

1 April 2020

Briefing Note

CECA Member Briefing:

Covid-19: CECA update

Introduction

This short briefing has been prepared on behalf of the UK construction sector to brief companies and individuals on the ongoing repercussions of the Covid-19 coronavirus for our sector. This briefing will be delivered daily by CECA over the coming weeks – if you would like further information, or to input your views, contact CECA chief executive Alasdair Reisner on 07977151912 or e-mail alasdairreisner@ceca.co.uk.

Support the fight against Coronavirus

The UK Government has asked industry to offer support to those fighting coronavirus. If your business can offer support in any of the following circumstances:

- Protective equipment for healthcare workers, such as masks, gowns, and sanitiser;
- Hotel rooms;
- Transport and logistics, for moving goods or people;
- Manufacturing equipment;
- Warehouse or office space, for medical use or storage;
- Expert advice or consultancy on IT, manufacturing, construction, project management, procurement, or engineering;
- Social care or childcare;
- Community support.

Please use [this link](#) to offer your help.

New industry survey (31 March 2020)

As part of our work to assess the impact of Covid-19 on the construction sector, we have been carrying out a series of surveys. Thank you to all firms that have taken part in the surveys. The latest version can be found [here](#). While the questions are similar to previous versions, please do fill in this version, as it allows us to assess changes in the industry over time.

Letter from Secretary of State for Business

Secretary of State for Business Alok Sharma has written to the construction industry to offer thanks for the work that it has done to help in the fight against coronavirus, and to confirm that continuing work is consistent with the Chief Medical Officer's advice. Read the letter [here](#).

Temporary suspension of sites

The Construction Leadership Council, working with the Construction Coronavirus Taskforce, has developed advice on temporary suspension of sites to ensure that any closures can be achieved as safely as possible, avoiding potential issues while the site is not active. Read the document [here](#).

CITB coronavirus toolbox talk for site operatives

CITB has developed a [coronavirus toolbox talk](#) to be delivered to construction workers by their immediate line manager or supervisor.

Temporary changes to Right to Work (RTW) checks during the coronavirus outbreak

Since 30 March 2020, Right to Work checks have been temporarily adjusted to make it easier for employers to carry them out during the coronavirus outbreak. Until further notice, employers do not need to see original documents and can complete Right to Work checks over video calls. Prospective workers are now able to submit scanned documents, rather than originals, to show they have the right to work. Checks continue to be necessary and it is an offence to knowingly employ or let property to anyone who does not have legal immigration status in the UK. If prospective or existing employees cannot provide any of the accepted documents, employers should use the [Employer Checking Service](#). Once the temporary changes end, employers will be asked to carry out prescribed checks on existing employees who started work during the pandemic.

Covid-19 Webinars

ACE has announced a new online webinar series to help its members and the wider industry through the coronavirus crisis. Hosted by ACE chief executive Hannah Vickers, Navigating COVID-19 covers the major issues currently facing our industry including finance, people, communications and procurement.

Attendees will have the opportunity to ask virtual questions to the panel of experts on specific announcements, such as the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme or Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme. The webinars are open to anyone with an interest in the topics covered. Sign-up now to upcoming webinars through the links below:

Procurement (02.04.20, 12.00pm)

[Sam Ulyatt](#) and [John Welch](#) of Crown Commercial Service, part of the Cabinet Office, explore the recent procurement policy notices and what they mean for the construction sector. [Alasdair Reisner](#) of CECA joins to explore how contractors can support the supply chain during the crisis.

People in a Pandemic (07.04.20, 12.00pm)

Exploring the HR and people issues raised by the crisis such as remote working, staff morale and more. Panellists TBA soon.

Communicating in a Crisis (09.04.20, 1.30pm)

With special guest [Andy Walker](#), editor of *Infrastructure Intelligence*, we will explore the steps you need to take to communicate effectively externally, internally and with stakeholders and clients. [Stuart Young](#), BEIS joins us to help answer any questions.

Find out more and replay previous episodes [here](#).

CECA Employment Briefing - Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (Updated 31 March)

Read CECA's Employment Briefing on the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme [here](#). Please note this briefing will be updated as further information becomes available.

CECA Employment Briefing - Coronavirus

Read CECA's Employment Briefing on the impacts of Covid-19 [here](#).

CECA Training & Development Update

Read CECA's Training & Development Update in reference to coronavirus [here](#).

New CECA Guidance (30 March) - Temporary Suspension of Sites

CECA has published new guidance on the temporary suspension of sites. Read it [here](#).