

14 April 2020

Briefing Note

CECA Scotland Member Briefing:

COVID-19 - CECA SCOTLAND UPDATE

Introduction

CECA Scotland will be producing regular updates to keep member companies updated on new developments relating to the Covid-19 coronavirus and its impact on the Scottish civils sector. This briefing will be delivered daily and posted on our website. If you would like further information or to share your experiences about how COVID-19 is impacting on your business, contact Chief Executive Grahame Barn: 07976 199615 or grahame@cecascotland.co.uk.

Project bank accounts signing requirements during COVID-19 CPN 2/2020

The Scottish Government have today (14th April) issued a Construction Policy Note which allows Project Bank Accounts to be signed off by electronic signature until at least June 30th. Read more [here](#).

HSE Joint Statement with the Partnership for Health & Safety in Scotland (PHASS)

The HSE have issued a joint statement with PHASS aimed at providing clarity to employers and employees in Scotland in respect of safe working during COVID-19. In summary:

- Employers must continue to provide workers with information about risks to their health
- The HSE expect fair work principles to apply during the crisis.
- Businesses in Scotland should adhere to [Scottish Government guidance on social distancing](#).
- Where businesses in Scotland do not enable social distancing (when it is practical to do so before personal protective measures), the HSE will consider a range of actions ranging from providing specific advice to employers through to issuing enforcement notices, including prohibition notices
- Read the full statement [here](#).

Scottish Government Procurement Blog

The Scottish Government Public Procurement team have issued short blog on the recent Coronavirus (COVID-19): impact on construction contracts CPN 1/2020, which you can read [here](#).

Tax Update (JTC Newslines)

You can read the April tax update from construction industry tax expert, Liz Bridge [here](#). This latest update contains valuable advice and guidance around the furlough process (including a very helpful template letter) and HMRC requirements.

Funding to support businesses during COVID-19

A reminder that you can access details of all funding currently available at <https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/coronavirus-advice/sources-of-funding>

Scottish Government Advice

The Scottish Government's latest COVID-19 advice for businesses can be read here:

<https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/coronavirus-advice>.

For issues not dealt with on the website, call the Scottish Government [Helpline](#) on 0300 303 0660.

HMRC Tax Helpline: 0800 024 1222, open 8am-4pm, Monday to Friday.

UK Government Advice

UK wide guidance, detailing all Scottish and UK Government support for businesses operating here in Scotland can be read [here](#).

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on grahame@cecascotland.co.uk