

**Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Minister's  
– Emergency Advisory Group ("EAG") –  
Held on Monday 14 June 2021 at 3.30pm  
In the Department of Home Affairs and via MS Teams**

**Present:**

Hon G Cregeen, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs, Vice-Chair  
Mr R Mercer MLC, Tynwald Representative  
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  
Ms S McCauley, Deputy Chief Executive, Department of Home Affairs  
Mr C Phillips, Policy and Performance Manager, Cabinet Office (Secretariat)

**Apologies:** N/A

**Action**

**016/2021 Declarations of Interest or Conflict:**

Mr S Christian – [married to the Hon Member for Douglas South].

**017/2021 Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 04 June 2021**

Noted with minor revisions.

**018/2021 Matters arising from the minutes**

**a) Contact Tracing Update**

**Action:** EAG **requested** of the Covid Response Team: **CabO  
(KW)**

- The number of inbound travellers per day;
- The number of inbound travellers which had subsequently tested CV-19.

**b) Meeting Format**

**Action:** EAG **requested** of the secretariat: **Sec  
(CP)**

- Succinct operational minutes
- Rolling list of actions
- Items accompanied by a paper [as appropriate]
- Agendas comprising 06 Standing Items:
  1. Vaccine Update
  2. Variant Update

3. Mitigation [Outbreak Management Plan]
4. Communications
5. Community Support
6. Economic Impact

**Mr M Lewin, Chief Executive Office, Department of Enterprise (c/o Cabinet Office) – in attendance for the following item:**

**019/2021 Feedback from the Council of Ministers and Discussion in respect of the CV-19 Response:**

There followed a summary of the considerations of Council on 10 and 14 June 2021, including an overview of the decisions reached to-date.

EAG's advice to be circulated ahead of future Tynwald Members Briefings – so as to inform and assist decisions considered at pace.

There followed a discussion in respect of effective public communication of forthcoming milestones – including EAG's recommendation to upskill both content and resource, with use of other forms of media outlet to disseminate messages to all ages.

**CabO  
Comms  
(JD)**

In respect of available data, EAG noted caution should be used when dealing with small data sizes.

Regarding the potential use of technology to facilitate a vaccinated travel regime, EAG noted the need for inclusivity and consideration of the elderly and those less technically enabled.

On the Outbreak Management Plan, Mr Lewin advised that revisions were proposed, including in respect of mitigations, so as to align with the direction that Council – and ultimately Tynwald – might wish to make.

EAG noted that the Government's direction of travel was toward creating an acceptable level of risk – moving from eliminating the virus, to living with it – with the correct personal choices adopted for each individual.

EAG noted that double vaccination reduced risk of serious illness but was this was not guaranteed – a public awareness piece around such was discussed.

Regarding revised Public Health Regulations, EAG received advice in respect of the suitability of the legislation to respond to potential scenarios and vaccination status – and noted potential solutions to decision making during the election purdah period.

**Papers  
003/2021  
+  
004/2021**

**Action: Secretariat to forward Public Health Regulations commentary to the Cabinet Office/HMAG for information.**

**Sec  
(CP)**

EAG queried [of the Department of Health and Social Care] the two-week period in which no vaccinations were administered – and requested more detail on the rationale for such.

**Action: DHSC to be approached for detail on the rationale for the two-week period in which no vaccinations were administered.** **DHSC (KM)**

EAG sought and received confirmation that the Isle of Man had considered both purchasing extra vaccinations, and participating in the UK's Vaccination Programme (calculated share). Government's policy choice to adopt the later was noted.

**021/2021 Any other business:**

**a) Tynwald Member Queries**

EAG acknowledged receipt of Tynwald Member queries – response for which were to be reviewed and reverted.

**b) Research Themes**

- (i) Economic Impact:** The assigned lead advised that a review of the existing research undertaken would take place, prior to commencement. **SC**
- (ii) Social Impact:** The assigned lead(s) advised that conversations had taken place with more to follow. **JB/RM**
- (iii) Airborne / Aerosols Transmission:** EAG members raised airborne/aerosols transmission and undertook to gather data and/or prepare a paper on such. **PD/RM**

**c) Date of next meeting**

To be held on Wednesday 23 June 2021, 4.00pm **Sec**

**The meeting closed at 6:00pm**

Signed: .....

Date: .....