

**CORPS**  
**SECURITY**

# Health & Safety Bulletin

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**From:** Nick Gilroy, Quality & Compliance Manager

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**Subject:** Updated COVID-19 Measures

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Following what is seen as a large increase in reported cases of COVID-19 in the UK (although thankfully not a large increase in the rates of fatalities), The government has reintroduced and updated plans to control the virus and protect the public, as well as attempting to keep the economy and society open. There have also been big increases in the spread of the virus in Europe and other countries, with infection rates in France and Spain increasing rapidly.

The government has announced new measures to suppress the virus and keep the number of infections down:

- **In England, from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, you must not meet with people from other households socially in groups of more than 6. Similar guidelines will be enforced in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.** This will apply indoors and outdoors, including in private homes. This change will simplify and clarify the rules on social gatherings, so they are easier to understand and easier for the police to enforce. There will be a limited number of exemptions. COVID-19 Secure venues, such as places of worship, restaurants and hospitality venues, can still host larger numbers in total but groups of up to 6 must not mix or form larger groups. This rule will not apply to individual households or support bubbles of more than 6 who will still be able to gather together. Education and work settings are unaffected, and organised team sports will still be able to proceed, as will weddings and funerals up to 30 people. From Monday, this limit will be enforceable in law.
- **Businesses will have a clear duty to support NHS Test and Trace.** From 18<sup>th</sup> September, it will be mandatory for certain businesses to have a system to collect NHS Test and Trace data and keep this for 21 days. Core COVID-19 Secure requirements will be mandated for hospitality businesses, with legal sanctions being enforced.
- **The government will support Local Authorities and police forces to respond to breaches of COVID-19 Secure guidelines.** The government will launch a register of newly qualified and recently retired Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) so that Local Authorities can recruit more quickly and fill any gaps. In addition, they will introduce **COVID-19 Secure Marshals** to help local authorities support social distancing in towns and city centres. We have already had enquiries from a customer regarding training for COVID Secure Marshals for a site (please contact myself or Pardeep Singh for details).
- **The government will restrict the opening hours of premises, initially in local lockdown areas, with the option of national action in the future.** This has been introduced in Bolton, following a steep rise in cases, and will seek to restrict activities that may lead to a spread in the virus.

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The government in Scotland have launched a free application for use on smart phones – [Protect Scotland](#) which can be downloaded from the iPhone App store or Google Play store.

Use of the App is entirely voluntary and when you use the App you will be alerted if you have been in close contact with another App user who has tested positive for coronavirus. If you test positive and enter the unique code sent to you in the App, it will anonymously warn other App users who you have been in close contact with.

A similar free application for use on smart phones has been launched in Northern Ireland – [StopCOVID NI](#) which can be downloaded from the iPhone App store or Google Play store by anyone who is **resident in Northern Ireland**. Users downloading the App who are not resident in Northern Ireland will not be able to receive authorisation codes, in relation to a positive test for COVID-19, as the App is linked to the NI test registry.

On downloading and activating the App, users are asked to confirm that they are resident in Northern Ireland, and if not, are discouraged from using the App, explaining that it will not work for them.

Please remember that It is critical that everybody observes the following key behaviours:

- **HANDS – Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.**
- **FACE – Wear a face covering where required and in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.**
- **SPACE – Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre + with extra precautions in place.**
- **HYGIENE - Please ensure you maintain good personal hygiene and clean surfaces, shared equipment, flat surfaces, etc.**
- **DISPOSAL - Dispose of all used PPE, cleaning materials, etc in an appropriate manner**

**Nick Gilroy**  
Quality & Compliance Manager