

[PM call with President of the European Commission: 22 July 2021](#)

News story

Prime Minister Boris Johnson spoke with the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen.



The Prime Minister spoke to the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, this morning.

They discussed the UK's Command Paper on the Northern Ireland Protocol published yesterday.

The Prime Minister set out that the way the Protocol was currently operating was unsustainable. Solutions could not be found through the existing mechanisms of the Protocol. That was why we had set out proposals for significant changes to it.

He urged the EU to look at those proposals seriously and work with the UK on them. There is a huge opportunity to find reasonable, practical solutions to the difficulties facing people and businesses in Northern Ireland, and thereby to put the relationship between the UK and the EU on a better footing. They agreed to remain in touch.

Published 22 July 2021

[Secretary of State issues updated](#)

[direction to Northern Ireland's Department of Health to make Abortion Services available](#)

Press release

UK Government directs Department of Health to commission abortion services so they are available in Northern Ireland as soon as is reasonably practicable.



On 20 May 2022, the Secretary of State issued further Directions to the Department of Health in Northern Ireland, in exercise of the power in the Abortion (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2021. The Abortion Services Directions 2022 replace the [Abortion Services Directions 2021](#), which are revoked.

The Abortion (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022 which were made on Wednesday 18 May, and laid in Parliament on Thursday 19 May, amend the Abortion (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2021.

The amendment has the effect that directions given under the 2021 Regulations, including the Abortion Services Directions 2022, must be complied with irrespective of whether any matter has been brought to the attention of, or discussed and agreed by, the Northern Ireland Executive Committee.

The new Directions are substantially similar to the 2021 Regulations which they replace. While the 2021 Directions required the Department of Health to secure the commissioning of relevant health care by 31 March 2022, the Directions now require relevant health care to be provided as soon as reasonably practicable.

There are four further changes to the Directions:

- The Directions do not include a requirement in respect of the funding of health care; that requirement is now imposed by the Abortion (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022.

- The Directions do not include a direction to the Health and Social Care Board, reflecting that the Board has been dissolved.
- The Directions do not require the interim provision of an information and referral service, in light of such a service being in place and provided by BPAS.
- The Directions do not deal with matters being brought to the attention of the Executive Committee, in light of the amendments to the Abortion (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2021 referred to above.

The Secretary of State expects the Minister of Health to provide a clear and unambiguous commitment that the Department of Health will comply with its obligation to commission and fund health and social care that implements the CEDAW recommendations.

The Abortion (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2022, provide that these obligations must be complied with irrespective of whether the matter has been brought to the attention of, or discussed and agreed by, the Executive Committee.

[The Abortion Services Directions 2021](#)

PDF, 81.7 KB, 3 pages

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[Abortion Services Directions 2022](#)

PDF, 79.6 KB, 2 pages

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Last updated 26 May 2022 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 26 May 2022

Updating directions

2. 21 July 2021

First published.

Regulator bans trustee of multiple inactive charities for 'elaborate deceit'

6 charities associated with him have been removed from the charity register, after the regulator found little to no evidence of charitable activity.

In [an official report into 7 charities](#), the Commission concludes that Opas Tamba Jimmy-Kay – who used several aliases – is responsible for mismanagement and/or misconduct. He had links to all these charities and has been disqualified from trusteeship and senior charity management positions for 15 years – the longest term possible.

Kai Manyeh, a trustee at Hope Direct, was also disqualified for 5 years as a trustee for his role in the financial and governance failings.

The Commission opened a class inquiry into these connected charities in April 2019, after proactively identifying serious financial concerns and identifying Mr Jimmy-Kay and/or James Grantham (listed as separate people) were trustees of most of these charities.

The Commission met with Mr Jimmy-Kay and found he held two driving licences – one in his name and another under 'James Grantham'. Addresses and dates of birth supplied for other listed trustees were also variations of Mr Jimmy-Kay's own details, leading the Commission to conclude these people did not exist – especially when all attempts to contact these individuals failed.

The investigation into KDDA UK was concluded after the charity swiftly demonstrated that it was doing charitable work. Mr Jimmy-Kay subsequently resigned from its trustee board.

At the other charities, the Commission found little to no evidence that funds had been applied for charitable purposes and it was clear that false and misleading information had been submitted to the regulator (via accounts and annual returns) to give the impression that these charities were being well run. For example, details such as accounts being audited by an Independent Examiner and that the charities had an adequate number of trustees were not true.

Amy Spiller, Head of Investigations at the Charity Commission, said:

Mr Jimmy-Kay misled the Commission extensively about his identity

and about the work of these charities. His behaviour was entirely at odds with what we expect from trustees and we're glad, through proactive investigation, that we've uncovered his elaborate deceit.

Charities exist to do good and trustees should demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. It's right we have disqualified this individual for the longest time possible and removed his charities from the register. We hope this serves as a cautionary tale to others who might consider using charities for their own purposes.

Ends

Notes to Editors:

1. The Charity Commission is the independent, non-ministerial government department that registers and regulates charities in England and Wales. Its purpose is to ensure charity can thrive and inspire trust so that people can improve lives and strengthen society.
2. The 7 charities initially investigated were Kono District Development Association UK (KDDA UK) (1160673), Social Action and Poverty Alleviation (SAAPA) (1111959), ACT (Action for Community Transformation) (1174726), British Africa Connexions ("BAC") (1171412), FAO (Friends of African Organisations) (1147157), Hope Direct (1114725) and IPAD (1131132). The charities were not connected by their charitable purposes or where they operated.
3. KDDA UK was removed from the substantive phase of the inquiry, after the Commission determined that this charity was operating for the public benefit and took action to address concerns about its accounts.

Public urged to continue protecting family and friends

- New government campaign launches across England to remind public of importance of continuing healthy behaviours to reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Short film featuring Dr Amir Khan highlights importance of remaining cautious as those vaccinated can still pass on the virus
- New research shows that nearly nine in 10 (86%) hope that people will proceed with caution and common sense, three quarters (77%) will continue to wear face masks, 81% will practice social distancing where

possible and 83% say they will continue to wash hands thoroughly and often

Everyone across England is being urged to continue letting fresh air into enclosed spaces, take up the offer of twice-weekly free testing, wash their hands and book both doses of their vaccine, in a major new campaign which has been launched today (Thursday 22nd July).

As we have moved into step 4 of the roadmap and restrictions have been cautiously lifted, the campaign begins across radio and print advertising to encourage the nation to remind the public of the importance of continuing healthy behaviours to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

This includes a new short film, narrated by TV doctor and practising GP, Dr Amir Khan. The message encourages the public to meet outside if they can, let fresh air in when inside, wear a face covering in crowded places, check-in into venues and test regularly, even if they have been vaccinated.

The film shows how those positive actions that have become second nature to many people over the pandemic should continue to be implemented into everyday lives.

New research was conducted as part of the campaign which reveals nearly nine in 10 (86%) hope that people will proceed with caution and common sense even with restrictions lifted.

The full list of actions being invited to continue include:

- Booking your first or second vaccine if eligible without delay
- Letting fresh air into enclosed spaces
- Regularly twice weekly testing
- Taking a PCR test even if you only have mild symptoms
- Checking in to venues using the NHS COVID-19 App
- Washing hands often and carrying hand sanitiser
- Wearing face masks when in close proximity to others and distancing not possible, particularly in enclosed spaces such as public transport or small shops

Health and Social Care Secretary, Sajid Javid, said:

We should all be proud of the efforts of our nation in getting us to a point where we have been able to lift restrictions in a careful and cautious way as we move one step closer to normal life. This new campaign highlights the importance of continuing to follow the simple actions we have become accustomed to, such as practicing good hygiene and letting in fresh air wherever possible.

Our world-leading vaccine programme has helped us build a strong wall of defence, saving tens of thousands of lives and preventing millions of infections. By the end of September, we plan to make full vaccination a condition of entry to nightclubs and other venues where large crowds gather, as well as for quarantine-free travel from amber list countries. I urge everyone who is eligible to book their first and second jabs without delay.

Dr. Amir Khan, practicing GP who features in the new film said:

Thanks to the nation's efforts, we are now able to travel to family and friends across the country, and visit the places that we love and have missed – such as cinemas, sports stadiums and restaurants. But whilst we can enjoy the benefits of restrictions lifting, please remember that COVID-19 is still with us; good ventilation indoors, regular testing and handwashing are just some of the actions that will help stop the spread.

If you have the virus, its particles bind to you; these particles are spread while you talk, exhale, eat, or perform other normal daily activities – which makes continuing to carry out these simple actions so important. Being vaccinated helps protect you and those around you further, because the vaccine limits the volume or quantity of viral particles shed by individuals who are infected with the virus. All these actions are common sense and second nature to us now, I would encourage people to keep doing them and help keep life moving.

Whilst data from Public Health England estimates that the vaccination programme in England has prevented over 11 million infections and saved almost 37,000 lives, around one in three people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading the virus without knowing.

Even if someone has been vaccinated, they can still get the virus and pass it on. This is because its particles bind to individuals and spread through talking, exhaling, eating, or performing other normal daily activities. The vaccination limits the volume or quantity of viral particles shed by individuals who are infected with the virus helping to stop the spread.

From the research of over 3,000 adults in England, over three quarters say that they will continue to wear face masks when in crowded spaces, 81% will practice social distancing where possible and 83% say they will continue to wash hands thoroughly and often.

Among those who said they would continue with at least one of these actions, 74% said they are doing so to help protect others, whilst 63% say it's respectful to other people who may feel more nervous about the lifting of restrictions.

Over a third (34%) said that they now have a greater understanding of how germs and viruses spread and feel better able to try and protect themselves. And with cases of other viruses, such as seasonal vomiting bug Norovirus, increasing as restrictions ease, people are being urged to take extra precautions to protect themselves and loved ones, by using these healthy behaviours.

Notes to Editors:

Campaign film can be viewed [here](#).

[Vacancy for Higher Scientific Officer in the Biologicals Team](#)

News story

Details of a vacancy for a Higher Scientific Officer in the Biologicals Team.



This exciting and interesting role puts you at the heart of the important work of the VMD's Biologicals Team where you will be responsible for the assessment of quality and safety data for applications for variations and renewals of Marketing Authorisations for biological/immunological veterinary medicinal products.

Job Title

Higher Scientific Officer in the Biologicals Team

Grade

HS0 Higher Scientific Officer

Office base

Addlestone, Surrey

Salary & Pension

£32,557 per annum with Pension Scheme

Annual Leave entitlement

Commencing at 25 days

Role

Your work will help the VMD ensure that applications are determined in accordance with the defined targets contributing to the VMD meeting its published standards. Your work also plays a major role to help assure the continuing quality, safety and efficacy of veterinary medicines.

Therefore supporting the VMD's aim to protect public health, animal health, the environment and promote animal welfare by assuring the safety, quality and efficacy of veterinary medicines.

Skills

- applying analytical and problem-solving skills quickly to assimilate scientific and other information, identify issues, draw conclusions, and make recommendations when preparing scientific reports relating to the evaluation of the benefit/risk of applications
- communicating scientific issues, in writing and face-to-face, with clarity

Qualifications

You must have a degree in microbiology, immunology or other relevant biological or science-based discipline.

How to apply

You must make your application via the [Civil Service Jobs Website](#) where you will find a full job description including salary details.

Closing Date

18 August 2021

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