

## **SAIF's Coronavirus (Covid-19) update 03.08.21**



### **SAIF's coronavirus (Covid-19) update 030821**

#### **England**

##### **Thank you**

Thank you to SAIF members who responded to our recent survey on the impact of current self-isolation rules on your businesses. SAIF has briefed the Civil Contingencies Secretariat (CCS) at the Cabinet Office on the high risks of these regulations, and the CCS is grateful to you for sharing your concerns; it has promised to take on board your comments.

Separately, at a Cabinet Office meeting today, we were able to clarify two important points on seeking [reasonable excuse to leave self-isolation to attend work](#). These are:

1. Staff cannot be excused from self-isolation if a member of their household has tested positive for Covid-19.
2. Pre-emptive applications for reasonable excuse to leave self-isolation to attend work are not permitted.

Please note that these rules cease on the 16th August 2021 and there will be no requirement to self-isolate if you have been fully vaccinated, having received the second dose no fewer than 14 days prior to coming into contact with a Covid-19 positive person.

Also during today's meeting, the Cabinet Office has asked for information on families in England who have exercised the exemption to attend a funeral, whilst testing positive for Covid-19. If any of your clients have done this - and as a result you have experienced an infection from a client either during an arrangement, a visit to the chapel of rest or at the funeral service itself, please

can you email the SAIF Business Centre at [info@saif.org.uk](mailto:info@saif.org.uk) by close of play on Thursday 5th August 2021 with details, including its impact on your business.

## **Scotland**

### **Scotland to move beyond Level 0 on Monday 9th August**

The Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has today confirmed that Scotland will move beyond Level 0 on Monday 9th August with the lifting of most coronavirus restrictions. From Monday, physical distancing requirements will end, all venues can reopen, and there will be no number limits on gatherings. A range of measures will stay in place, however, including a requirement to wear face coverings indoors, contact tracing will continue, and travel restrictions will remain. For further details, please see [this announcement](#) from the Scottish Government.

## **Wales**

### **Risk assessment responsibility**

Following the release by the Welsh Government of interim [guidance on funerals](#) last week, we can confirm that risk assessments are the responsibility of venue owners and operators, regardless of whether it is a regulated venue or private dwelling. Funeral directors only need to carry out risk assessments for gatherings at their funeral homes.

Core guidance is due for release next week and SAIF will be sure to share this with members as soon as it becomes available.

## **Northern Ireland**

### **Update awaited**

SAIF understands that the Northern Ireland Executive is due to meet today to discuss current restrictions. We are monitoring for any announcements and will share details as soon as they come through.