

No. 411/2020

4 August 2020

Our Ref: EX5/20

To: All Branches

Dear Colleagues,

Reporting Workplace Safety Concerns Related to Coronavirus/COVID-19 to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Following an outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) identified in parts of Greater Manchester, East Lancashire, and West Yorkshire, the government and relevant local authorities are acting together to control the spread of the virus. Social distancing is a key public health measure introduced by Public Health England to reduce the spread of infection. Most employers and managers are following the guidance to ensure social distancing wherever possible.

The HSE has reiterated the message that if it comes to the HSE's attention that employers/managers are not complying with the relevant Public Health England guidance (including enabling social distancing), the HSE will consider a range of actions ranging from providing specific advice to employers through to issuing enforcement notices, including prohibition notices.

Where workers or trade union safety reps have genuine concerns about health and safety which cannot be resolved through speaking with their employer/manager or trade union, using established escalation processes, they can contact the relevant enforcement agency – either their local authority, or the HSE through this link:

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/concerns.htm>

The HSE advises concerned workers and safety reps to report using an online form at the above link. It also says that they don't have to fill in their name and contact details. Alternatively, they can call 0300 003 1647 and a HSE officer will take them through the form over the phone – but again they do not have to disclose their name and contact details. Lines are open Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5pm.

The HSE has said it will respect the anonymity of those reporting issues.

Yours sincerely



Dave Joyce
National Health, Safety & Environment Officer

CWU 150 The Broadway, Wimbledon, London, SW19 1RX
email: info@cwu.org Tel: 020 8971 7200 Fax: 020 8971 7300
General Secretary: Dave Ward

 [@DaveWardGS](https://twitter.com/DaveWardGS)  [Dave Ward CWU](https://www.facebook.com/DaveWardCWU)