

## Health and Safety

### COVID-19

#### COVID-19 Update following the government announcement on the 5<sup>th</sup> July

Nation	Face Coverings	Social Distance	Working from home
England	<p>From 19 July, the legal requirement to wear a face covering has been lifted, but people will be advised to continue to wear one in enclosed and crowded settings.</p> <p>There is a duties on employers to assess and manage the risk</p>	<p>From 19 July, social distancing rules have been lifted.</p> <p>There is a duties on employers to assess and manage the risk</p>	<p>From 19 July, people are no longer advised to work from home.</p>
Scotland	<p>Mandatory on public transport and in indoor public settings and hospitality, with exceptions including for those eating, drinking or exercising, or when seated at a table.</p> <p>To manage the risks work place may need to use face coverings at work.</p>	<p>People must remain 2m apart from each other.</p> <p>Employers should asses and manage the risks of COVID and mitigate the risk where social distancing is not possible.</p>	<p>Scottish government advice is that where possible, people should work from home.</p>
Wales	<p>Mandatory on public transport and in indoor public settings and hospitality.</p> <p>To manage the risks work place may need to use face coverings at work.</p>	<p>Government guidance is that people must remain 2m apart from each other. By law, employers must take all reasonable measures to ensure a 2m distance.</p>	<p>People are advised to work from home where possible. Welsh government guidance states that where it is not possible to work from home “employers must comply with a physical distancing duty, which means all reasonable measures must be taken to ensure a two-metre distance is maintained between people while working.”</p>
Northern Ireland	<p>Mandatory on public transport and in indoor public settings and hospitality.</p> <p>To manage the risks work place may need to use face coverings at work.</p>	<p>People should remain 1m apart.</p> <p>Employers should asses and manage the risks of COVID and mitigate the risk where social distancing is not possible.</p>	<p>People are advised to work from home where possible. Workplaces not required to close can continue to operate but must follow social distancing and workplace safety guidance.</p>
Republic of Ireland	<p>Face coverings are mandatory on public transport, shops and other public settings.</p> <p>It is recommended to wear a face covering in situations where social distancing is difficult, including crowded workspaces.</p>	<p>Employers must provide for physical distancing across all work activities.</p> <p>The current recommended distance to be maintained between people to minimise risk of transmission is 2 metres.</p> <p>Further guidance on the Republic of Ireland Work Safe Protocol</p>	<p>You should work from home, unless your work is an <a href="#">essential service</a> that cannot be done from home.</p> <p>(Manufacturing and construction included in essential services)</p>

### GGF Guidance

Members should use the GGF’s COVID-19 Safe Guides and for manufacturers please refer to the Site Operating Procedures.

[Installer Safe guide during COVID-19](#)

[Safe guide for Homeowners during COVIF-19](#)

[Site Operating Procedures during COVID-19](#)

## [The Safe Guide for: Manufacturers, Processors, Suppliers and Sales in the Glazing Supply Chain during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

### 'PING'demic (England)

An individual must self-isolate under the regulations when

- they receive a notification (including results of tests) from a relevant person that they have tested positive for covid or
- a child for whom they are responsible has, or
- they receive a notification from a relevant person that they or their child for whom they are responsible have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for covid, or
- they have travelled from a location (country) that requires them to self-isolate

“relevant person” means—

- a) the Secretary of State,
  - b) a person who is employed or engaged for the purposes of the health service (within the meaning of section 275 of the National Health Service Act 2006) in communicable disease control, or
  - c) a person employed or engaged by a local authority in communicable disease control;
  - d) It does not include notification by means of the NHS Covid 19 smartphone app.
- From 16th August fully vaccinated Close contact isolations will be exempt
  - If you know that a worker has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, you must not allow them to come into work or work anywhere other than where they are self-isolating (usually, their home) for their full self-isolation period. Failure to do so could result in your firm facing a fine, starting from £1,000.

### Health and Safety Committees

- GGF Health and Safety Committee
  - Met on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March. Next meeting rearranged for 8<sup>th</sup> July
  - Agenda items include;
  - Content and Literature update
    - Glass Installation Code of Practice review
    - Employee Handbook review
    - Glass Charter progress including- A Lessons learned scheme and Handbook
  - GGF Data update
    - New form online
    - Frequency of data requests from members.
  -
- External Health and Safety Committees

- CHARGE Committee (Cement, Ceramics, Concrete, Heavy Clay, Refractories and Glass Manufacturing Industries Joint Health and Safety Committee)
  - Unable to attend
- SIMPLC Committee (Safety in Manufacturing Plastics and Composites)
  - Unable to attend
- Recent trends
  - Can you and should you mandate the vaccine?
    - In summery GGF advice to members is to focus on their existing controls as GGF, HSE and Government COVID Secure guidance dictates to control the virus and not mandate the vaccine.
    - Mandating or disciplining employees regarding the vaccine could result in a breach in Human rights and/or discrimination.
    - Click here for our full article on the vaccines
    - <https://www.ggf.org.uk/covid-the-vaccines-explained/>

### Environment

- The Environment Committee
  - Met on 19<sup>th</sup> May
    - Submitted GGF response to the DEFRA waste reduction consultation.
      - Overall the GGF agree with the approach however have made a very clear statement that there is huge potential to be had on Glass Recycling and support would be appreciated.
    - Approved a GGF Recycling scheme for PVC-u Frames in partnership with FENSA and BFRC, we will be providing a recycling scheme delivered by CNC Recycling.
    - Looking to engage with recyclers to discuss Glass Recycling to get an understanding on the current situation of waste glass in the UK and Rol

### GGF Recycling

- Launched GGF, FENSA and BFRC UPVC Recycling scheme
- Ongoing investigation into glass recycling.

### Health, Safety and Environmental guidance and Codes of practice;

- Currently reviewing;
  - Safe installation of Glass code of practice
  - Employee Handbook
- Approved and due to publish
  - Code of Practice Work with Domestic Soffits and Rainwater Goods Containing Asbestos Cement has been completely re-written and with the designers now and due to be published for the end of March.
  - Several Asbestos accrediting bodies have now feedback on this guide these comments are to be reviewed and the guide amended accordingly.

## Legal Summary Update

### Legislation and guidance changes

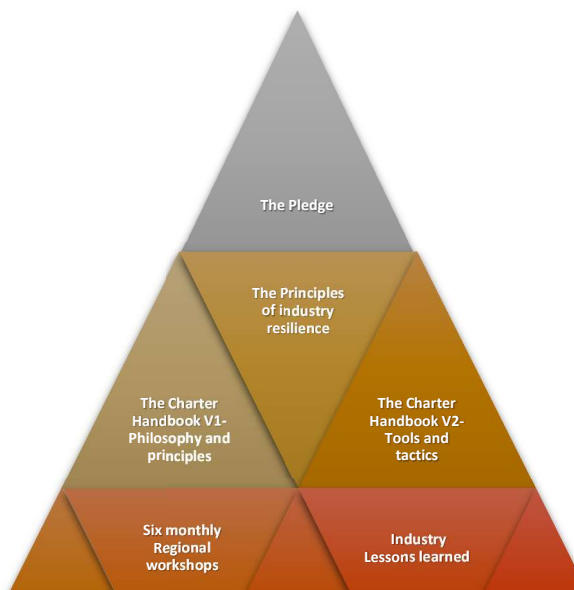
- The GGF have joined with Barbour EHS a legal monitoring service specialising in Environmental, Health, Safety and Energy regulations. Enabling us to give members proactive legal update.
- Going forward we will have a legal update published on the new Health, Safety and Environment webpage.
- [Click here to review the new page](#)

## Health, Safety and Environmental further support

- Health and Safety Basics 5<sup>th</sup> July
  - Citation join us again to present part two of Health and Safety Basics.
- August Webinar TBC
- [Click here to join](#)
- The HSE GGF website has been updated and is now available to all members.

## Glass Charter

- The GGF Glass Charter new proposal has been approved by the HS committee.
  - The previous versions of the charter have been reviewed numerous times however we still have less than 10% of members engaged with the charter.
  - The HS Committee approved the process of the review which will be managed by the committee;
- The approved new approach is a change to a Pledge and principle systems focused on guiding and supporting members as opposed to enforcing and auditing. The aim of this is to make the charter more inclusive for all members and to focus on the foundational aspects of safe performance.
- The summary model for the new scheme is;



## Q2 2021 Health Safety and Environmental Report



More details coming soon as the relaunch of the new modern scheme is developed.

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