



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Covid-19

Key Information

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak our aim has been clear: protecting public health and protecting the NHS.

As we move to opening up our society and the economy in Wales, these aims still stand.

Therefore we have some guidance to which businesses need to adhere. Businesses must operate safely and lawfully under this agreed guidance, in two areas with five points to work to.

Business Wales is also available to support organisations of all sizes with general information, advice and practical support.

Together we'll Keep Business Safe

Keeping Safe

1. Workforce Health

If someone becomes unwell in the workplace with a new, continuous cough; high temperature; the loss or a change in their normal sense of smell or taste they should be sent home and advised to follow the advice to stay at home.

Employers should use their discretion concerning the need for medical evidence for certification for employees who are unwell. This will allow GPs to focus on their patients.

If evidence is required by an employer, those with symptoms of coronavirus can get an isolation note by using the Covid-19 symptom checker on NHS 111 Wales.

2. Test, Trace, Protect

Welsh Government has published its [Test, Trace, Protect Strategy](#) which will help us live and work alongside the virus while research continues to find more effective treatments and a vaccine.

Test, Trace, Protect will work by:

- Testing those people who have coronavirus symptoms, asking them to isolate from wider family, friends and their community whilst taking a test and waiting for a result. Further information on what you can do to protect yourself and others can be found [here](#). All critical workers and members of the public can now [apply for a coronavirus test here](#).
- Tracing those people who have been in close contact with people who have tested positive for the virus, requiring them to take precautions through self-isolation. Further information on Test, Trace, Protect and [how it will work](#).
- Providing advice and guidance, particularly if the person who has symptoms or their contacts are in the shielding group or the at risk group, vulnerable or at greater risk.
- Ensuring that if the symptoms are not due to coronavirus, individuals and their contacts can get back to work and their normal routines as soon as possible.

See further [Guidance for Employers and Businesses in Wales](#).

Keeping Legal

3. Restarting Or Operating Your Business

The Coronavirus Regulations impose a number of restrictions on businesses and other services – these are continually reviewed as we gradually unlock Wales's economy. [View the full list of businesses and premises that are currently closed in Wales as a result of the coronavirus](#).

If you are permitted to operate your business you must do so safely in a way that complies with existing and new Coronavirus Regulations, in addition to other legal obligations imposed on employers (such as health and safety legislation).

Workers are only allowed to return to the work place if it is **not** reasonably practicable for them to work from home.

4. Physical Distancing

The Coronavirus Regulations impose a legal requirement on workplaces to take all reasonable measures to ensure a 2 metre distance is maintained between persons on their premises. [Guidance](#) has been produced to assist people in understanding what “taking all reasonable measures” means and what to do if it is not possible to maintain a distance of 2 metres in certain circumstances. Failing to comply with the physical distancing duty in Wales without reasonable excuse is an offence, which on conviction may lead to a fine.

5. Risk Assessment

All risks should be assessed, with meaningful discussion with staff and/or their recognised trade union, before re-commencing work. If the business or organisation is required by law to have a written risk assessment (where there are five or more employees) then significant findings must be written down and control measures put in place. Risk assessments are a legal requirement for pregnant women no matter the size of the business.



KEEP WALES SAFE

