

# They Knew They Were Breaking the Law

Confessions of their Whats-app Messages

Despite the declaration of a public health emergency, lawyers were quite clear in their advice to Hancock that –

1. Any incarceration (quarantine) requires free informed consent – and so must be voluntary
2. Incarcerating people (quarantine) without their consent violates the Human Rights Act
3. Hancock used coercion (flight restrictions) to impose quarantine.
4. Hancock ignored safety testing requirements

This shows that UK government ministers were consciously breaking the law, against the advice of their own lawyers.

All of the mandates were illegal, and the government knew that.

You need to know that too, so you can stand up for your legal rights. The law is on your side.

Hancock: "I made clear my view is that anyone we bring back to the U.K. should go into quarantine - no ifs or buts."

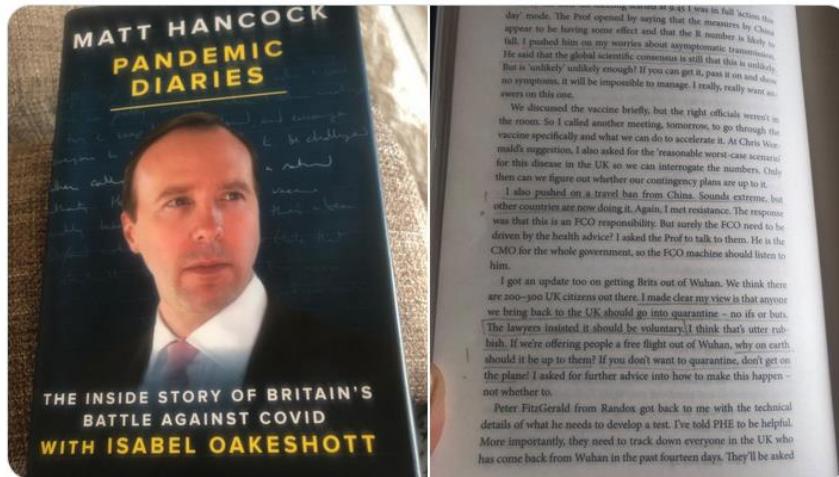
"The lawyers insisted it should be voluntary."

"I think that's utter rubbish

Why should it be up to them?"

So Matt rejected and ignored the legal advice

Why?



day' mode. The Prof opened by saying that the measures by China appear to be having some effect and that the R number is likely to fall. I pushed him on my worries about asymptomatic transmission. He said that the global scientific consensus is still that this is unlikely. But is 'unlikely' unlikely enough? If you can get it, pass it on and show no symptoms, it will be impossible to manage. I really, really want answers on this one.

We discussed the vaccine briefly, but the right officials weren't in the room. So I called another meeting, tomorrow, to go through the vaccine specifically and what we can do to accelerate it. At Chris Wharmby's suggestion, I also asked for the 'reasonable worst-case scenario' for this disease in the UK so we can interrogate the numbers. Only then can we figure out whether our contingency plans are up to it.

I also pushed on a travel ban from China. Sounds extreme, but other countries are now doing it. Again, I met resistance. The response was that this is an FCO responsibility. But surely the FCO need to be driven by the health advice? I asked the Prof to talk to them. He is the CMO for the whole government, so the FCO machine should listen to him.

I got an update too on getting Brits out of Wuhan. We think there are 200-300 UK citizens out there. I made clear my view is that anyone we bring back to the UK should go into quarantine - no ifs or buts.

The lawyers insisted it should be voluntary. I think that's utter rubbish. If we're offering people a free flight out of Wuhan, why on earth should it be up to them? If you don't want to quarantine, don't get on the plane! I asked for further advice into how to make this happen - not whether to.

Peter Fitzgerald from Randex got back to me with the technical details of what he needs to develop a test. I've told PHE to be helpful. More importantly, they need to track down everyone in the UK who has come back from Wuhan in the past fourteen days. They'll be asked

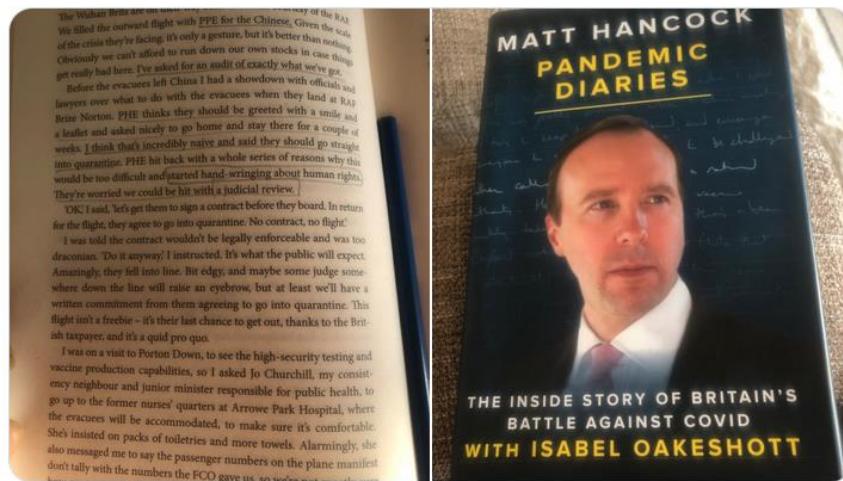
The lawyers said informed consent  
IS NECESSARY – but Hancock  
ignored them.

Hancock: "I ..said they should go straight into quarantine.

PHE hit back with a whole series of reasons why it would be too difficult and started hand-wringing about human rights.

They're worried we could be hit with a judicial review."

"Do it anyway", I instructed."



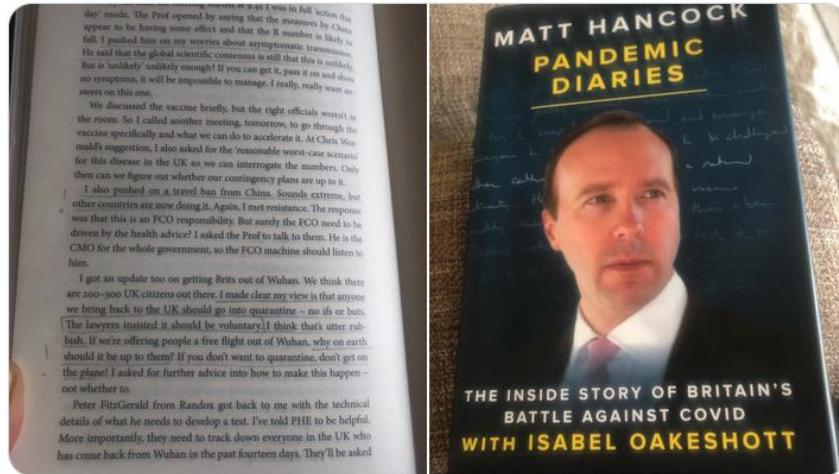
PHE said it violated the Human Rights Act, but Hancock ignored them.

Hancock: "Let's get them to sign a contract before they board. In return for the flight, they agree to go into quarantine. No contract, no flight."

I was told the contract wouldn't be legally enforceable and was draconian.

"Do it anyway", I instructed."

Legality, Matt?



Lawyers told Hancock that an agreement to medical treatment (quarantine) must be with FREE informed consent. Using coercion to elicit consent (by restricting air travel) makes the contract illegal and void.  
Hancock ignored them.

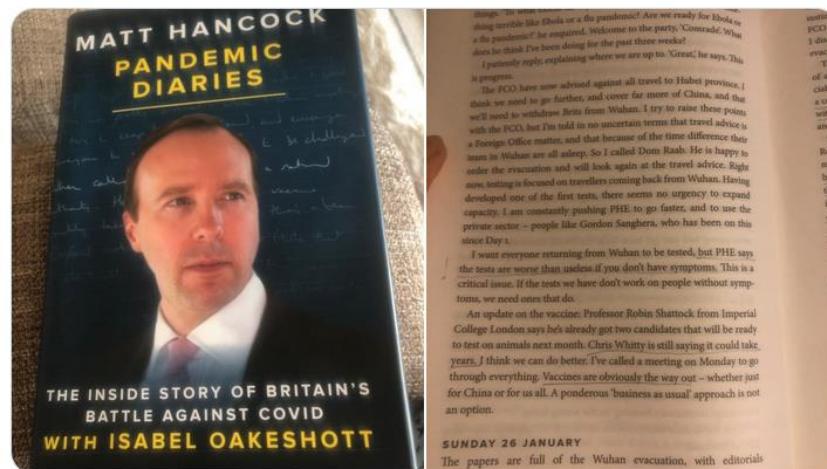
Hancock: "An update on the vaccine.. Chris Witty is still saying it could take years.

I think we can do better.

Vaccines are obviously the way out.

A ponderous "business as usual is not an option."

So you ignore safety & risks of fast-tracking an experimental vaccine, Matt?



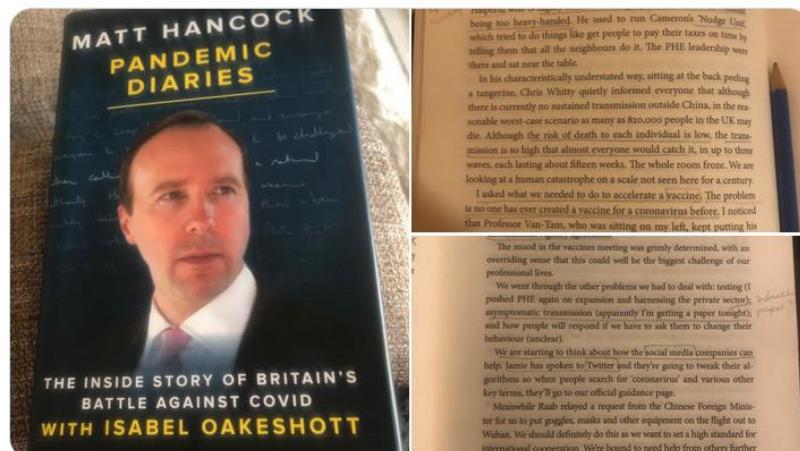
### Hancock ignored regulations regarding Safety Testing

Hancock: "...what we can do to accelerate a vaccine

Problem is no one has ever created a vaccine for coronavirus before

Van-Tam said developing a vaccine normally takes 5-10 years  
If everything is fast-tracked we could do it in a year -18 months"

"I want it by Xmas", I said



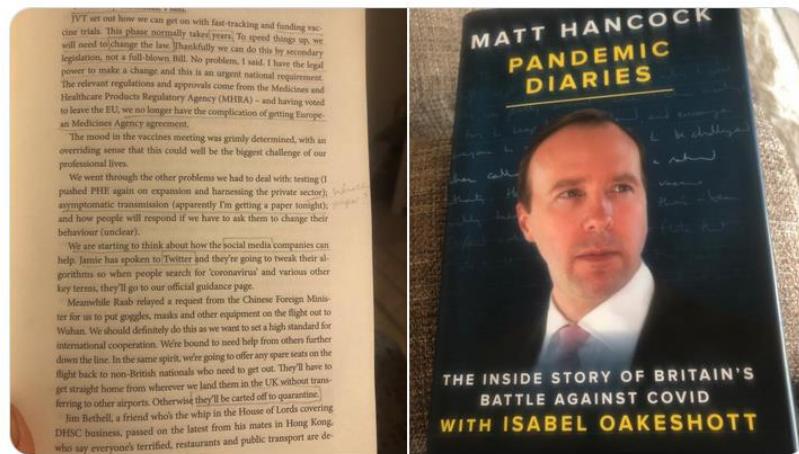
Hancock: "Van-Tam set out how we can get on with fast-tracking and funding vaccine trials.

This phase normally takes years

To speed things up, we will need to change the law

No problem, I said.

I have the legal power to make a change & this is an urgent national requirement"

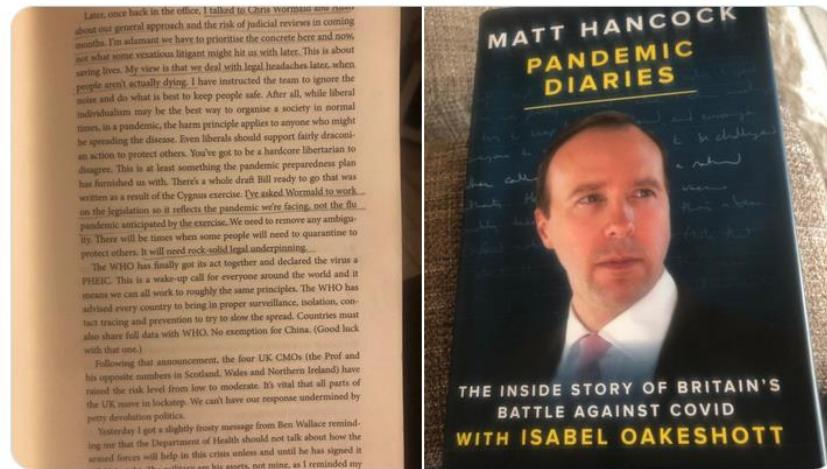


Hancock: "I talked to Chris Wormald & Allan about our approach & the risk of judicial reviews

I'm adamant we have to prioritise, not what some vexatious litigant might hit us with later

My view is we deal with legal headaches later

I've instructed the team to ignore the noise"



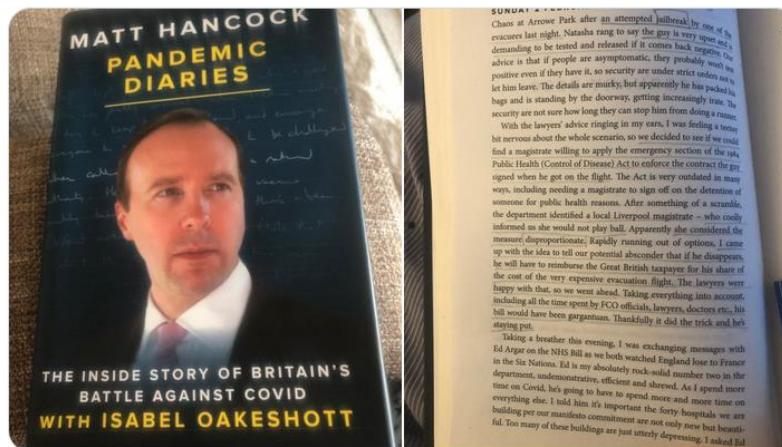
Hancock ordered his team to ignore the lawyers

Hancock: "Chaos .. after an attempted jailbreak by one of evacuees last night.. the guy is very upset & is demanding to be tested & released if .. negative.

We decided to..find a magistrate willing to apply the emergency section of PH(CD)Act 1984 to enforce..

"Jailbreak"??

1/



A quarantined person tried to escape. Hancock searched for a corrupt magistrate willing to override his human rights.

Hancock refers to quarantine as "jail"