

# MPA member advice following the announcement of the easing of COVID 19 measures on 19th July

The Government has confirmed that it is planning to lift most of the remaining social restrictions on 19th July. Whilst the lockdown restrictions apply primarily to social activities, the advice to 'work from home if you can do so' will also be lifted.

As a consequence of these changes, employers may be faced with more workers reporting Covid infections due to activities and contacts outside of work. MPA recommends that existing controls and measures to manage Covid risk in the workplace remain in place over the coming weeks. As we assess the potential impacts of easing, we will monitor the situation with members and publish further advice as appropriate.



[View our 'Stay COVID-19 Alert' poster.](#)

## HSE position

As communicated previously, HSE expect to see that Covid-secure control measures in the workplace are being maintained and there is currently no change in that position (<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/roadmap-further-guidance.htm>) although we are in regular contact with HSE and will advise members if that position changes.

## Member feedback

Feedback from the MPA Health and Safety Committee indicated that many members are starting to ease working restrictions very slowly. For example, phased return to offices, with any large scale returns generally delayed in most cases until into the Autumn. Existing Covid measures are being maintained (Hands, Face, Space and Ventilation etc). It was agreed that this seemed like the most sensible approach for the time being.

## MPA recommendations

MPA invites members to consider the following in terms of managing their operations beyond 19th July to protect your workforce and minimise possibility of disruption due to requirements to isolate.

- Maintain core Covid secure measure (Hands Face Space and Ventilation) as a minimum. Keep the situation under review and avoid making any major reductions in workplace Covid controls over the coming weeks.
- Where workers are returning to the work environment, re-induct them so that they understand what Covid safe measures and other changes have been implemented.
- Any reduction in, or removal of Covid controls should be very carefully considered, implemented in a phased way as and when appropriate and should only be considered when/if HSE update their guidance.
- Review and update your Covid risk assessments, involving your workforce and communicate any changes.

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