

COVID-19 Communications and Behavioural Advisory Group

Meeting 4

Date: 13/11/20

Time: 14.00

Venue: Video Conference

Attendance:

Deirdre Watters (DOH), Deirdre Robertson (ESRI), Elaine Scanlon (DHFESIR), Liam Delaney (UCD), Marie Boran (DCU), Karl Purcell (SEAI), Rosaleen Harlin (DOH), Sinéad O'Donnell (DOH) Angela McGloinn (UL), Barbara Gormley (DCU), Gerard O'Neill (Amárach Research), Pete Lunn (ESRI), Aoibheann Ní Shuilleabháin (HSE), Orla Muldoon (UL), Molly Byrne (NUIG).

Apologies: Robert Murphy (DOH), Sheila Caulfield (DOH) Lyndsey Drea (DOH) Rachel Wright (HSE)

Agenda

1. Minutes
2. Public expectations on Christmas
3. Safe Socialising – Social Budget
4. Self-isolation
5. AOB

Agenda Item 1 Minutes were agreed.

Agenda Item 2 Update on Amárach research on Christmas. Group commented:

- Adult to adult communication is key
- People will comply with sensible advice
- People are worried about organising Christmas – shopping not office party
- Being properly organised makes it easier to get through Christmas
- Allow people to plan, outline clearly how restrictions will be eased
- Give clear advice on how to have a safe Christmas – like Thanksgiving advice in Canada

Agenda Item 3

- How many people should be in a social budget?
- Appropriateness of the "social budget" name for the idea
- 10 too many, 6 should be decided in line with epidemiological evidence/advice
- Is it just for young adult? Why can I only meet one person if I am 30, but my 29 year-old sister can meet ten?
- What is appropriate socialising outside?

Agenda Item 4

As discussed at last weeks meeting, HSE have taken feedback of group on board and Contract Tracing scripts are being updated. This will be discussed at a meeting next week (Friday Nov 20)

Mention of UCC Research into self-isolation

AOB

- Insights into anticipatory behaviour around the vaccine – group members will share insights into other research they are involved with.
- Underlined importance and usefulness of pre-testing communications surrounding the vaccine program