



Directorate of Health and Social Services – Business Continuity (Infectious Disease; SARS-CoV-2), Executive Summary as at 13 Apr 22.

1. **Introduction.** The Directorate of Health and Social Services (DHSS) is safeguarding its business; staff, services and users (patients, clients, residents) in several bespoke ways, in order to meet the diverse nature of the directorate. In recognition of this, each department will have its own individual business continuity plan. However, some overarching principles remain the baseline across all departments.
 - a. **FIG Escalation on a Page.** We will be wholly responsive to the FIG Escalation on a Page and seek to safeguard essential and life critical services throughout. ([Link](#))
 - b. **CMO Letter to DHSS Staff.** PSA letter has been sent to all DHSS staff in support of the BCP executive summary.
2. **Staffing.** We have reviewed our pinch points and have now secured the following additional positions across the DHSS, (specifically for the period of transition towards an Endemic state):
 - a. **Wards/ Theatre additional staff:** staff nurses x 2; Operating Department Practitioner x 1; anaesthetist x 1, all until the 31st July 22.
 - b. **Ambulance Drivers:** A larger pool of casual drivers is being drawn up so that the service can continue to operate. 4 additional personnel have so far been added to the casual list.
 - c. **Radiographers:** a locum radiographer is being sought due to the small size of the department meaning there is a lack of resilience.
 - d. **Doctors:** we will have a full complement of medical staff available. 5 doctors for the ward/ GP clinics (including CMO) + 1 GP only + 2 anaesthetists + 1 surgeon
 - e. **Physiotherapist:** To add resilience, we will have a locum to cover the period of planned absence
 - f. **Cleaners/ kitchen-** no additional staff being recruited, but we will work closely with our usual private sector partner to backfill if it is needed.
 - g. **Mental Health.** We have also secured additional support for emotional wellbeing – this is remote support provided from the UK.
3. **Routine.** There will be a change in the way the DHSS conducts business; this will be supported by policies including LFD Testing policy (for staff and patients) and PPE usage (and requirements/expectations of patients). We are somewhat different to some other Directorates and Organisations in that we are the last line in the community protection against CV-19 and as such, we must take additional precautions and safeguard critical assets. This means that, we will be implementing the following notable practices:
 - a. **PPE.** There will be a requirement for all personnel (including patients who are able to do so) to wear a face covering as a minimum whilst transiting through the

