4 February 2020

**Information on Wuhan Coronavirus**

**Information about the virus**

A coronavirus is a type of virus. As a group, coronaviruses are common across the world. Typical symptoms of coronavirus include fever and a cough that may progress to a severe pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties.

Generally, coronavirus can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease.

Novel coronavirus (2019-nCov) is a new strain of coronavirus first identified in Wuhan City, China.

**UK Situation**

As of 29th January, a total of 130 UK tests have been concluded, of which all were confirmed negative and 0 positive.

There are currently no confirmed cases in the UK or of UK citizens abroad, and the risk to the public is low. The government is monitoring the situation closely and is continuing to work with the World Health Organisation and the international community.

If and when a first case in the UK is confirmed, it will be announced as soon as possible by the Chief Medical Officer.

**Advice for travellers from Wuhan**

If anyone in the UK has returned from travel to Wuhan in the last 14 days they should:

* Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu viruses
* Call NHS 111 to inform them of their recent travel to the city

Even if they do not have symptoms of the virus they should still follow the above advice.

People are being asked to take simple, common-sense steps to avoid close contact with other people as much as possible, like they would with other flu viruses.