

From: [redacted]
To: [Director of Population Health](#) [redacted]
Subject: RE: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail
Date: 12 November 2023 18:28:00
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Thanks [redacted]and [redacted]

I've fed this in and looks like holding lines agreed with SG and PHS.

Best wishes

[redacted]

[redacted] | Co-Director Population Health | DG Health and Social Care 07725

[redacted] |directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot



From: [redacted]@phs.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 6:11 PM
To: [redacted]@phs.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@pfs.scot>; [redacted]@pfs.scot>; [redacted]@pfs.scot>
Subject: Re: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Thanks [redacted].

I'm adding [redacted]

My understanding of the situation is that these documents have been removed from our site as they are out of date. We should of course have retained records of all published versions of the documents. I know we are working to track down these versions and confirm whether or not they have already been shared with the COVID inquiry.

Colleagues copied are aware of the urgency of this and I'd be grateful for their confirmation as to (a) whether any of the documents are now to hand and (b) whether we have shared them with the Inquiry.

My understanding is that we are struggling to confirm these points today, but we're doing what we can.

Thanks

[redacted]

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [redacted]@gov.scot <[redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 5:50 PM
To: [redacted]@pfs.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@pfs.scot>
Subject: FW: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Hi [redacted]

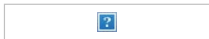
I just spoke to [redacted] about this and understand you have been dealing with it today. Below are the files that we are looking to have re-established on the website if possible.

Best wishes

[redacted]

[redacted] | Co-Director Population Health | DG Health and Social Care

[redacted] |directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot



From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 5:36 PM
To: [redacted]@pfs.scot>
Subject: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Hi [redacted]

This is the background to my text. Would someone in PHS be able to see if the links to these documents could be re established urgently please?

In responding to a media query it has been flagged that these links no longer seem to work.

Best wishes

[redacted]

[redacted] | Co-Director Population Health | DG Health and Social Care

[redacted] |directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot



There were a suite of them that were published together on 12/03/2020.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| HPS Guidance | HPS Information and Guidance for Social or Community Care & Residential Settings |
| HPS Guidance | HPS Guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions and discharging COVID-19 patients from hospital to residential settings |
| HPS Guidance | HPS Information and guidance for care home settings |

| | | | |
|-------|------------|--|---|
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance | Coronavirus (COVID-19): CMO/CNO/CSWA letter on social care settings |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care at home housing support - FINAL - word doc (002) |
| SC012 | 06/08/2020 | Guidance | Clinical guidance for the management of clients accessing care at home, housing support and supported housing |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance - Care Home | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care Homes - Final - PDF v1.2 |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | HPS Guidance | Information and Guidance for Social or Community Care & Residential Settings |
| SC012 | 27/03/2020 | Email to services with letter and guidance links | GUIDANCE - INFORMATION COVID-19 Clinical Guidance for Social Care Settings |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Advice to CMO/CNO/CSWA | Draft - Clinical guidance for care homes and CMO_CNO_CSWA_for your sign off by 12noon - |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Cover letter to al social care services | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care Homes - Letter CMO_CNO_CSWA - Final - PDF |

This e-mail (and any files or other attachments transmitted with it) is intended solely for the attention of the addressee(s). Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage, copying or distribution of any part of this e-mail is not permitted. If you are not the intended recipient please destroy the email, remove any copies from your system and inform the sender immediately by return.

Communications with the Scottish Government may be monitored or recorded in order to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government.

This email is intended for the named recipient only. If you have received it by mistake, please (i) contact the sender by email reply; (ii) delete the email from your system; . and (iii) do not copy the email or disclose its contents to anyone.

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail
Date: 12 November 2023 18:10:51
Attachments: [image007.jpg](#)

[redacted]

Thanks. We are not able to do this today. And I'm not sure we would want to put out of date guidance back on the website. What we need to do is ensure we have copies of previous guidance and have supplied those to the inquiries. I'm not able to determine definitively today that is the case but will do so asap in the morning.

Meantime we have issued the following line today that complements sg lines:

Public Health Scotland operates with robust governance and record keeping processes. We will work with Scottish Government and the National Records of Scotland to locate the identified version of the document.

Public Health Scotland continues to cooperate fully with both the UK and Scottish public inquiries.

[redacted]

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [redacted]@gov.scot <[redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 5:50:24 PM
To: [redacted]@phs.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@phs.scot>
Subject: FW: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Hi [redacted]

I just spoke to paul about this and understand you have been dealing with it today. Below are the files that we are looking to have re-established on the website if possible.

Best wishes

[redacted]

[redacted] Co-Director Population Health | DG Health and Social Care

[redacted] | directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot



From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 5:36 PM
To: [redacted]@phs.scot>
Subject: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Hi [redacted]

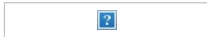
This is the background to my text. Would someone in PHS be able to see if the links to these documents could be re established urgently please?
In responding to a media query it has been flagged that these links no longer seem to work.

Best wishes

[redacted]

[redacted] Co-Director Population Health | DG Health and Social Care

[redacted] | directorofpopulationhealth@gov.scot



There were a suite of them that were published together on 12/03/2020.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| HPS Guidance | HPS Information and Guidance for Social or Community Care & Residential Settings |
| HPS Guidance | HPS Guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions and discharging COVID-19 patients from hospital to residential settings |
| HPS Guidance | HPS Information and guidance for care home settings |

| | | | |
|-------|------------|----------------------|---|
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance | Coronavirus (COVID-19): CMO/CNO/CSWA letter on social care settings |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care at home housing support - FINAL - word doc (002) |
| SC012 | 06/08/2020 | Guidance | Clinical guidance for the management of clients accessing care at home, housing support and supported housing |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance - Care Home | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care Homes - Final - PDF v1.2 |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | HPS Guidance | Information and Guidance for Social or Community Care & Residential Settings |

| | | | |
|-------|------------|--|---|
| SC012 | 27/03/2020 | Email to services with letter and guidance links | GUIDANCE - INFORMATION - COVID-19 Clinical Guidance for Social Care Settings |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Advice to CMO/CNO/CSWA | Draft - Clinical guidance for care homes and CMO_CNO_CSWA for your sign off by 12noon - |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Cover letter to al social care services | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care Homes - Letter CMO_CNO_CSWA - Final - PDE |

This e-mail (and any files or other attachments transmitted with it) is intended solely for the attention of the addressee(s). Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage, copying or distribution of any part of this e-mail is not permitted. If you are not the intended recipient please destroy the email, remove any copies from your system and inform the sender immediately by return. Communications with the Scottish Government may be monitored or recorded in order to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government.

This email is intended for the named recipient only. If you have received it by mistake, please (i) contact the sender by email reply; (ii) delete the email from your system; . and (iii) do not copy the email or disclose its contents to anyone.

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted] Chief Nursing Officer;
Cc: Chief Medical Officer; [redacted]
Subject: RE: SPAD VIEW: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail
Date: 12 November 2023 17:09:00
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png

Thanks for this [redacted],

I have had a look at our ERF and can see the documents that this refers to. There were a suite of them that were published together on 12/03/2020.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| HPS Guidance | HPS Information and Guidance for Social or Community Care & Residential Settings |
| HPS Guidance | HPS Guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions and discharging COVID-19 patients from hospital to residential settings |
| HPS Guidance | HPS Information and guidance for care home settings |

The links to all 3 are not working, so I suggest this is a PHS (formerly HPS) issue with their website that needs to be fixed urgently. We have included them in our document retrieval but as they're HPS guidance I don't have access to the originals and SG doesn't have deletion rights for the PHS website obviously. We may have had the docs for reference in a different format but I have no record of that on the ERF. We would have referred to the web publication - they weren't 'ours' and wouldn't have been on our website although we have linked to them on various occasions.

Our input starts at version 1.2 which you have found on ERDM and there is a full suite on the ERF but having had a quick check it also looks like the link to the HPS guidance is also broken. I think this might be as simple as a problem with their website? Or something to do with their archiving.

| | | | |
|-------|------------|--|---|
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance | Coronavirus (COVID-19): CMO/CNO/CSWA letter on social care settings |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care at home housing support - FINAL - word doc (002) |
| SC012 | 06/08/2020 | Guidance | Clinical guidance for the management of clients accessing care at home, housing support and supported housing |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Guidance - Care Home | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care Homes - Final - PDF v1.2 |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | HPS Guidance | Information and Guidance for Social or Community Care & Residential Settings |
| SC012 | 27/03/2020 | Email to services with letter and guidance links | GUIDANCE - INFORMATION COVID-19 Clinical Guidance for Social Care Settings |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Advice to CMO/CNO/CSWA | Draft - Clinical guidance for care homes and CMO CNO CSWA for your sign off by 12noon - https://erdm.scotland.gov.uk/8443/documents/A27717594/details |
| SC012 | 26/03/2020 | Cover letter to all social care services | 26 March - Guidance COVID19 - Care Homes - Letter CMO CNO CSWA - Final - PDE |

I have looked forward as far as 01/05/2020 and it's a 404 error for those too. Have asked [redacted] (PHS Sponsor) if she can get onto [redacted] quickly to remedy this and to see what the problem is. If we can get a quick response from them about fixing the links/website outage and when it will be fixed that would be the ideal?

Otherwise I think the line in the meantime needs to be something like:

"The guidance referred to was Health Protection Scotland guidance, published on their website. The Scottish Government has and will continue to fully cooperate with both inquiries, working with Public Health Scotland to ensure all requested materials are provided. In total more than 19,000 documents have already been provided to the UK Inquiry."

Hope this is helpful and colleagues can provide an update on PHS discussion asap?

Thanks
[redacted]

From: [redacted] @gov.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 4:09 PM
To: [redacted] @gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; Chief Medical Officer <CMO@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: SPAD VIEW: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Hi [redacted], thanks for the call just now. Copying key folk as discussed.

Issue here is the need for a line on a story run in Sunday Mail today that is being followed up by Daily Mail and we need a line on today – see chain below and link to story.

Issue is they are looking for first version of "Guidance for stepdown of infection control precautions and discharging Covid-19 patients from hospital to residential settings". I realise this would be a PHS doc and apparently they are looking too. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Comms think they need a line by 7/8pm.

Happy to speak again on number below.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Director
Scottish Government

[redacted]

From: [redacted] @gov.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 2:43 PM
To: [redacted] @gov.scot>
Cc: [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>
Subject: Re: SPAD VIEW: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

[redacted]

We need to know today whether we have the document.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 2:34:23 PM
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [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>
Subject: SPAD VIEW: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Thanks [redacted]

[redacted]– the Daily Mail has approached us for comment on the below story.

[Scottish Government locked in another deletion row - this time over vanishing Covid policy documents - Daily Record](#)

[Yesterday colleagues directed the reporter to PHS for comment although it appears he did not approach them and simply ran with the line that we declined to comment.](#)

I checked with PHS Comms today who confirmed they were not approached yesterday, but also have also said they are unable to confirm the status of the document today and will follow-up with colleagues tomorrow morning.

In terms of responding to the Daily Mail in the meantime, are you content with proposed response below?

Thanks,
[redacted]

SG spokesperson said:

“The Scottish Government has and will continue to fully cooperate with both inquiries, working with Public Health Scotland to ensure all requested materials are provided. In total more than 19,000 documents have already been provided to the UK Inquiry.”

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 1:54 PM
To: [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>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: MEDIA: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

I think this is fine.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Director
Scottish Government

[redacted]

From: [redacted]@gov.scot>
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 1:50 PM
To: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>; [redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: MEDIA: Care home guidance - Scottish Daily Mail

Afternoon all,

Sorry to disturb on a Sunday but the Daily Mail has approached us for comment on the below story.

[Scottish Government locked in another deletion row - this time over vanishing Covid policy documents - Daily Record](#)

Yesterday colleagues directed the reporter to PHS for comment although it appears he did not approach them and simply ran with the line that we declined to comment.

I checked with PHS Comms today who confirmed they were not approached yesterday, but also have also said they are unable to confirm the status of the document today and will follow-up with colleagues tomorrow morning.

In terms of responding to the Daily Mail in the meantime, I'd be grateful for any comments on proposed response below.

Thanks,
[redacted]

SG spokesperson said:

"The Scottish Government has and will continue to fully cooperate with both inquiries, working with Public Health Scotland to ensure all requested materials are provided. In total more than 19,000 documents have already been provided to the UK Inquiry."

[redacted]

News | Senior Media Manager

Constitution, External Affairs and Culture Communications

The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh

Mobile: [redacted] | Portfolio Media inquiries: [redacted]

[gov.scot/news](https://www.gov.scot/news)

