

Full text of a letter, dated 26 March 2020, from the UK Prime Minister to Deputy Gavin St Pier, Guernsey

10 Downing Street

London SW1A 2AA

The Prime Minister

26 March 2020

Dear Gavin

Thank you for your letter of 20 March 2020 asking for assurances about the analysis by UK laboratories of Coronavirus tests for Guernsey and the Crown Dependencies.

The view of the World Health Organisation is that to control the spread of the virus, countries need to test, test, test – which we wholeheartedly agree with. We were one of the first countries to develop a test for COVID-19 and we have continued to increase testing capacity in this country throughout the outbreak. To clear the previous backlog and meet future anticipated demand, we have committed to boosting NHS lab-based testing to at least 25,000 a day for patients most in need, and are working to increase our total testing capacity to 1 million tests a week.

This Government is committed to working with the Crown Dependencies to help defeat what is the challenge of this generation. I am pleased to confirm that Colindale Public Health Laboratory will complete the agreed number of tests for Guernsey. We will ensure that this relationship continues until your own testing capabilities are up and running.

Best wishes

Boris Johnson