
Director General for Regulation

Scott Heald
Head of Profession for Statistics
Public Health Scotland
(By Email)

23 April 2020

Dear Scott,

Thank you for your letter today. I am happy to confirm the exemption from the Code of Practice for Statistics' standard publication time of 9.30am, to permit a later release time of 2.00pm each Wednesday for the PHS's weekly COVID-19 report, starting on Wednesday 29 April.

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic I welcome your endeavours to publish this release in line with the NRS weekly death release. The exemption from 9.30am publication, and publication at 2.00pm, aligns with other COVID-19 related statistics in Scotland. Your collaborative effort with other statistics producers in Scotland in providing a coherent picture of COVID-19 data to users is commendable and I appreciate your transparency around your forthcoming plans.

I also welcome your commitment to review and keep users informed publicly of any changes to your official statistics outputs during this period.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson
Director General for Regulation