

Message from Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Message from the Chief Executive

As I am sure you will have seen on the national media, on Thursday the First Minister confirmed that Scotland is moving into Phase 1 of the route map out of lockdown restrictions. This will provide some welcome opportunities for us all to see more family members and take part in more recreation activities – all at physical distancing, of course.

This progress is a result of a fantastic collective effort to control COVID-19 by following the public health messages, so well done to all of you. Of course, there are still limits on what we can do, and with whom. Let's all stick with it and soon we will hopefully be into Phase 2 and looking further forward to some sort of normality.

In terms of what this week's changes mean for your working arrangements, I can advise that these are unchanged at this time. It is vital that we keep all our workforce safe, so we'll be taking small and careful steps. So do not plan to change your current working arrangements unless you've heard from your manager.

In Education, a draft timeline for the return of staff to schools has already been issued to Head Teachers and managers, and teachers and others will be informed when they should plan to return to work. These arrangements include plans for our Childcare Hubs for key workers.

Across the council, everyone has been really good about following the rules that keep up all safe and we'll have a new set of rules to follow when we do return to work. These are being worked through with TU colleagues and once agreed will be issued.

All these requirements are new to us all but we'll work our way through this and respond quickly to any concerns identified.

In the meantime, stay safe and stay well.

## **Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive**

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