redacted] and I have briefed the PHS comms team and they plan to liaise with SG comms too when we have the final letters. OSR are happy that we share the letter with you in advance. The main thrust of their letter is complementary about how we've presented the work but have commented that some of the reporting in section 2 is complicated and difficult for readers to follow – they're not challenging our findings, just the way some of it has been presented. My reply acknowledges the technical aspects of the work and we'll take on board their comments in subsequent revisions to the report.

Happy to speak tomorrow when I have the final letter if that would help,

Thanks

Scott

From: [redacted]

Sent: 11 January 2021 18:39

To: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>; donna.bell <donna.bell@gov.scot>

Cc: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>

Subject: RE: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Hi Scott,

Happy New Year to you and Fiona – although it does feel as if we must at least be in the middle of February by now! Hope you both had some well-deserved rest.

Thanks for the heads up. If you are able to share the letter and your response that would be helpful as we'd want to keep Ministers sighted.

[redacted].

From: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>

Sent: 11 January 2021 18:26

To: [redacted]; Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>

Cc: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>

Subject: Care Homes report - letter from Office for Statistics Regulation to PHS

Hi [redacted]/Donna,

Happy New Year! Hope you both managed to get some down time over the Christmas period and that the horrors of home schooling aren't too much of a challenge for you.

Wanted to give you a heads up that I've received a draft letter from the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) regarding casework they have received from individuals writing to them about the Care Homes report published by PHS at the end of

October 2020. Their letter is fair and I'm meeting them tomorrow to talk through some of the specifics. Generally they are complementary of the report and the transparent way we produced the analysis. Their specific comments relate to the complex modelling in section 2 and the way that has been explained (with a view that we could have done more to aid the understanding of a lay person). I've drafted a response to the OSR, acknowledging their letter and explaining that we deliberately held sessions with many of the key stakeholders, including media, to walk through the findings and allow them to ask questions. [redacted] and [redacted] and their team have also done some additional analysis and our current thinking is that we produce an updated report in February 2021, with the new analysis included, and an updated commentary to take account of the OSR letter.

[redacted] and I are meeting with the OSR tomorrow (Tuesday) to discuss. We'll then know the likely date of publication (they've indicated Wednesday 13th but may be later). I'm speaking with the PHS Comms team tomorrow so they are briefed and will ask them to brief SG comms colleagues too.

I'll double check with the OSR that they are content for me to share copies of their final letter and my response with Scottish Government in advance of publication so that you can use for any briefing purposes.

Happy to chat through tomorrow (Tuesday) if that would help.

Thanks

Scott Heald

Associate Director (Place & Wellbeing) / Head of Profession for Statistics
Public Health Scotland

Phone: 0131 275 6370 (direct); 0131 [redacted] ([redacted], PA)

Twitter: @scottheald72

E-mail: scott.heald@phs.scot

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From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 February 2021 17:31
To: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Subject: RE: Request - publication date - discharges to care homes 2

That'd be great – thanks for the update [redacted].
[redacted]

From: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Sent: 10 February 2021 15:58
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Request - publication date - discharges to care homes 2

Hi [redacted]
We're still reviewing the publication date – likely to be March 17th as we're still awaiting some of the genomics analysis to be completed.
I'm planning to email Donna and [redacted] about it this week so will copy you in.
Nothing pre-announced yet.
Hope that helps
Scott

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: 10 February 2021 15:56
To: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Subject: Request - publication date - discharges to care homes 2

Hi Scott,

I'm updating an SG planer – I am right to think the updated discharges to care homes report is planned for 3 March?

Do you have a summary line or two to hand on what is planned/why? No probs if not.

Thanks,
[redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted];
COVID Public Health Directorate; Scottish Government
m: [redacted]

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From: [redacted]
Sent: 23 March 2021 10:45
To: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>
Subject: RE: NHS discharges to care homes - update to report [UNSCANNED]

Thanks Fiona

From: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>
Sent: 23 March 2021 10:34
To: [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]
Cc: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Subject: RE: NHS discharges to care homes - update to report [UNSCANNED]

Hi [redacted]
Yes will get [redacted] added.

We are intending to provide additional analyses e.g.

- where people were admitted from e.g. care home or own home
- outcomes at 30 days after discharge
- discharges where last test was positive
- genomics - and who may have been discharged - sequencing to see if same strain in care home

Fiona

From: [redacted]
Sent: 23 March 2021 09:24
To: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>
Cc: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Subject: RE: NHS discharges to care homes - update to report [UNSCANNED]

Hi [redacted] – could you please add [redacted] to the pre-release access list too (I'll be on annual leave 12-16 April).

Also, are you able to provide any more detail on the additional analysis at this stage?

I recall [redacted] mentioned maybe more on genomics, is that right, what will it cover, look at?

Thanks,
[redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted]
m: [redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 22 March 2021 18:25
To: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>; [redacted]
Cc: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Subject: RE: NHS discharges to care homes - update to report

Hi Fiona,

Thanks for informing us that this has been pre-announced.

[redacted].

From: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>
Sent: 22 March 2021 18:06
To: [redacted]
Cc: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Subject: NHS discharges to care homes - update to report

Dear both

We have today entered details onto ProcXed to pre-announce the updated report for NHS Discharges to Care Homes. We have announced it for 21 April.

The content of the original report will not change other than making section 2 clearer by using more accessible language for all users (following the comments from OSR). We will also be adding some additional analyses, these do not change the key points of the report.

As with normal process you will be given sight of the report at 5 day pre release access.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Fiona

Public Health Scotland

Service Manager - Mental Health, Unscheduled Care and Health In Justice
Place and Wellbeing
Public Health Scotland

Mobile: [redacted]
Phone: 0131 275 6515
E-mail: fiona.mackenzie13@nhs.net

www.isdscotland.org
@P_H_S_Stats

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From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 March 2021 10:51
To: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>; Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>
Subject: FW: Hospital Discharge & Initial look at vaccines in care homes

Scott, Fiona – for info, a report from Wales on hospital discharges – similar conclusions on size.
Apols Scott – I had to leave a call earlier this week where you were updating on the latest plans for the Scotland report, how is the work coming along, is a publication date planned now?
Thanks,
[redacted]

From: Ellis G (Graham) <Graham.Ellis@gov.scot>
Sent: 19 March 2021 10:19
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Hospital Discharge & Initial look at vaccines in care homes
From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 March 2021 10:03
To: Ellis G (Graham) <Graham.Ellis@gov.scot>; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Hospital Discharge & Initial look at vaccines in care homes

Dear all,
Please find two papers we have submitted for peer review (and Medrxiv) in journals using SAIL data. The first paper is an initial look at positive tests post vaccine in Welsh care homes and the second looks at the impact of hospital discharge during the first wave at the individual and care home level.
Happy for them to be shared but to note yet to go through peer review.
Best Wishes
[redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted] | [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted]
Web: [redacted]
Phone | [redacted]
Email | [redacted]
ORCID [redacted]
Twitter [redacted]

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From: MACKENZIE, Fiona (PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND) <f.mackenzie@nhs.net>
Sent: 28 September 2020 14:12
To: [redacted]; Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] Subject: RE: delay to care homes report

[redacted]

We have made a slight tweak to the words – I will confirm once it is live on our website.

Fiona

On 30 September, Public Health Scotland were due to release a publication on 'Discharges from NHS hospitals to care homes between 1 March and 31 May 2020'. However, whilst undertaking the analyses PHS identified a number of data quality issues that need resolved. PHS has, therefore, made the decision to delay this publication until the 28 October to allow further data quality assurance work to be undertaken, in collaboration with NHS Boards. This work links together several different datasets for the first time and we need to incorporate, where possible and appropriate, feedback from NHS Boards to ensure accuracy.

Our plans for the publication on the 28 October are to have two complementary reports: one reporting on the statistics; and the other providing the wider narrative to contextualise the statistics.

PHS are collaborating with clinical experts from University of Glasgow and University of Edinburgh.

From: [redacted]
Sent: 28 September 2020 13:20
To: Donna.Bell@scotland.gsi.gov.uk; MACKENZIE, Fiona (PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND) <f.mackenzie@nhs.net>
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: delay to care homes report

Thanks, copying in [redacted] who is leading on comms lines on this for our team.

Thanks,

[redacted]

From: Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>
Sent: 28 September 2020 12:57
To: MACKENZIE, Fiona (PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND) <f.mackenzie@nhs.net>
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: delay to care homes report

Thanks Fiona, this looks fine to me. Adding [redacted] and comms in to be aware and for any lines necessary.

From: MACKENZIE, Fiona (PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND) <f.mackenzie@nhs.net>
Sent: 28 September 2020 12:38
To: Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: delay to care homes report

Donna/[redacted]

We have drafted the following which is with our PHS comms team for review. Once approved by them, we will use this text to update our website (around 2pm) to announce the change in publication date and send this text to Scottish Care and other stakeholders. Please let me know if you have any comments/queries.

Fiona

On 30 September, Public Health Scotland were due to release a publication on 'Discharges from NHS hospitals to care homes between 1 March and 31 May 2020'. However, whilst undertaking the analyses PHS identified a number of data quality issues that need resolved. PHS has therefore, made the decision to delay this publication until the 28 October to allow further data quality assurance work to be undertaken, in collaboration with NHS Boards. It is vital to ensure that the correct cohort of people are identified for this work, which has linked together several different datasets for the first time, and we want to incorporate, where possible and appropriate, feedback from NHS Boards.

Our plans for the publication on the 28 October are to have two complementary reports: one reporting on the statistics; and the other providing the wider narrative to contextualise the statistics.

PHS are collaborating with clinical experts from University of Glasgow and University of Edinburgh.

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From: [redacted]
Sent: 29 September 2020 09:24
To: Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>; [redacted]
Subject: Pandemic Response in Adult Social Care Group (PRASCG) - update on discharges into care home report

Dear All

Please find an update from PHS on the report in the attached email below, I have copied and pasted the text,

Also as a way of an update we have decided it would be useful to use this week's meeting for the winter planning discussion given the work that is happening on the subject. We will send out an agenda in due course,

[redacted]

On 30 September, Public Health Scotland were due to release a publication on 'Discharges from NHS hospitals to care homes between 1 March and 31 May 2020'. However, whilst undertaking the analyses PHS identified a number of data quality issues that need resolved. PHS has, therefore, made the decision to delay this publication until the 28 October to allow further data quality assurance work to be undertaken, in collaboration with NHS Boards. This work links together several different datasets for the first time and we need to incorporate, where possible and appropriate, feedback from NHS Boards to ensure accuracy.

Our plans for the publication on the 28 October are to have two complementary reports: one reporting on the statistics; and the other providing the wider narrative to contextualise the statistics.

PHS are collaborating with clinical experts from University of Glasgow and University of Edinburgh.

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

I am currently working from home and can be contacted on [redacted]

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

From: [redacted]

Sent: 24 September 2020 13:28

To: Donna BELL; Alison Taylor; [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: Pandemic Response in Adult Social Care Group (PRASCG)

When: 01 October 2020 11:30-13:00 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London.

Where:

This is a new invite to replace CHRAG, hopefully everyone included but if I have missed anyone please let me know and I'll send the invite out to them.

thanks

[redacted]

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From: : Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>
Sent: 09 October 2020 13:58
To: [redacted] [redacted]; Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: oversight board - care homes

dear all

As per the call, attached is the draft report, this is being shared for quality assurance purposes. Please note this is embargoed and the numbers are subject to change following the discussions this afternoon. Should there be a release of this information into the public domain, prior to the release date, please let us know.

Fiona

From: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>
Sent: 22 October 2020 15:52
To: Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>
Cc: GUTHRIE Bruce <bruce.guthrie@ed.ac.uk>; [redacted]
Subject: Hospital Discharges to Care Homes - Briefing Note

Hi Donna,

As discussed, please find attached a briefing note for sharing with the Cabinet Secretary. Also attached is section 1 of the publication which is being shared under strict embargo within the 5 days pre-release access period. Section 2 is still currently under final editorial review (sections to be updated/included highlighted in yellow) and will be included in the publication when it is released to full pre-release access to NHS Boards, Chief Officers, Scottish Government and COSLA on Friday 23 October at 2pm.

The briefing note has more detail for section 2 to allow the Cabinet Secretary to understand the key messages in the absence of the final text.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks

Scott

Scott Heald

Associate Director (Place & Wellbeing) / Head of Profession for Statistics
Public Health Scotland

Phone: 0131 275 6370 (direct); 0131 [redacted] ([redacted], PA)
Twitter: @scottheald72
E-mail: scott.heald@phs.scot

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From: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>
Sent: 26 October 2020 13:52
To: Bell D (Donna) <Donna.Bell@gov.scot>; [redacted]
Subject: FW: PHS Publication - Discharges from NHS hospitals to care homes between 1 March and 31 May 2020 - 28 October 2020 - Pre Release Access

Please see details on how to access the PRA report

Fiona

From: phs statsgov
Sent: 26 October 2020 13:48
To: Fiona MacKenzie <Fiona.MacKenzie13@phs.scot>; [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: PHS Publication - Discharges from NHS hospitals to care homes between 1 March and 31 May 2020 - 28 October 2020 - Pre Release Access

For info.

From: phs statsgov
Sent: 26 October 2020 13:37
To: [redacted]
Cc: Scott Heald <Scott.Heald@phs.scot>; [redacted]
Subject: PHS Publication - Discharges from NHS hospitals to care homes between 1 March and 31 May 2020 - 28 October 2020 - Pre Release Access

[redacted]

RESTRICTED STATISTICS embargoed until 12:00 Wednesday 28 October 2020.

Please treat as restricted until publication on 12:00 Wednesday 28 October 2020. Please contact the Statistical Governance Team (email to: phs.statsgov@phs.scot) should you become aware of any accidental or wrongful release.

<https://beta.isdscotland.org/find-publications-and-data/population-health/covid-19/discharges-from-nhsscotland-hospitals-to-care-homes/28-october-2020/>
P: gy7QxK

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If you need to share with anyone within your organisation that is not on this circulation list, I would be grateful if you could do so only with specific individuals and with no additional onward distribution. We are also required to keep a record of all recipients of the pre-release data so please keep a record locally of any recipients.

These arrangements reflect legislation governing pre-release access to official statistics.

All releases are embargoed until 12:00 Wednesday 28 October 2020.

Regards,

Scott Heald
Head of Profession for Statistics
Public Health Scotland

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From: Bell D (Donna)
Sent: 28 September 2020 13:02
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Ugent - Discharges to Care Homes Publication - delay to publication

Hi [redacted],

Just to confirm, that after discussion with PHS and confirmation from [redacted] that Cab Sec is content, PHS will not proceed to publish the data on discharges from hospitals to care homes on 30/09. They are keen to ensure that the data is fully quality assured and that they are able to publish the full context surrounding the data. They intend to publish the following on their website this afternoon:

“On 30 September, Public Health Scotland were due to release a publication on ‘Discharges from NHS hospitals to care homes between 1 March and 31 May 2020’. However, whilst undertaking the analyses PHS identified a number of data quality issues that need resolved. PHS has therefore, made the decision to delay this publication until the 28 October to allow further data quality assurance work to be undertaken, in collaboration with NHS Boards. It is vital to ensure that the correct cohort of people are identified for this work, which has linked together several different datasets for the first time, and we want to incorporate, where possible and appropriate, feedback from NHS Boards.

Our plans for the publication on the 28 October are to have two complementary reports: one reporting on the statistics; and the other providing the wider narrative to contextualise the statistics.

PHS are collaborating with clinical experts from University of Glasgow and University of Edinburgh.”

Comms colleagues are aware and reactive lines are being prepared. We will ensure that the Cabinet Secretary is kept up to date with progress on the production of the report.

Thanks

Donna