

CORONAVIRUS – TRAINING DELIVERY METHODS

Last night, the UK government announced the shape of a plan on how to beat Covid-19 and provided the first sketch of a road map for reopening society. The Prime Minister stated that they are taking the first careful steps to modify the measures in place.

The first step is a change of emphasis on getting back to work. Initially the government advised to work from home if you can, and only go to work if you must. The government now stress that anyone who cannot work from home, for instance, those in construction and manufacturing, should be actively encouraged to go to work. Employers must ensure the workplace is safe and that social distancing measures are maintained and adhered to.

The latest advice from HSE (<https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/social-distancing-coronavirus.htm>) states the following:

- *Keep your business open. With the exception of some non-essential shops and public venues, **we are not asking any other businesses to close – indeed it is important for business to carry on.***
- *Employers should take every possible step to facilitate their employees working from home. Where it is not possible to work from home you can still travel for work purposes, provided you are not showing coronavirus symptoms and neither you nor any of your household are self-isolating.*
- *Employers who have people in their offices or on site should ensure that employees are able, where possible, to follow Public Health England guidelines on social distancing (including, where possible, maintaining a 2 metre distance from others), and hygiene (washing their hands with soap and water often for at least 20 seconds).*

Advice differs in each nation. Please ensure you check the guidance for the fundamental differences in “Critical Work” and attitudes to “staying at home” in [England](#), [Scotland](#), [Wales](#) and [Northern Ireland](#).

UKATA initially advised against face to face training based on government advice and the necessity for training. However, as the country starts to get back to work, in particular the construction industry, we would still advise where possible to avoid face to face training.

We also understand that webinar, video conference and E-Learning are very limited, therefore where members can satisfy social distancing requirements as set out by the UK government, face to face training could be undertaken on the following provisos:

1. Government (devolved included) guidance is adhered to.
2. Ensure a suitable risk assessment has been undertaken.
3. Limit the class sizes to ensure social distancing measures are met.
4. Assess delegates, temperature and health condition, where possible.

5. Assess delegate's needs from a distance and demonstrate practical training at a safe distance.
6. Ensure hygiene is always maintained with the use of hand sanitiser and washing facilities.

We are aware these are difficult times and UKATA are assisting members where they can, and the above statement is set out to assist members and clients to ensure compliance with all legislative requirements and safety guidance.

We continue to monitor, review and follow the latest government guidance and will endeavour to keep all members updated on any future developments.

On behalf of the directors, staff and myself, I would like to thank members for their ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



Craig Evans

Chief Operating Officer

On behalf of the board of directors