**NLHSG COVID-19 Update No 2 Friday 3rd April 2020**

Following the announcement on Monday 23rd March 2020, the message remains clear from the Prime Minister that people **MUST** stay at home to slow down the spread of the virus unless they are shopping for essential food, medical supplies, travelling to and from work if absolutely essential and for any medical need, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person.

## **Limiting spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in business and workplaces**

Businesses and employers can help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) by reminding everyone of the public health advice.

* Employees and customers should be reminded to wash their hands for 20 seconds more frequently than normal.
* Where water is not available, then hand sanitizer should be provided
* Frequently clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that are touched regularly, using your standard cleaning products.

Visit <https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/101/resources/5016> to download [posters, leaflets and other materials](https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/101/resources/5016) which may be useful in your workplace and welfare facilities.

**Expiration of current First Aid training certificates and requalification courses.**

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is aware that people holding First Aid at Work (FAW) or Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW) certificates nearing expiry date, might experience disruption to access to requalification training as a result of events or circumstances generated by the coronavirus pandemic. The HSE has announced a **3 month** **extension to the validity** for all certificates coming up for renewal on or after 16th March during the current Covid-19 crisis. This guidance comes into effect for certificates expiring on or after 16th March 2020 HSE will review this matter over the coming months and will issue further statements as necessary. Further information and the full statement by the HSE can found by clicking on <https://www.sja.org.uk/course-information/covid-19/#hse>

**Extension to Driver ADR certificates and DGSA certificates**

The DfT has announced that drivers’ ADR certificates and the certificate held by Dangerous Goods Safety Advisors that is due to expire between 1st March 2020 and 1st November 2020, will remain valid until 30th November 2020, a copy of the agreement has been forwarded as an attachment with this week’s information bulletin with further information available on the Department for Transport website.

**Working in the Construction Sector**

Alok Sharma MP - Secretary of Stateis in regular contact with industry leaders about the developing situation that face the construction sector. To help ensure that it is safe for you to operate in your workplace, the industry has worked to develop Site Operating Procedures (SOP), which were published by the Construction Leadership Council. These align with the latest guidance from Public Health England. As this health guidance updates, the SOP will reflect any changes. Visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) or [www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk](http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk) for the Site Operating Procedure developed.

**COVID-19 – Guidance on training for Fork lift trucks**

Certificates of training will specify a date by which refresher training should be undertaken and HSE is aware that the coronavirus pandemic may make it difficult for lift truck operators to renew/maintain their training certificates. This may mean that they have a training certificate that has recently expired or is near to its expiry date, and despite their best efforts they cannot access requalification training. f requalification training cannot take place for reasons associated directly with coronavirus, such as closure of training facilities, unavailability of trainers/assessors or by complying with other government advice on isolation and social distancing, it may be reasonable and practicable to extend the validity of current certificates by up to 3 months. Any employer or duty holder needing to utilise this extension period should be able to state clearly their reasons for delaying requalification training and demonstrate steps they have taken to undertake the training, if required. They should also be able to demonstrate that they are meeting their legal duty to monitor and supervise lift truck drivers to ensure that they continue to operate safely.

This guidance comes into effect for certificates expiring on or after 16th March 2020. HSE will review this matter over the coming months and will issue further statements as necessary. Further details are available at [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)



**How to correctly remove protective gloves.**

1. Pinch and hold the outside of the glove near the wrist area.
2. Peel downwards, away from the wrist, turning the glove inside out.
3. Pull the glove away until it is removed from the hand and hold the inside-out glove with the gloved hand.
4. With your un-gloved hand, slide your finger/s under the wrist of the remaining glove, taking care not to touch the outside of the glove.
5. Again, peel downwards, away from the wrist, turning the glove inside out.
6. Continue to pull the glove down and over the inside-out glove being held in your gloved hand. This will ensure that both gloves are inside out, one glove enveloped inside the other, with no contaminant on the bare hands

Government advice:

   <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

     <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>

 [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-coronavirus-information-service-on-whatsapp?](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/zZ8ICGv05S1J8Mxu7gpnw)

NHS advice:  <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

Advice for travellers:  <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/advice-for-travellers>

NHS 111 on line advice: <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19> or Telephone 111