

## **FOI ATISN 13986 – Document 1**

### **Email Chain 1**

**From:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 17 May 2020 17:47

**To:** Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Andrew Jones, (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); PHW Officer 2 (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) <(REDACTED – SECTION 40

**Cc:** Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Giri Shankar (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); John Boulton (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); David Heyburn (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Rowlands, Claire (EPS - Curriculum) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: announcement and other matters

Dear Julie,

Will seek consensus from TAC tomorrow on interpretation of asymptomatic Covid-19 positive result in staff. NERVTAG have not as yet made definitive recommendation.

Best wishes

Marion

**From:** Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 17 May 2020 17:47

**To:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jones, Andrew (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); PHW Officer 2 (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Giri Shankar (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); John Boulton (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); David Heyburn (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Rowlands, Claire (EPS - Curriculum) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: announcement and other matters

Hi Marion

Is that going to cover the same ground as we have in our guidance – in relation to interpretation of results etc.

Just need to make sure we are consistent, I am updating it now.

Julie

**From:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health), (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 17 May 2020 17:05

**To:** Jones, Andrew (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); PHW Officer 2 (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Giri Shankar (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); John Boulton (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); David Heyburn (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Rowlands, Claire (EPS - Curriculum) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: announcement and other matters

Dear Andrew,

I am currently preparing interim guidance on interpretation and implementation of care home testing including management of covid-19 positive staff and reporting arrangements going forward. Will have to clear internally first but should have a draft version by the morning. Did wonder if this was my role or PHW but view was to just get on with it.

Best wishes

Marion

**From:** Jones, Andrew (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 17 May 2020 14:40

**To:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) ; WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); PHW Officer 2 (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Giri Shankar (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); John Boulton (Public

Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); David Heyburn (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Rowlands, Claire (EPS - Curriculum) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** FW: RE: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: announcement and other matters

**Importance:** High

Dear Marion

As discussed on Friday – we agreed to meet on Monday to discuss the latest policy change once it was announced.

PHW Officer 2 has set up skype for Monday morning at 10.30. We can amend the participation list first thing in the morning if required

I note from emails below that WG ( yourself) are laying out a policy document over the weekend.

thanks

**Cofion/ Regards**

**Andrew Jones**

Deputy Director of Public Health Services / Director of Integrated Health Protection,  
Public Health Wales

(REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**From:** Rowlands, Claire (EPS - Curriculum) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 16 May 2020 10:09

**To:** Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); David Heyburn (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); John Boulton (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); PHW Officer 1 (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** WG Officer 13 (COVID-19 Testing Team) ; WG Officer 14 (Population Health Care) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 15 (Culture, Sport and Tourism) (REDACTED – SECTION 40) WG Officer 16 (Education and Public Services) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Orford, Rob (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); MoD Officer 1 (Ministry of Defence) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: announcement and other matters

All – this is to confirm previous discussion yesterday and is what I sent out last night to colleagues – a statement is due to go out at midday. Marion is working on setting this out over the weekend – but Robin – it is effectively what Marion had previously send you. The Minister is particularly concerned to make sure that care home queries are dealt with sensitively and effectively. Happy to help in any way on that.

Thanks

Claire

**From:** Rowlands, Claire (EPS – Curriculum (REDACTED – SECTION 40))

**Sent:** 15 May 2020 23:01

**To:** NHS Officer 1 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 9 (HDUHB- Therapies & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 8 (NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 14 (PTHB- PH) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 17 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 11 (CTMUHB- PH) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 12 (BCUHB- Primary care and community services) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 13 (SBUHB- PH) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 2 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 3 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 10 (PCIC Clinical Board) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 4 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 6 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 7 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 7 (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 16 (REDACTED – SECTION 40);

**Cc:** WG Officer 13 (PSG - Futures & Integrated Policy Making (REDACTED – SECTION 40)); WG Officer 14 (HSS - DHP Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 15 (ESNR- Tourism, Heritage & Sport, Tourism & Marketing) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 3 (COVID-19 Testing Forum Programme) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 2 (ESNR- Tourism, Heritage & Sport, Tourism & Marketing) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 16 (EPS - Homes & Places) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** OFFICIAL SENSITIVE: announcement

**Official Sensitive – EMBARGOED until after the Ministerial Announcement on 16 or 17 May.**

Dear colleagues,

The Minister will be making an announcement – likely to be tomorrow – about expanding testing in all care homes in line with the most recent evidence. This is to alert you to make sure you are aware and are able to deal effectively with any queries that may come from care homes in response to the announcement. If you have any queries or want to discuss please let me know. This statement expands on the policy changes announced on 2 May (and there is a policy document being worked on for clarity over the weekend):

- In care homes with ongoing incidents / outbreaks prior to May we will offer testing to all residents and staff who have not previously tested positive for Covid-19. This means that any care home that has had a possible or confirmed case of Covid-19 amongst staff or residents within the last 28 days will be eligible for testing of all staff and residents
- Testing will also be offered to all symptomatic and asymptomatic staff and residents who have never tested positive for Covid-19 even where the home has not reported possible or confirmed cases. Via the UK government portal care homes will be able to bulk order test kits enabling testing to be rolled out to all care homes in a matter of weeks.

- It is also proposed that when available serial antibody testing of care home staff will be undertaken so that we can estimate prevalence over time.

We can pick up any further detail at the next meeting on Tuesday.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support and help.

Many thanks

Claire.

***Claire Rowlands***

Deputy Director HR Operations and Performance  
(REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Email Chain 2**

**From:** Tracey Cooper (Chief Executive - Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter)

**Sent:** 13 May 2020 21:38

**To:** Quentin Sandifer (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40) ; Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Huw George (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Rhiannon Beaumont-Wood (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jan Williams (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Helen Bushell (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); David Heyburn (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40) ; John Boulton (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter)

**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*\*Official Sensitive\*\*\* - Testing for Covid-19 in care homes that have an ongoing outbreak which commenced before 2 May 2020

Dear all, fyi.

Best wishes

Tracey

Sent from AirWatch provided by Public Health Wales

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Social Care Coordination - WG

Date: 13 May 2020 19:39

Subject: \*\*\*Official Sensitive\*\*\* - Testing for Covid-19 in care homes that have an ongoing

outbreak which commenced before 2 May 2020

To: Social Care Coordination - WG

Cc:

\*\*\*Official Sensitive\*\*\*

### Distribution

To:

Health Board Chief Executives

Copied to:

Chief Executive, PHW

Social care Planning & Response Sub-group

Older People's Commissioner

Children's Commissioner

National Commissioning Board

Directors of Public Health

Directors of Social Services

Dear All

Please find attached a joint letter sent on behalf of the Deputy Director General for Health and Social Services and the Chief Medical Officer regarding testing in care homes.

Additionally, for your information, I have also provided a copy of the letter and attachment on the same matter that was issued to care providers today.

Regards

WG Officer 17

(REDACTED – SECTION 40)

Social Services and Integration

Department for Health and Social Services

Welsh Government

### **Email Chain 3**

**From:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 11 May 2020 10:48

**To:** Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Rowlands, Claire (EPS - Curriculum) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** Testing policy for care homes

Dear Andrew,

Please see as attached (Document 2).

Best wishes

Marion

## Document 2

<https://gov.wales/testing-process-care-homes-covid-19-html#section-41867>

## Email Chain 4

**From:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 30 April 2020 15:59

**To:** Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40);

Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Gill

Richardson (Welsh Government- Office of the Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION

40); Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop

(Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public

Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: Guidance on testing asymptomatic

Dear Andrew,

The decision on what if any further testing will be undertaken in care homes has not been agreed but all options are being considered including maintaining the status quo. If a policy change is made your support in developing the guidance will, as ever, be much appreciated.

Best wishes

Marion

**From:** Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 30 April 2020 15:51

**To:** Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Lyons, Marion (DHSS -

DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Gill

Richardson (Welsh Government- Office of the Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION

40); Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop

(Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public

Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: Guidance on testing asymptomatic

Thanks Andrew. I can confirm that this is my understanding of events.

Jyoti

**From:** Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 30 April 2020 15:45

**To:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Gill Richardson (Welsh Government- Office of the Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: Guidance on testing asymptomatic

Dear Marion

To be clear. This was raised at the PHW IMT today, with Robin as Incident Director. We referenced our conversation with you this morning as part of the discussion ( ie potential use in early stages of care home outbreak)

What we agreed is that a small group would rapidly review the current evidence base/ learning from rapid studies ( PHE, NI, international) , including soft intelligence from experience in Wales ( healthcare setting outbreaks) and quickly produce a paper to inform further discussion and public health recommendation for policy. The group would involve CCDC, Robin and NHS Officer 18. We also agreed ( as discussed this morning) that we need to develop clear public health guidance on how to interpret and use the test results of such an intervention and have these in place to inform decisions also.

I hope that helps. As just discussed, I have just forwarded a separate email that I am copied to that suggests that a decision has been made today ( with announcement today) to test all residents and staff in care homes across Wales – with reference to the deployment of mobile testing units as part of the delivery.

Speak later

**Cofion/ Regards**

**Andrew Jones**

Deputy Director of Public Health Services / Director of Integrated Health Protection,  
Public Health Wales

(REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**From:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 30 April 2020 15:01

**To:** Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales)



- No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Gill Richardson (Welsh Government- Office of the Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** Guidance on testing asymptomatic

**Importance:** High

Dear Andrew,

Just heard from Gill and Frank that Jyoti is working on guidance for testing asymptomatic care home residents – this approach has not yet been agreed here and may not be. We are focusing on what support care homes are receiving in the prevention of Covid-19 and management of incidents as they arise. The latter being much more important.

Best wishes

Marion

## Email Chain 5

**From:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 24 April 2020 09:23

**To:** Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 5 (NHS Wales – Delivery Unit) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 9 (HSS - Delivery & Performance) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); CIW Officer 1 (CIW) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 4 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Street, Andrea (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 6 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Crowder, Ruth (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 7 (HSS - Social Services and Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 8 (HSS - Delivery and Performance) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: FOR SIGN OFF PROCESS: Discharge update guidance v 3

Dear Chris,

See attached letter (Document 3) going to LAs and HBs today from Albert and Frank re next steps in protecting vulnerable people in care homes.

Best wishes

Marion

**From:** Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 24 April 2020 09:13

**To:** NHS Officer 5 (NHS Wales – Delivery Unit) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 9 (HSS - Delivery & Performance) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); CIW Officer 1 (CIW) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 4 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Street, Andrea (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 6 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Crowder, Ruth (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 7 (HSS - Social Services and Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 8 (HSS - Delivery and Performance) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: FOR SIGN OFF PROCESS: Discharge update guidance v 3

Can we check it against this excellent paper on care homes discussed with UK Ministers and at UK senior leaders meeting yesterday?

A real sense of urgency emerged around the increasing risks in care homes.

Chris

[Professor Chris Jones](#)

**Deputy Chief Medical Officer/Medical Director NHS Wales**

(REDACTED – SECTION 40)

(REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**From:** WG Officer 9 (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 23 April 2020 18:40

**To:** NHS Officer 5 (NHS Wales – Delivery Unit) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); CIW Officer 1 (CIW) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 4, (HSS – Social Services and Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Jones, Chris (HSS-DPH-Population Healthcare) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Street, Andrea (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40) WG Officer 6 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Crowder, Ruth (HSS - Primary Care & Health Science) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 7 (HSS – Social Services and Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 8 (HSS – Delivery and Performance) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: FOR SIGN OFF PROCESS: Discharge update guidance v 3

NHS Officer 5 – as you know, the guidance was initially approved on Monday by the secondary care / acute sub group co-chaired by DCMO (subject to there being clarity in the guidance that it is an iterative process – I think this needs to be made clearer in the document).

This probably should be sufficient clearance for an update to the substantive guidance but I have copied in Chris for his thoughts and happy to be led by others if sign off is needed on testing etc.

**Chris** – please see attached final version of the guidance (REDACTED – SECTION 35) NHS Officer 5 brought to the group at the beginning of the week.

WG Officer 8 has kindly agreed to publish once approved.

WG Officer 9

### See Document 3



ATISN 13986 -  
2020-08-19 - For Rel

### Email Chain 6

**From:** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 23 April 2020 15:44

**To:** WG Officer 1 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 5 (HSS - DPH - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Gill Richardson (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Julie Bishop (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40);

**Subject:** Letter on testing from CMO to Health Boards (004)

Dear all,

Latest draft – welcome your comments asap – I think it important that this goes out today.

Best wishes

Marion

### Email Chain 7

**From** Lyons, Marion (DHSS - DHP - Public Health) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 17 April 2020 16:15

**To:** Andrew Jones (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Giri Shankar (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** WG Officer 4 (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); WG Officer 1 (HSS -

Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); NHS Officer 5 (NHS Wales – Delivery Unit) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Heaney, Albert (HSS - Social Services & Integration) (REDACTED – SECTION 40) Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** Support for care homes in the management of COVID-19

Dear Andrew,

As discussed on the phone NHS Wales and PHW in support of the prevention and management of COVID-19 in care homes will provide the following:

1. Discharge testing to all patients being transferred from secondary care to care homes. This to include:
  - a. Those who have been admitted for non-COVID-19 health care issues
  - b. Those who have been admitted with COVID-19 irrespective of onset of symptoms
2. Prompt local testing for care home staff/family member. This to include:
  - a. Those who are self-isolating due to possible exposure in the workplace
  - b. Symptomatic family member necessitating self-isolation of care home staff
  - c. Symptomatic care home staff
3. Rapid response to care homes who report possible case or cases of COVID-19 providing the appropriate tests and management support

In support of the above PHW are requested to provide a brief paper on the mechanisms by which both staff and care homes will have access to prompt testing and support. (to note CIW are happy to support the staff testing pathway). Grateful if this could be received by noon Monday.

I cannot find the Care Home Guidance on your website, grateful if you could direct me to it.

Many thanks for your support,

Best wishes

Marion

## Email Chain 8

**From:** Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 01 April 2020 18:07

**To:** Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Tracey Cooper (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Giri Shankar (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Gill Richardson (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Subject:** RE: Management of COVID in care homes

Thanks,

Happy to consider; can you loop Gill and colleagues into the discussion and we can look at this on the WG/PHW call on Friday

F

**From:** Jyoti Atri (Public Health Wales) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Sent:** 01 April 2020 18:01

**To:** Atherton, Frank (HSS - Chief Medical Officer) (REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**Cc:** Tracey Cooper (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Giri Shankar (Public Health Wales - No. 2 Capital Quarter) (REDACTED – SECTION 40); Robin Howe (REDACTED – SECTION 40);

**Subject:** Management of COVID in care homes

Hi Frank,

As you know the situation in care homes is escalating and a lot of the calls we are now receiving are to do with care homes.

There are a number of issues emerging including:

- Identification and notifications
- Testing prioritisation and capacity
- Staffing resilience
- IPC issues
- Local policies being developed regarding discharge from hospital of Covid positive patients and general admissions.

We held a meeting with a number of colleagues today, including WG – social services, WLGA and Fiona representing DPHs.

We agreed to draft a letter to address the above issues, to go out proactively to all care homes. The content will be signed off by one of our CCDCs Officer 1, CIW Officer 1 (CIW) and WG Officer 1, (Social Services, WG).

It would be great if the letter could go out in your name. We are aiming to have an agreed draft by Friday am. If you are happy with that, I will sent the letter to you for your approval once it is ready.

Many thanks

Jyoti

Interim Executive Director of Health and Wellbeing,

(REDACTED – SECTION 40)

**See Document 4**



20200512 - CMO let  
- Tracey Cooper - Imp