

CORPS
SECURITY
Health & Safety Bulletin

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From: Nick Gilroy, Quality & Compliance Manager
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Subject: Updated COVID-19 Measures

Following what is seen as a large increase in reported cases of COVID-19 in the UK (coupled with an 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 increases in the spread of the virus in Europe and other countries, with infection rates in France, Italy and Spain increasing rapidly.

The latest rate of confirmed cases in the UK stands at 1,123,197 (an increase of 24,138) with 48,120 fatalities (an increase of 378). The Reproduction rate (or R rate) remains unchanged for the UK at between 1.1 and 1.3 which essentially means that on average, for every 10 people infected, they may go on to infect between 11 and 13 other people, causing the outbreak to grow exponentially.

The Government has announced new National restriction measures in England to suppress the virus and keep the number of infections down:

- **In England, from Thursday 05th November, you should stay at home except for specific purposes. These restrictions are due to stay in place until Wednesday 02nd December. These restrictions are underpinned by law and the police will have powers to give out fines and break up gatherings**
- **Similar guidelines will be enforced in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.**
- **Individuals should stay at home except for specific purposes, which include:**

Going to work

To help contain the virus, everyone who can work effectively from home must do so. Where people cannot do so - including, but not limited to, people who work in critical national infrastructure, construction, or manufacturing - they should continue to travel to their workplace. This is essential to keeping the country operating and supporting sectors and employers. Security Officers are classed as essential workers and should continue to attend work and carry their Company ID card, SIA licence and letter of authority issued by the company (as applicable).

The risk of transmission can be substantially reduced if COVID-19 secure guidelines are followed closely. Extra consideration should be given to those people at higher risk.

Essential activities

You can leave home to buy things at shops which are open, for instance for food and medicine, or to collect any items - including food or drink - ordered through click-and-collect or as a takeaway, to obtain or deposit money, or to access critical public services

Fulfilling legal obligations

You may also leave home to fulfil legal obligations, or to carry out activities related to buying, selling, letting or renting a property.

Education and childcare

You can leave home for education (formal provision, rather than extracurricular classes such as music or drama tuition), training, registered childcare and children's activities that are necessary to allow parents/carers to work, seek work, or undertake education or training. Parents can still take their children to school, and people can continue existing arrangements for contact between parents and children where they live apart.

Meeting others and care

You can leave home to visit people in your [support bubble](#) (defined as a close support network between a household with only one adult and one or more people under the age of 18) or to provide informal childcare for children 13 and under as part of a childcare bubble, to provide care for vulnerable people, to provide emergency assistance, attend a support group (of up to 15 people), or receive respite care. People can also exercise outdoors or visit an outdoor public place

Medical reasons, harm and compassionate visits

You can leave home for any medical reason, including to get a COVID-19 test, appointments and emergencies, to visit someone who is giving birth or dying, to avoid or escape risk of injury or harm (such as domestic abuse), to visit someone in a care home (if permitted under care home guidance), hospice, hospital, to accompany them to a medical appointment, or to go to the vets (or other animal welfare services).

Events

You can leave home to attend a place of worship for individual prayer, a funeral or a related event for someone who has died, to visit a burial ground or a remembrance garden, or to attend a deathbed wedding. A full list of what is allowed can be found on the Government website.

Meeting others safely

In general, you must not meet people socially. However, you can exercise or meet in a public, outdoors space with people you live with, your support bubble (or as part of a childcare



Health & Safety Bulletin

bubble), or with one other person. You should minimise time spent outside your home. When around other people, stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household - meaning the people you live with - or your support bubble. Where this is not possible, stay 1 metre apart with extra precautions (e.g. wearing a face covering).

You must not meet socially indoors with family or friends unless they are part of your household or support bubble. Outdoor public places include:

- neighbourhood streets, parks, beaches, and the countryside
- public gardens and grounds (whether or not you pay to enter them)
- allotments
- outdoor playgrounds

You cannot meet people in a private garden unless you live with them or have formed a support bubble with them.

Face coverings are required by law to be worn in many indoor settings, such as shops or places of worship where these remain open, and on public transport.

Businesses and venues which must close

To reduce social contact, the Government has ordered certain businesses and venues to close or restrict how they provide goods and services. These include:

- Non-essential retail, such as clothing and homeware stores, vehicle showrooms (other than for rental), betting shops, tailors, tobacco and vape shops, electronic goods and mobile phone shops, and market stalls selling non-essential goods. These venues can continue to be able to operate click-and-collect (where goods are pre-ordered and collected off the premises) and delivery services
- Hospitality venues such as cafes, restaurants, pubs, bars and social clubs; with the exception of providing food and drink for takeaway (before 10pm; and not including alcohol), click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery
- Accommodation such as hotels, hostels, guest houses and campsites. Except for specific circumstances, such as where these act as someone's main residence, where they cannot return home, for homeless people, or where it is essential to stay there for work purposes
- Leisure and sports facilities such as leisure centres and gyms, swimming pools, tennis and basketball courts, golf courses, fitness and dance studios, climbing walls, archery, driving, and shooting ranges
- Entertainment venues such as theatres, concert halls, cinemas, museums and galleries, casinos, amusement arcades, bingo halls, bowling alleys, skating rinks, go-karting venues, soft play centres and areas, circuses, funfairs, zoos and other animal attractions, water parks, theme parks. Indoor attractions at botanical gardens, heritage homes and landmarks must also close, though outdoor grounds of these premises can stay open
- Personal care facilities such as hair, beauty, tanning and nail salons. Tattoo parlours, spas, massage parlours, body and skin piercing services must also close. It is also prohibited to provide these services in other peoples' homes
- Community centres and halls must close except for a limited number of exempt activities as set out below Libraries can also remain open to provide access to IT and digital services - for example for people who do not have it at home - and for click-and-collect
- Places of worship, apart from for the purposes of independent prayer, and service broadcasting and funerals



Health & Safety Bulletin

Businesses and venues which can remain open

Other businesses are permitted to stay open, following COVID-19 Secure guidelines. This includes those providing essential goods or services, including:

- Essential retail such as food shops, supermarkets, pharmacies, garden centres, hardware stores, building merchants and off-licences.
- Petrol Stations, car repair and MOT services, bicycle shops, and taxi and vehicle hire businesses.
- Banks, building societies, post offices, loan providers and money transfer businesses
- Funeral directors
- Launderettes and dry cleaners
- Medical and dental services
- Vets and pet shops
- Agricultural supplies shops
- Storage and distribution facilities
- Car parks, public toilets and motorway service areas.
- Outdoor playgrounds

Public Services

The majority of public services will continue, and you will be able to leave home to visit them.

Protecting people more at risk from coronavirus

There is a group of people who are defined on medical grounds, as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable to coronavirus (CEV) – that is, people with specific serious health conditions. Currently the Government are advising the clinically extremely vulnerable to work from home. If you cannot work from home, you are advised not to go to work and may be eligible for Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) or Employment Support Allowance (ESA). You are encouraged to stay at home as much as possible, but are encouraged to go outside for exercise. The Government will write to **everybody** who is clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) to set out detailed advice while the new restrictions are in place. Any Corps colleagues in receipt of a letter or who consider themselves to be CEV must notify their line manager/HR Department immediately

A second group has been identified as Clinically Vulnerable (CV). If you are over 60 or clinically vulnerable, you could be at higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. You:

- should be especially careful to follow the rules and minimise your contacts with others
- should continue to wash your hands carefully and more frequently than usual and maintain thorough cleaning of frequently touched areas in your home and/or workspace

Clinically Vulnerable people are those who are:

- aged 70 or over (regardless of medical conditions)
- under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (that is, anyone instructed to get a flu jab each year on medical grounds):
- chronic (long-term) mild to moderate respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema or bronchitis
- chronic heart disease, such as heart failure
- chronic kidney disease
- chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis



Health & Safety Bulletin

- chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS) or cerebral palsy
- diabetes
- a weakened immune system as the result of certain conditions or medicines they are taking (such as steroid tablets)
- being seriously overweight (a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above)
- pregnant

The CV group will not receive a letter from the Government, but should take extra precautions as required and keep in regular contact with their GP

Travel

If you live in England, you cannot travel overseas or within the UK, unless for work, education or other legally permitted reasons, and you should look to reduce the number of journeys you make. However, you can and should still travel for a number of reasons, including:

- travelling to work where this cannot be done from home
- travelling to education and for caring responsibilities
- to visit those in your support bubble - or your childcare bubble for childcare
- hospital, GP and other medical appointments or visits where you have had an accident or are concerned about your health
- to buy goods or services from premises that are open, including essential retail
- to spend time or exercise outdoors - this should be done locally wherever possible, but you can travel to do so if necessary (for example, to access an open space)
- attending the care and exercise of a pet, or veterinary services

If you need to travel we encourage you to walk or cycle where possible, and to plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport. This will allow you to practise social distancing while you travel. Corps Security operates a cycle to work scheme.

You must not travel if you are experiencing any coronavirus symptoms, are self-isolating as a result of coronavirus symptoms, are sharing a household or support bubble with somebody with symptoms, or have been told to self-isolate after being contacted by NHS Test and Trace. The fine for breaching self-isolation rules start at £1,000. This could increase to up to £10,000 for repeat offences and the most serious breaches, including for those preventing others from self-isolating.

If you need to use public transport - to travel to work for example - you should follow the safer travel guidance. This includes the rules on wearing face coverings and advice on car sharing.

Staying away from home overnight

Overnight stays and holidays away from primary residences will not be allowed - including holidays in the UK and abroad. This includes staying in a second home or caravan, if you own one, or staying with anyone you do not live with or are in a support bubble with.

You are allowed to stay overnight away from your home if you:

- are unable to return to your main residence
- need accommodation while moving house
- need accommodation to attend a funeral or related commemorative event
- require accommodation for work purposes or to provide voluntary services
- are a child requiring accommodation for school or care



Health & Safety Bulletin

- are homeless, seeking asylum or a vulnerable person seeking refuge
- are an elite athlete or their support staff or parent, if the athlete is under 18

If you were already on holiday, you should return to your home as soon as practical and comply with the 'stay at home' requirements in your holiday accommodation in the meantime.

Financial support

The flexibility of the current Covid Job Retention Scheme will be retained to allow employees to continue to work where they can. Employers small or large, charitable or non-profit are eligible and because more businesses will need to close, they will now be asked to pay just National Insurance and Pensions contributions for their staff during the month of November – making this more generous than support currently on offer.

Wherever you live, you may be able to get financial help through the:

- [Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#)
- [New Style Employment and Support Allowance](#)

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**

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