

10 November 2011

Dear Colleague

UK INFLUENZA PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS STRATEGY 2011

I am pleased to present you with a link to the updated UK pandemic flu strategy which is published today.

The document describes an updated, UK-wide strategic approach to planning for and responding to the demands of an influenza pandemic. It supersedes the 2007 *National framework for responding to an influenza pandemic* (including the equivalent Scottish version). The strategy has UK-wide applicability and there will be no separate version for Scotland or the other devolved administrations. We are however considering the development of operational guidance to accompany the main Strategy, focussed on the health and social care sectors.

As with the previous version, the expectation is that the strategy will inform the development of updated operational plans by local organisations and emergency planners.

A consultation on the draft Strategy ran from March until 17 June 2011. We would like to thank those of you who responded to the consultation. A summary of the responses from across the UK is also being published. Links to both documents are available via the Scottish Government website:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/11/e3135711/link>

or directly on the Department of Health website:

UK Strategy:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_130903

Response to the consultation:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Responsestoconsultations/DH_130901

Yours sincerely

BILLY RENFREW

NHS Board Support & Resilience