

23rd June 2020

Briefing Note

CECA Scotland Member Briefing:

COVID-19 - CECA SCOTLAND UPDATE

Introduction

CECA Scotland will be producing regular updates to keep member companies updated on new developments relating to the Covid-19 coronavirus and its impact on the Scottish civils sector. This briefing will be delivered daily and posted on our website. If you would like further information or to share your experiences about how COVID-19 is impacting on your business, contact our Chief Executive, Grahame Barn: 07976 199615 or grahame@cecascotland.co.uk.

International Women in Engineering Day 2020

Not COVID-19 related but today is **International Women in Engineering Day** and to mark the occasion, CECA Scotland have published a Blog, written by our Most Promising Trainee Civil Engineer award winner for 2019/20, Bobi Archer. We have also produced a 60 second video in which Bobi highlights the three key things that need to change to address the diversity challenges the sector faces.

Read Bobi's blog, *My Journey into Civil Engineering* [here](#) and watch her video [here](#).

Return to Full-Time Schooling

Schools will return full-time in August if Scotland continues to make progress on suppressing coronavirus (COVID-19), Deputy First Minister John Swinney announced today. The Scottish Government has now made it a central planning assumption that pupils will return to class full-time in August. This is conditional on infection rates being sufficiently low to continue to control the virus, public health and testing systems being in place and protective measures and risk assessments being carried out in schools. Councils will continue to prepare blended learning models as a contingency. Read more [here](#) and John Swinney's statement in Parliament [here](#)

First Minister's Statement 23/6/20

You can read Nicola Sturgeon's statement [here](#); the following will be of interest to CECA members:

2 metre rule: The First Minister said that current advice and guidance remains to physical distance at 2 metres, but that the Scottish Government's scientific advisory group is looking at

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circumstances in which physical distancing could take place at less than 2 metres. This advice will be with the Scottish Government on 2nd July and will be considered ahead of the next review date. The First Minister added that it is likely we can consider some variation from the current rule should virus suppression continue.

Easing of Lockdown: Tomorrow the First Minister will provide further detail on the timing of some of the specific steps of our continued exit from lockdown.

Easing of lockdown in England from 4th July

Boris Johnson has today announced a [relaxation of the lockdown](#) in England from the 4th July. Pubs, restaurants, hairdressers and tourist attractions can all reopen, and two households will be able to meet up in any setting with social distancing measures. People can enjoy “staycations” in England.

2 metre rule: Following a review, where it is not possible to stay two metres apart, guidance will be changed to allow people to keep a social distance of ‘one metre plus’. This means staying one metre apart, plus mitigations which reduce the risk of transmission.

New plans to get “Britain” building

Measures to help the construction industry boost building and return to work safely will be announced this week by the UK Government, including:

- Introducing more than £330 billion of loans and guarantees to help firms continue operating
- Deferring self-assessment payments until 2021
- Flexible hours on construction sites
- Providing households across the country with reassurance such as 3-month mortgage holidays

Read more [here](#)

HSE Update: Air Conditioning and Ventilation

The HSE have published an update on air conditioning and ventilation in the workplace during the Coronavirus outbreak which you can read [here](#). While the risk of air conditioning spreading coronavirus (COVID-19) in the workplace is extremely low, if you use a centralised ventilations system that removes and circulates air to different rooms it is recommended that you turn off recirculation and use a fresh air supply.

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on grahame@cecascotland.co.uk

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New guidance published on moving home

The Scottish Government have today published new guidance on moving home during COVID-19 which you can read in full [here](#). This comes into effect on 29th June.

Second Homes

Guidance has been published today on how Scotland's route map for easing out of lockdown restrictions applies to second homes, which you can read [here](#). From 29th June, you can travel to a second home to check that it is secure and in good condition or carry out routine maintenance, but only stay there as long as is reasonably necessary to undertake these tasks. You cannot yet visit a second home for leisure purposes. During Phase 3, it is anticipated that you will be able to travel to and stay in your second home for this reason.

In Case You Missed It: Return to Work Safely Animation

The Construction Industry Coronavirus Forum, of which CECA Scotland is a key member, have today launched an Animation, which illustrates the key health and safety steps for a safe return to work. Entitled Working Together, the 90-second animation illustrates the positive day-to-day measures that workers in the construction industry can take to protect themselves, their colleagues, and the wider community. You can watch and download the Animation [here](#).

FINAL CALL: CECA Scotland Business Planning Webinar

Today is your last chance to register for our “*Business Planning: How to navigate the recovery from COVID-19*” webinar, delivered in partnership with our auditors, Johnson Carmichael.

The webinar will take place on **Wednesday 24th June at 11am**. For more details and to sign up, click [here](#).

You can access the Scottish Government's latest COVID-19 Construction Sector guidance [here](#).

Access Phase 2: business and physical distancing guidance [here](#).

For more information please contact Grahame Barn on grahame@cecascotland.co.uk

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