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I am writing to you following my appearance at the COVID-19 Committee on Thursday 20 August, where I promised to provide further information on several issues raised by members.

The first question was from Beatrice Wishart regarding whether northern isles councils were sighted on the plans for the Aberdeen restrictions before they were applied. I can confirm that Transport Scotland did consider whether any discussions were required in advance. However, once it was clear that people could continue to travel to and from Aberdeen it was considered there would be no detrimental travel impacts and no discussions required. Relevant local authority representatives, including from SOLACE, are involved in the decision-making process and the meetings around this both locally and nationally and as such can help ensure local authority colleagues in the wider Local Government family are kept appropriately up to date.

The second question was from Adam Tomkins regarding the number of hospital admissions, including the number in intensive care. The Scottish Government has discussed this with Grampian Health Board who have advised that given the current total small number of COVID-19 inpatients in Grampian, this should be considered as personal identifiable information and therefore cannot be released.



The third question was from both Monica Lennon and Liam Kerr, regarding publishing the IMT recommendations and data. Again the Scottish Government has discussed this with Grampian Health Board who advised that, as per current national guidance, it is expected that the IMT will determine the most appropriate format for incident reporting, after the incident is declared over and the incident investigation and management completed. IMT reports are sent for approval and endorsement to the relevant NHS Board meeting or a NHS Board Committee e.g. Clinical Governance Committee. The NHS Board will then decide who to share the report with.

I hope this further information is helpful.

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