

**Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Minister's
– Emergency Advisory Group ("EAG") –
Held on Friday 04 June 2021 at 1.00pm
In the Council Chamber and via MS Teams**

Present:

Hon G Cregeen, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs, Vice-Chair
Mr R Mercer MLC, Tynwald Representative (until 1.45pm)
Professor Peter Edge (*via MS Teams)
Mrs Jacqueline Bridson
Dr Rachel Glover
Mr Steven Christian
Mr Peter Davidson
Ms Julie Hotchkiss (*via MS Teams)
Mr John Spellman
Mr Jonathan Wild

In Attendance:

Mr D Davies, Chief Executive, Department of Home Affairs
Mr C Phillips, Policy and Performance Manager, Cabinet Office (Secretariat)

Apologies: N/A

Action

009/2021 Welcome:

Prior to the election of a Chair, the Vice-Chair (the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs) continued to temporarily chair the meeting.

A welcome was extended to EAG for their second meeting.

010/2021 Declarations of Interest or Conflict:

Mr S Christian noted his previously advised declared interest – [married to the Hon Member for Douglas South].

011/2021 Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021:

Having been previously circulated the minutes were approved – subject to one minor amendment – and could now be published online.

012/2021 Matters arising and actions:

Mr Kevin Willson, Senior Manager, Contract Tracing Service in attendance for the following item:

a) Contact Tracing Update

Mr Willson attended at the invitation of the group and advised:

- An overview of the Contact Tracing Service, noting its design was bespoke to the Island, reflective of the situation regarding both borders and context.
- Standard practice was outlined using the European Centre for Disease Control criteria for close contacts with in-house on-call systems for greater resilience and training.
- A reflection on both the highlights and lowlights of the service to-date had been undertaken, with an eye to the future
- EAG noted the benefits and challenges of utilising social media in the context of advising locations of interest, and the ability to transmit information at pace.
- EAG sought and received clarification in respect of in-bound travel numbers, both present and projected.
- Discussion followed on: (i) use of technology (ii) limitations, and (iii) community engagement with the process.

EAG noted the ongoing need for contract tracing.

Mr Willson left the meeting.

b) Terms of Reference – Minor Amendment:

EAG noted membership did not currently have a timeframe, and suggested a two year appointment.

013/2021 Items for Consideration:

a) Exit Strategy Review – Council of Ministers Request

Further to a request from the Council of Ministers to review the Exit Strategy and related issues therein, EAG considered and formulated a response.

NB: The response [EAG's Report to the Council of Ministers June 2021] was submitted and subsequently published online.

b) Border Levels:

Discussion Item

For Upload

A discussion followed in respect of the current Border Level (2.5) – for which the majority of EAG considered remained appropriate alongside additional public messaging for hands, face, space, masks and ventilation.

NB: A dissenting view was requested to be noted – that of increasing to Border Level 3.

c) Working Themes for EAG Members:

EAG considered members channel efforts into their respective specialisms / areas, commencing with:

- Social implications – Mrs J Bridson
- Economic implications – Mr S Christian and Mr J Spellman

Other themes would be discussed at future meetings.

014/2021 Future agenda items:

- Feedback from the Council of Ministers [10 June 2021]
- Risk Matrix
- Queries of Tynwald Members

015/2021 Any other business:

a) Next Meeting

Monday 14 June 2021, 3:30pm, Department of Home Affairs, Tromode.

The meeting closed at 3:50pm

Signed:

Date: