

**Task: Witchfinder Event – evening  
19/08/2021**

**Work Activity: Work with  
COVID-19 exposure risk.**

**Date of Risk Assessment: July 2021**

### **Information about the virus**

A coronavirus is a type of virus (not bacteria). The incubation period of COVID-19 is up to 10 days.

### **Signs and symptoms of COVID-19**

The following symptoms may develop in the 10 days after exposure to someone who has COVID-19 infection:

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough or a high temperature.

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection.

Generally, these infections can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease.

### **How COVID-19 is spread**

The risk of infection with COVID-19 is understood to be determined by a number of factors including:

- Routes of transmission (exposure to droplets/contact/airborne),
- Work with symptomatic / asymptomatic persons,
- All secretions (except sweat) and excretions are regarded as infectious,
- Virus survival in environment is believed to be variable with material/temperature/chemicals/sunlight – guidance advises reduced infectivity is achieved in 72 hours,
- Air borne aerosols are cleared by ventilation proportionate to the number of air changes per hour,
- Availability of hand washing facilities/materials,
- Degree of personal separation achievable,
- Disinfection regime,
- Availability of PPE

There are 2 routes people could become infected:

1. Secretions can be directly transferred into the mouths or noses of people who are nearby (within 2m) or possibly could be inhaled into the lungs.
2. It is also possible that someone may become infected by touching a surface or object that has been contaminated with respiratory secretions and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes (such as touching door handles or shaking hands then touching own face). There is currently little evidence that people who are without symptoms are infectious to others.

### **How long the virus can survive**

How long any respiratory virus survives will depend on a number of factors, for example:

- what surface the virus is on
- whether it is exposed to sunlight
- differences in temperature and humidity
- exposure to cleaning products

Under most circumstances, the amount of infectious virus on any contaminated surfaces is likely to have decreased significantly by 72 hours. Regular hand hygiene and cleaning of frequently touched surfaces will help to reduce the risk of infection

### **What to do if someone develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) on site**

If anyone becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature in the workplace they should be sent home and advised to follow the [stay at home guidance](#).

If they need clinical advice, they should go online to [NHS 111](#) or call 111 if they don't have internet access. In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

If a member of staff has helped someone who was taken unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves. They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell with symptoms consistent with coronavirus infection. It is not necessary to close the workplace or send any staff home, unless specifically advised to by the Contact Test and Trace service. Keep monitoring the [government response page](#) for the latest details.

### **Guidance on facemasks**

The need for face coverings (unless exempt) should be determined by your risk assessment in accordance with up to date Public Health England guidance (broadly this will be for close personal contact with symptomatic persons, contact with body fluids or work in a contaminated environment).

### **Universal Precautions**

Everyone can help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) by reminding everyone of the public health advice. [Posters, leaflets and other materials](#) are available.

Employees and customers should be reminded to wash their hands for 20 seconds more frequently than normal and maintain 2m distance from other people where practicable. Frequently clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that are touched regularly, using your standard cleaning products.

Where working from home is possible this has been enabled. Other work has been adapted to comply with the social distancing or PPE guidelines set out by the government.

A communication strategy has been adopted to ensure staff are fully briefed and appropriately supported. Stay at home guidance has been communicated to managers to ensure isolation procedures are followed.

**Summary:**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August, Cohere Arts will be offering headphones within Christchurch Mansion so visitors can listen to a short recording of a play in the same style as a 'silent disco' (headphones will be cordless to allow people to spread out across the entire Mansion building).

The headphones will be pre-booked with Cohere Arts (who are coordinating the event with Christchurch Mansion) to limit participants to within pre-agreed levels in line with existing risk assessments.

There will be a short talks for participants to join, which will be managed in line with current guidance around social distancing.

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	Exposure to Covid-19 virus	Museum staff	Individual risk assessments completed for vulnerable staff. Museum staff to encourage a 2m distance from participants at all times.  Government advice for the wearing of face coverings will be encouraged (although this is a requirement for staff it is not legally enforceable for visitors).  Staff training/briefing re: minimising infection risks Activities take place outside wherever possible.			
Activity participants moving around buildings	Proximity in confined spaces	Cohere Arts staff (managing headphone distribution) and participants; Museum staff	Visitors encouraged to use hand sanitising station at entry/exit point.  Visitors and staff encouraged to respect social distancing (although this is a requirement for staff it is not legally enforceable for visitors).			

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Providing safe working areas for activity participants	Proximity; contamination of working surfaces	Workshop staff; activity participants; Museum staff	<p>Regular cleaning of surfaces with Selgene ultra before and after use (e.g. tables, chairs, door handles)</p> <p>Staff will place furniture at social distances, allowing visitor bubbles to sit together.</p> <p>Staff always maintain 2m distancing from participants.</p> <p>Face coverings encouraged</p> <p>Museum staff inductions highlighting social distancing and hand washing regimes.</p> <p>Museum/ Cohere Arts team members to draw attention to location of hand sanitization stations in the CCM building.</p> <p>Participants encouraged to use hand-sanitization facilities on arrival and during/ after visit.</p> <p>Staff encouraged to maintain 2m distancing from participants.</p> <p>Any materials will be cleaned using Clinell wipes. Items which are difficult to clean, or activities which cannot be made COVID-19 safe removed from use. This cleaning procedure will include the headphones used by Cohere Arts.</p>			
Incident procedures (fire/first aid):	Proximity	Participants, Cohere Arts staff; Museum staff	<p>Fire evacuation plans have been checked and are in place. Social distancing is not required during a fire evacuation until people reach the muster points.</p> <p>There is no need to amend these as they adhere to public safety and the list of First Aiders are in staff areas.</p> <p>Headphone volume will be controlled to ensure that participants will be able to hear fire alarms.</p>			

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Activities – general hygiene	Transmission of virus between individuals	Activity participants, Cohere Arts staff, Museum staff	<p>Face coverings will be worn by museum staff and advice provided.</p> <p>Participants to be recommended to wear face coverings in line with government advice (although this is a requirement for staff it is not legally enforceable for visitors).</p> <p>Current sector advice to be followed re: recommendation to wear face coverings by staff and participants aged 11+ (although this is a requirement for staff it is not legally enforceable for visitors).</p> <p>Social distancing will be put in place in line with government advice (although this is a requirement for staff it is not legally enforceable for visitors).</p>			
Activities - toilet hygiene	(transmission of virus by contact with surfaces, air-borne, or proximity of individuals)	Activity participants; Museum staff	<p>Access to the CCM toilet.</p> <p>Selgene available and participants asked to spray toilet, taps and door handles after use.</p> <p>Windows will be opened where possible, and fans used where this is not possible.</p> <p>Signage in place to encourage good hand washing techniques and other hygiene precautions. Hand sanitiser available on entry to the toilet, and suitable hand washing facilities, including running water and liquid soap and suitable options for drying.</p> <p>Only 1 person at a time in cubicle.</p>			
Activities - general environment	Ventilation: (transmission of virus)	Cohere Arts staff and participants; Museum staff	Two sets of external doors can be opened.			

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Managing any potential queues/crowding of people	Transmission of virus between individuals	Cohere Arts staff and participants; Museum staff	The audio experience and craft activity are only available by advance bookings, with strictly limited numbers.  The activities are spread out across the Mansion. The activity on the small lawn directly in front of the Mansion will be away from the exit to ensure people don't congregate near each other.			

**Any other comments:**

This risk assessment is subject to IBC TMT review and approval.

In the event that the Government produces further revisions this risk assessment will be updated as required.