

7 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.

CECA Workload Trends Survey 2020 Q1

CECA's Workload Trends Survey for 2020 Q1 is now live. The deadline for the survey is the close of business on 4 May 2020 - please complete it so we can gather the most accurate picture of the current state of our industry and feed back to Government and other stakeholders. The survey is available [here](#).

CECA Webinar for Members - Covid-19 - 9 April 2020

Please click [here](#) to register for a CECA National webinar for members at 2.00pm on Thursday (9 April 2020). Once you register your place, you will be sent your invitation to the event. We recommend logging on at least 5-10 minutes prior to the event to make sure you can log in. The lobby will open 5 minutes prior to the event starting. If you do not receive an invitation e-mail, please check your spam and clutter folders. If you have any queries, e-mail jemma@ceca-yorks.co.uk.

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

Updated Procurement Policy Note

The Crown Commercial Service has prepared [construction-specific guidance](#) on its recently published Procurement Policy Note 2/20 Supplier relief due to COVID-19.

The original note outlined how public sector clients can support their supply chain during the current crisis. The new update focusses on how this support can work with current industry contracts and includes some model deeds of variation. The note recognises that most UK construction suppliers will be 'at risk' as a result of the Covid-19 crisis

and therefore clients do not need to undertake detailed financial analysis before providing relief. The note also blocks companies from furloughing staff that are due to work under contracts that are subject to relief.

Last week representatives from across industry wrote to the Prime Minister recommending public sector clients to release retentions to support cashflow in the sector. The note stops short of proposing this, instead saying that clients may consider doing so, but that it may mean that they take on inappropriate risks.

Finally, the note suggests that clients establish Project Bank Accounts for current projects to help with industry cashflow during the Covid-19 crisis.

Local Government Association

The LGA are keen to gather information regarding local government in relation to infrastructure provision during the Covid-19 pandemic. If there are issues relating to local government and infrastructure that the LGA may be able to help with, please e-mail marieclaudhemming@ceca.co.uk - your information will be anonymised before we pass it on to the LGA unless you request otherwise.

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 today (7 April 2020). 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.

Mental health support

Industry mental health charity Mates in Mind is working in partnership with CECA to deliver free mental wellbeing workshops. These workshops are aimed at employees; and managers (including supervisors). The live online workshops will take place on 15,16, and 21 April, and will be delivered by trained mental health practitioners. Delegates will be able to see and interact with the tutor and with each other.

- Mental Wellbeing Workshop for Employees

Get everyone thinking and talking about mental health in this 45-minute online session. The session gets us to think about how the current environment impacts our wellbeing, how we can look out for ourselves and our co-workers.

- Mental Wellbeing Workshop for Managers

This one-hour workshop provides managers and leaders with increased skills and confidence to support employees with their mental wellbeing during the current climate.

Anticipating level of interest, places are initially limited to 2 delegates per organisation. We have confirmed that furloughed employees are allowed to take part in this training without affecting their furloughed status. Book your place now:

Wednesday 15 April

09.00 - 10.30 Manager - click [here](#).

11.00 - 12:15 Employee - click [here](#).

13.00 - 14.30 Manager - click [here](#).

15.00 - 16.00 Employee - click [here](#).

Thursday 16 April

09.00 - 10.30 Manager - click [here](#).

11.00 - 12:15 Employee - click [here](#).

13.00 - 14.30 Manager - click [here](#).

15.00 - 16.00 Employee - click [here](#).

Tuesday 21 April

09.00 - 10.30 Manager - click [here](#).

11.00 - 12:15 Employee - click [here](#).

13.00 - 14.30 Manager - click [here](#).

15.00 - 16.00 Employee - click [here](#).

[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](#).

For more information, please contact CECA Chief Executive Alasdair Reisner on 07977 151912 or e-mail alasdairreisner@ceca.co.uk