

Protecting and improving the nation's health

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7 May 2020

Dear David,

Appointment of Trevor Phillips to the BAME COVID-19 Review

Thank you for your letter dated 30 April to Dame Julia Goodfellow regarding Trevor Phillips' involvement in the review to examine the impact of COVID-19 within black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities. I have been asked to reply on Julia's behalf.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) has asked Public Health England to review the existing evidence to determine if some population groups have an increased risk of adverse outcomes from COVID-19 including some ethnic groups.

PHE is preparing a study which will use our surveillance data to assess the impact of COVID-19 in BAME ethnic groups. This work is being carried out solely by PHE scientists and officials and will be published by the end of May.

Alongside this, PHE is hosting a series of stakeholder events over the next few weeks to ensure that a final report is informed by as many qualified experts and independent advisors in this field as possible. These discussions will include community and faith groups, local government leaders, devolved nations, academics and researchers, Royal colleges and other government departments. I would welcome any written contributions from you or your colleagues which can help us in addressing the aims of the review.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Kevin Fenton MD PhD FFPH

Regional Director, PHE London & Regional Director of Public Health, NHSE London