

**From:** [redacted]

**Sent:** 13 September 2021 21:33

**To:** Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery <DFMCSCR@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <CabSecES@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport <MinisterPHWHS@gov.scot>; Minister for Children & Young People <MinisterCYP@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Chief Nursing Officer <CNO@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@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>; [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]@nhs.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@nhs.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:** IMMEDIATE - Ministerial Submission - CMO Advice on the universal offer of vaccination 12 to 15 year olds

**Importance:** High

Good evening PS/Cabinet Secretary

Please see attached, for your consideration, immediate submission relating to the CMO advice on universal vaccination of children and young people age 12 to 15 year.

Many Thanks

[redacted]

Hi [redacted]

Mr Yousaf is content to agree, and notes that the First Minister will set out some of this detail in her statement and confirm our intention to follow CMO advice. [redacted]

Kind regards

[redacted]

[redacted] **Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care – Humza Yousaf**  
**The Scottish Government**

1st Floor | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

[redacted]

From: **[redacted]**  
Operational Policy Division  
Vaccine Strategy and Policy Directorate  
13 September 2021

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport

## **4 NATIONS CMOS ADVICE IN RELATION TO THE UNIVERSAL VACCINATION OF 12 TO 15 YEAR OLDS.**

### **Purpose**

1. To update you on advice received from the 4 nations Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) in relation to a universal offer of COVID vaccination for 12 to 15 year olds and to seek your agreement for Scotland to accept and operationalise this advice.

### **Priority**

Immediate. We understand that the UK Government intend to make a response statement this evening in the commons. We also understand there is likely to be an announcement by other nations tomorrow, so an early response would be preferential.

### **Background**

2. As you will be aware, and as set out within the advice provided on 9 Sept, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) announced an expansion to the list of underlying health conditions which make clinically vulnerable 12 to 15 year olds eligible for vaccination and recommended against universal vaccination for 12 to 15 year olds without underlying health conditions.

### **JCVI advice on universal vaccination of 12 to 15 year olds**

3. **[redacted]**
4. **[redacted]**
5. **[redacted]**
6. **[redacted]**
7. **[redacted]**
8. **[redacted]**

### **Advice from Chief Medical Officers**

9. **[redacted]**
10. **[redacted]**

11. [redacted]

12. [redacted]

13. [redacted]

14. [redacted]

15. [redacted]

16. [redacted]

17. [redacted]

18. [redacted]

19. [redacted]

20. [redacted]

21. [redacted]

### **Informed Consent**

22. In all instances, the offer of vaccination to children and young people must be accompanied by appropriate information to enable children and young people, and those with parental responsibility, to be adequately appraise the potential harms and benefits of vaccination as part of the informed consent process prior to vaccination.

23. [redacted]

24. [redacted]

25. It is recommend that the Royal Colleges and other professional groups are consulted in how best to present the risk-benefit decisions in a way that is accessible to children and young people as well as their parents. [redacted] A child centred approach to communication and deployment of the vaccine should be the primary objective.

26. It is critical that all children who are offered vaccination, and their parents understand children's rights in this respect and that these rights are recognised and applied by practitioners in line with Scotland's commitment to embedding UNCRC.

27. [redacted]

28. [redacted]

29. We already have a suite of resources relating to Covid-19 vaccines in general; and those designed for the 16/17 year old audience; and 12-15 year olds with the previously included at risk conditions. We will need to create a new generic leaflet for 12-15 year

olds explaining the JCVI and CMO advice, risks and benefits. Training resources for vaccinators were updated for those with specific conditions and we will require that this be updated for vaccination teams to be able to answer specific questions healthy young people and their parents/carers may have relating to this offer..

30. A CMO letter will be issued to inform Health Boards and a joint letter from CMO/CPO/CNO will be sent to vaccinators.

31. It is essential that children and young people aged 12-15 and their parents are supported in their decisions, whatever decisions they take, and are not stigmatised either for accepting, or not accepting, the vaccination offer. Individual choice should be respected.

### **Legal considerations**

32. [redacted]

33. [redacted]

34. [redacted]

### **Operational delivery**

35. [redacted]

36. [redacted]

37. [redacted]

38. [redacted]

### **Operational Implications**

39. As you will be aware the pressure on immunisation over the Autumn and Winter period is increasing. Key vaccinations due to take place in the coming months are:

- Continuing Primary COVID-19 doses including any offer to 12-15 year olds;
- Expanded Flu programme;
- Third COVID-19 doses for Severely Immunosuppressed; and
- COVID-19 Boosters.
- Other existing immunisation programmes including school immunisation catch up postponed from last year due to lockdown

40. Altogether this Autumn/Winter programme will be circa 7.6M vaccinations and could include between 350,000 to 400,000 doses of vaccine per week. [redacted]

41. [redacted]

42. [redacted]

43. [redacted]

### Communication and Handling

44. We expect significant interest in this announcement from a range of interested parties and stakeholders. [redacted]

45. [redacted]

46. [redacted]

47. [redacted]

48. [redacted]

### Recommendation

49. Its recommended that you

- Note the above advice from CMOs
- Agree that the Scottish Government will follow CMO advice on deployment of vaccination of all those age 12 -15 years.

[redacted]

Operational Policy Division  
Vaccine Strategy and Policy Directorate

13 September 2021

	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
First Minister					X
Deputy First Minister					X
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills					X

Minister for Public Health					X
Minister for Children and Young People					X
Lord Advocate					X

Prof Jason Leitch, National Clinical Director  
 Dr John Harden, Deputy National Clinical Director  
 Dr Gregor Smith, Chief Medical Officer  
 Dr Nicola Steedman, Deputy Chief Medical Officer  
 Dr Syed Ahmed  
 Chief Nursing Officer  
 Mhairi Hastings  
 Prof Alison Strath, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer  
  
 DG Health & Social Care  
 DG Education & Justice  
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**Annex A: Research considered and stakeholders involved:**



In formulating their advice the UK CMOs' have been informed by the independent expertise of leaders of the clinical and public health profession from across the UK. This has included Presidents and Chairs or their representative of:

- Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health
- Royal College of General Practice
- Royal College of Psychiatry
- Faculty of Public Health
- Academy of Medical Royal Colleges representing all the other Royal Colleges and Faculties
- Association of Directors of Public Health
- Regional Directors of Public Health
- national public health specialists
- experts in data and modelling

In addition, they have examined data from the Office for National Statistics as well as published data on the impact of COVID-19 on education, and other relevant published sources. We attach key published inputs in [Key published inputs to the UK CMOs advice on universal vaccination of children and young people aged 12 to 15 years against COVID-19](#).

**From:** [redacted]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** First Minister

**Sent:** 14 September 2021 08:27

**To:** [redacted]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care <CabSecHSC@gov.scot>

**Cc:** First Minister <firstminister@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery <DFMCSCR@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <CabSecES@gov.scot>; Minister for Public Health, Women's Health & Sport <MinisterPHWHS@gov.scot>; Minister for Children & Young People <MinisterCYP@gov.scot>; Lord Advocate <LordAdvocate@gov.scot>; Leitch J (Jason) <Jason.Leitch@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; Chief Nursing Officer <CNO@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; DG Health & Social Care <DGHSC@gov.scot>; DG Education & Justice <dgej@gov.scot>; [redacted]@nhs.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@nhs.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: IMMEDIATE - Ministerial Submission - CMO Advice on the universal offer of vaccination 12 to 15 year olds

[redacted],

For info – FM has noted and agreed with the recommendations.

Thanks,

[redacted]

[redacted]

**Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister**

**Office of the First Minister**

5<sup>th</sup> Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [redacted]



Office of the First Minister of Scotland

**FirstMinister.gov.scot**

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