

Dear Member

Please see below today's update.

Keep well,

Regards

Ron

Summary of the Govt. Announcements, 6 July 2020

The PM set out the Government's approach for controlling future local outbreaks. This is made up of five principle components:

- **Monitoring.** PHE, working with the Joint Biosecurity Centre, will examine carefully data on the spread of the disease and people's behaviour across the country.
- **Engagement.** If monitoring identifies local problems, NHS Test and Trace and PHE will work with the relevant local authority to develop a deeper understanding of the problem and identify solutions.
- **Testing.** Scaled-up testing at a local level, combined with contract tracing through NHS Test and Trace, can control the virus and thus avoid more stringent measures.
- **Targeted restrictions.** If the virus continues to spread, we will restrict activities at particular locations and close individual premises.
- **Local lockdown.** If the previous measures have not proven to be enough, we will introduce local lockdowns extending across whole communities. Local lockdowns will be carefully calibrated depending on the scientific and specific circumstances of each outbreak and we are continually exploring smarter means of containing the virus.

The Cabinet Office have published:

- new guidance on worst case scenario planning to ensure reasonable scenarios are considered for planning to ensure that the UK are able to respond to a range of situations

- And updated guidance on the closure of certain businesses and venues as part of further social distancing measures, and on the further easing of restrictions from 4 July 2020.

DfT have published new guidance stating you do not have to self-isolate on arrival in England if the places included in the outlined table (in the guidance) are the only places you have been to or stopped in during the previous 14 days. Regulations mean that you must self-isolate for 14 days if you return to the UK from a country outside the common travel area. The government is satisfied that it is now safe to ease these measures and has introduced travel corridor exemption for some countries and territories.

The FCO have published new guidance updating:

- its global advisory against 'all but essential' travel, exempting destinations that no longer pose an unacceptably high risk for British travellers
- and have updated guidance for British people travelling overseas to include the exemptions to the global advice

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency have published new guidance warning that thermal cameras and other such "temperature screening" products, some of which make direct claims to screen for COVID-19, are not a reliable way to detect if people have the virus.

The Rural Payments Agency have updated guidance with the latest information for farmers, landowners and rural businesses.

- Inspectors have resumed on-site visits to farms and food processing plants following Government advice, and adhering to social distancing rules at all times.
- Inspectors will be contacting customers before a visit to explain the arrangements and to find out if there are any issues we need to be aware of, including vulnerability.

PHE have updated guidance with information for shielding and protecting people defined on medical grounds as extremely vulnerable, including children, as well as their family, friends and carers. The update is taking into account that disease levels are substantially lower. It's for situations where a clinically extremely vulnerable person is living at home, with or without additional support. This includes clinically

extremely vulnerable people living in long-term care facilities for the elderly or people with special needs.

MHCLG has published new guidance supporting the government's guidance in light of the local lockdown implemented in Leicester from 4/7/20.

- It provides the list of businesses and premises expected to close
- Other restrictions, such as limits on gatherings and staying overnight

They have also released new guidance designed to enable the safe reopening of places of worship for a broader range of activities from 4 July 2020.

And updated guidance designed to assist people planning to get married or form a civil partnership.

The Department of Health and Social Care have published:

- new guidance on their privacy notice outlining that this now describes how they will process personal data from venues and establishments to support contact tracing
- They have also released new guidance on how you can see people you do not live with if there's a local lockdown.
- new guidance stating the majority of children currently considered extremely clinical vulnerable will be able to be removed from the shielded patient list.

The Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy have released:

- a suite of updated guidance on a notice to display to show you have made your workplace COVID-secure which has been updated to reflect the change to the 2m rule
- The visitor economy – Guidance added on keeping records of staff, customers and visitors (sections 2.1 & 7.1). With 12 guides that cover a range of different types of work. Many businesses operate more than one type of workplace, such as an office, factory and fleet of vehicles.

DEFRA have updated guidance with advice on using green spaces and protecting yourself and others.

DVSA have updated guidance stating:

- theory tests have restarted on 4 July 2020 with social distancing and safety precautions in place.
- theory tests are still suspended in areas under local lockdown
- Section on when you must not come for your theory test to explain that from 10 July, you will not have to self-isolate if you're arriving a country or territory on the travel corridors list
- Car driving tests will restart in England on 22 July 2020 with safety precautions in place – other types of tests will restart before then.

MHCLG have updated a suite of guidance on:

- managing council buildings, including a new section on gatherings
- managing community centres, village halls and other community facilities on safely re-opening multi-purpose buildings, updated to reflect that multi-use community facilities can now open

Dept of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport have published new guidance announcing agreements to allow selected sporting events and production on film and television to get underway safely.

And have also released guidance that arts, culture and heritage industries will receive a £1.57bn rescue package. Thousands of organisations across a range of sectors including the performing arts and theatres, heritage, historic palaces, museums, galleries, live music and independent cinema will be able to access emergency grants and loans. The package includes: -

- £1.15bn support pot for cultural organisations in England delivered through a mix of grants and loans.
- This will be made up of £270m of repayable finance and £880m grants
- £100m of targeted support for the national cultural institutions in England and the English Heritage Trust
- £120m capital investment to restart construction on cultural infrastructure and for heritage construction projects in England which was paused due to the pandemic
- The new funding will also mean an extra £188m for the devolved administrations in Northern Ireland (£33m), Scotland (£97m) and Wales (£59m).

Decisions on awards will be made working alongside expert independent figures from the sector including the Arts Council England and other specialist bodies such as Historic England, National Lottery Heritage Fund and the British Film Institute.