

COVID-19 Northern Ireland Updates 25th March:

Health

- The current number of cases in Northern Ireland has risen to 209 with 7 people having died as a result of the illness
- Chief Medical Officer Michael McBride has said he believes there are “many thousands” of CV-19 cases in Northern Ireland
- A specialist Covid-19 treatment centre has opened in Derry today – suspected cases will be assessed by GPs at the urgent care building
- The Health Service will expand the number of ventilators available to 179 by the end of March
- Letters will be sent out today to 40,000 people in Northern Ireland deemed most at risk
- The Health and Social Care Board has launched an appeal to retired GPs who can help provide support in the crisis
- The Department will launch an app tomorrow to advise people on symptoms and the next steps
- The Executive are planning a volunteer army to support the healthcare system and the wider coronavirus crisis

Business

- The decision to close off-licences is now being reviewed by the Executive
- An announcement will be made tomorrow by the UK government on contingency plans for the self-employed
- Workers have staged a walk out at Moy Park and ABP over safety concerns

Construction/Manufacturing

- The Executive Office have stated they will forcibly close sites and facilities which are not abiding by safety measures

Political

- The UK parliament will close tonight indefinitely once the passage of emergency legislation is complete
- Minister for Justice Naomi Long has stated that ‘enforcement of measures should only be a last resort’
- MLA offices will now be closed to the public

Infrastructure

- The City of Derry Airport has suspended most flights with only flights to London taking place at a reduced capacity
- The Department for Infrastructure’s Roads and Rivers office has now closed
- Bin Collections have been reduced to black bins only

