

6 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](mailto: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.

### CECA Webinar for Members - Covid-19

CECA is planning on delivering a webinar on Thursday afternoon (9 April) which will cover the following topics:

- Employment support – Coronavirus Job Retention, statutory sick pay, self-employed income support
- Business support – including business loans, HMRC deferrals, and Help to Pay
- Procurement support
- CECA's activities to support members.

Members who wish to express an interest in the webinar should e-mail [alasdairreisner@ceca.co.uk](mailto:alasdairreisner@ceca.co.uk). When doing so, please include any particular issues or questions that they would like the webinar to cover. Further details will be sent out tomorrow.

*Please note that the Government has confirmed that furloughed workers can take part in webinars whilst they are furloughed.*

### Extended Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS)

The UK Government has extended the CBILS so that all viable small businesses affected by COVID-19, and not just those unable to secure regular commercial financing, will now be eligible should they need finance to keep operating during this difficult time. UK Government has also stopped lenders from requesting personal guarantees for loans under £250,000 and has made operational changes to speed up lending approvals. The Government will continue to cover the first twelve months of interest and fees. Please find further details [here](#).

### Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CLBILS)

A new CLBILS will provide a UK Government guarantee of 80% to enable banks to make loans of up to £25 million to firms with an annual turnover of between £45 million and £500 million. Loans backed by a guarantee under CLBILS will be offered at commercial rates of interest. Further details of the scheme will be announced later this month. Please find initial details [here](#).

### Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

Over the weekend the UK Government has published an update to its guidance on the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. Details of the update can be found [here](#).

### Wales

The Welsh Government has published updated [advice](#) mandating that all workplaces observe the 2m rule. Detailed guidance will be published when the new regulations come into force on Tuesday (7 April) morning. All businesses will have to take all reasonable measures to ensure the 2m rule is maintained between people on their premises whenever work is being carried out.

### CITB

CITB has approved SMSTS and SSSTS refresher courses through remote learning for Site Safety Plus training centres. You can find more out about this from your local centre through the [SSP course locator](#).

### Impact of coronavirus on jobs in construction - webinar

Registration is open for a webinar on the impact of coronavirus on jobs in construction and the built environment, to be held on from 1.00pm-3.00pm on Wednesday 8 April. It will cover all aspects of paid employment in the construction industry during the age of the coronavirus, including the Job Retention Scheme, Furloughing and the Workforce Exchange Programme. Speakers will include Hannah Vickers, CEO of the Association for Consultancy and Engineering (the author of the CLC Job Retention Guidance); Steve Corbett, Head of Client Solutions at Capita Resourcing, who is managing the Government's Workforce Exchange Programme; together with experts from UHY Hacker Young and Beale & Co who give a view from the accountancy and legal professions. To register for this webinar please click [here](#).

### 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:

#### 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 Training & Development Update (2 April 2020)

Read CECA's latest training & development update in reference to Covid-19 [here](#).

#### Training & Development E-Resources

Click [here](#) for a list of CITB-supported training & development e-resources.

### [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](#).

### [New CECA Guidance \(30 March\) - Temporary Suspension of Sites](#)

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