

29th May 2020

# Briefing Note

CECA Scotland Member Briefing:

## COVID-19 - CECA SCOTLAND UPDATE

### Introduction

CECA Scotland are producing regular updates to keep member companies updated on the latest developments relating to the Covid-19 coronavirus and its impact on the Scottish civils sector. These briefings are also posted on the CECA Scotland [website](#). For further information, please contact our Chief Executive, Grahame Barn: 07976 199615 or [grahame@cecascotland.co.uk](mailto:grahame@cecascotland.co.uk).

### Construction Restart Guidance

Following yesterday's Scottish Government announcements, you can access the Scottish Government's updated construction guidance and other related restart guidance, including on Safe Operating Procedures, on the CECA Scotland website [here](#)

### Blog from Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning, Kevin Stewart MSP

Kevin Stewart MSP, who has Ministerial responsibility for the construction sector, has written a Blog on the Scottish Government's updated construction sector guidance. You can read it [here](#).

### COVID-19 Phase 1 Business and Physical Distancing Guidance

The Scottish Government have today (29<sup>th</sup> May) issued Phase 1 guidance for businesses on physical distancing which you can access in full [here](#). The updated guidance reflects the changes made as we enter phase 1 of the [route map for moving out of lockdown](#) and complements the measures outlined in yesterday's guidance, [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): staying at home and away from others](#).

The Chief Medical Officer for Scotland has advised that all non-essential business sectors should stay closed "unless and until we can all be clear how operations can be undertaken safely and in a way that is fully compliant with physical distancing".

Workplaces permitted to reopen in phase 1 of the [route map for moving out of lockdown](#) include:

- non-essential outdoor workplaces, with physical distancing and once relevant guidance agreed
- construction - Phases 0-2 of industry restart plan can be implemented. Industry to consult government before progressing to phase 2
- workplaces resuming in later phases can undertake preparatory work on physical distancing and hygiene measures

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- gradual re-opening of drive through food outlets
- garden centres and plant nurseries can reopen with physical distancing. Associated cafes should not reopen at this stage except for takeaway
- Work carried out in people's homes, for example by tradespeople carrying out repairs and maintenance, can continue, provided that the tradesperson is well and is not showing coronavirus symptoms and neither they nor any of their household are self-isolating.

### Advice from HMRC on how to deal with the economic impacts of coronavirus

Updated (29<sup>th</sup> May) advice from HMRC is available to support your business deal with the economic aspects of COVID-19. Access videos, free webinars and support [here](#).

### HSE Guidance

#### Face Masks at Work

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, the HSE has worked with others to develop guidance about PPE (personal protective equipment) and [specific advice](#) for workers and employers on taking steps to protect people during the coronavirus outbreak which you can access [here](#).

#### Hand sanitisers and surface disinfectants

HSE has guidance for employers who are providing hand sanitiser in their workplaces which you can access [here](#).

### CECA Scotland Webinars

#### Director's Responsibilities in the Current Climate, Tuesday 2nd June, 11am

We are hosting a short webinar to members on Directors' responsibilities in the current climate. The webinar will be delivered by Matt Henderson, Restructuring Partner, Johnson Carmichael.

You can find out more and sign up [here](#).

#### Ken Yer Bairns - Session 2, Bridging the Gap, Wednesday 3rd June, 11am

In session 2 of "Ken Yer Bairns", Bob Cummins of [Soak](#) will explore how we can bridge the gap between the generations through a better understand of what drives us and others and start to explore the advantages of being different.

To book your place, click [here](#).

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on [grahame@cecascotland.co.uk](mailto:grahame@cecascotland.co.uk)

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### CICV Forum Webinar: Contracts and Cashflow

The CICV Forum are hosting a webinar to look at payment and cashflow issues, before and after COVID-19. It will explore the contractual and financial implications of site suspensions and start-ups, how construction businesses should protect their commercial positions more efficiently, and we will look at fast track methods of dispute resolution. Please feel free to submit any questions in advance. Presenters are Ian Honeyman, Commercial Director of Scottish Building Federation, Len Bunton and Angus Pearson, both industry consultants, with extensive experience in payment disputes, and advisers to the CICV Forum.

It is taking place 11am-12noon on 3 June. Book [here](#).

### Job Retention Scheme Changes

The UK Chancellor is today (29<sup>th</sup> May) expected to announce changes to the furlough scheme later today, setting out details of how employers will be asked to help pay the wages of furloughed workers. Read more [here](#)

The Scottish Government's latest COVID-19 advice for businesses can be read [here](#)  
[Advice specific to construction can now be found here](#)

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on [grahame@cecascotland.co.uk](mailto:grahame@cecascotland.co.uk)