

**Task: BioBlitz/Wildlife Recording
Day August 26th 2021**

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

Date of Risk Assessment: 26th July 2021



Service delivery in outbreak period.

Information about the virus

A coronavirus is a type of virus (not bacteria). The incubation period of COVID-19 is between 2 to 10 days. This means that if a person remains well 10 days after contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus, they have not been infected.

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, lost sense of smell/taste.

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 persons (infectivity when asymptomatic is currently unconfirmed),
- 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 Track and Trace service. Keep monitoring the [government response page](#) for the latest details.

Guidance on face coverings

The need for face coverings should be determined by 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: COVID-19 safety arrangements for bookable outdoor, biological recording day (“BioBlitz”), by Curator Dr. Simon Jackson organised with Christchurch Park Rangers, for max 150 visitors, to be held at Christchurch Park, 10-4pm (6 1-hour sessions), 26.8.2021 Visitors will be supervised and/or guided by staff as they search through bushes, grass and adjacent woodland looking for wildlife (particularly insects). All children (under the age of 16) should be accompanied by a responsible adult.

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Ticketing/payment	Infection with COVID-19 virus	Staff/visitors	<p>Tickets to be sold online and on day only.</p> <p>Paperless ticketing- ticket guns to be used at the “base-camp” (see below) entrance with names of those attending on screen- verification emails can be shown on mobile devices.</p> <p>Regent ticket gun available.</p>			
Capacities/distancing	Infection with COVID-19 virus	Staff/Park Rangers/Records/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customers	<p>Capacity maximum is 150 for the whole day. Signage at the entrance will state maximum capacity.</p> <p>Timed entry only. A maximum of 30 people per session will be allowed. Entry will only be for participants of the event.</p> <p>A “base camp” will be created in the park space lawn near 1 of the playgrounds. This is a 50 x 40 m space which will allow up to 5 gazebos (each 2 m</p>			

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			<p>wide) to be set up. The boundary of the base camp will be drawn up on a map and delineated with barrier tape.</p> <p>The base camp will include a registration gazebo, identification kiosks, and an exit/form hand in kiosk.</p> <p>Each gazebo will contain a member of staff, recorder or ranger sat on one side. It will be limited to one individual or family bubble at a time.</p> <p>The gazebos will be open-sided at least 50%.</p> <p>Social distancing will be facilitated by means of appropriate markers or squares in front of the table.</p> <p>Official COVID-19 Signage supplied by IBC in place – re social distancing, face coverings and hand sanitising; QR 'track and trace' poster in place</p>			
	Infection with	Staff/	Timed ticketing, means			

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Hygiene	Infection with COVID-19 virus	Staff/Park Rangers/Records/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customers	<p>Face coverings will not need to be worn outside. Face coverings will not be needed in gazebos as they will be kept 50% or more open. However, in the event of adverse weather conditions, and gazebos being closed more, all staff personnel will wear a face covering (unless medically exempt) and the public will be encouraged to also wear them (unless medically exempt or younger than 12).</p> <p>Sanitiser units at the entry/exit points and in each gazebo.</p> <p>Clinell Universal Wipes will be used as these are less damaging to furniture. Staff will be given training on PPE and the use of wipes on contact areas.</p> <p>Staff health to be checked at</p>			

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			<p>the beginning of each day to ensure no one is displaying COVID-19 Symptoms. Staff need to confirm that they have no symptoms of the virus.</p> <p>Self-isolation:</p> <p>Anyone showing symptoms is to isolate for 10 days. Anyone living with someone showing symptoms is to isolate for 10 days starting when the first member within their household showed symptoms of (COVID-19) or has been contacted by NHS Test and Trace</p> <p>Symptoms are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Temperature • Continuous Cough <p>Loss of taste or sense of smell</p> <p>Staff returning from abroad should self-isolate as per Government Guidance.</p> <p>Reminders to customers via booking system and at entry</p>			

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			that they should self-isolate if displaying symptoms.			
Test and Trace	Infection with COVID-19 virus	Staff/Customers	<p>Regent booking system ensures we have test and trace system in place. Details to be kept on a system for 21 days.</p> <p>NHS QR code to be displayed so that customers can check in alongside our usual booking procedures.</p>			
Face coverings	Infection with COVID-19 virus	Staff/Park Rangers/Records/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customers	<p>These will not be needed outside or in gazebos which are 50% or more open. Face coverings will only be needed if gazebos are more closed, such as in adverse weather conditions. In such cases all staff personnel, unless medically exempt, would wear a face covering. All visitors would be encouraged then to wear face coverings (unless medically exempt or under 12).</p> <p>Inside any gazebos less than</p>			

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			<p>50% open (see above) signage will be used to encourage face covering to be worn by all adult visitors (except those medically exempt) note on booking system to say this as well. All staff and event personnel to wear face coverings in these circumstances (unless medically exempt).</p> <p>Official COVID-19 Signage supplied by IBC in place – re face coverings</p>			
Toilets	Infection with COVID-19 virus	Staff/Park Rangers/Recorders/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customer	<p>Toilet facilities are near the biological recording spot. These are cleaned every day.</p> <p>Toilets include hand washing facilities.</p>			
Equipment and materials		Staff/Park Rangers/Recorders/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customer	<p>Visitors will be provided with basic equipment including recording sheets, clipboards, collecting pots and where available sampling nets. These will be cleaned with a rinse with soapy water spray with a sanitiser and will be wiped over with blue roll thoroughly after</p>			

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			<p>each session.</p> <p>Equipment and materials brought in by recorders (e.g. microscopes, field identification sheets) will only be used by them and not by visitors.</p> <p>At the end of each session, visitors will return their equipment for cleaning, and will hand in their identification sheets into a box for further evaluation.</p> <p>Ipswich Wildlife Group will bring to the event ready-made “bug boxes” and materials to complete their construction which will have been appropriately cleaned. A limited number will be available for families to take home.</p> <p>All staff and event participants to be briefed.</p>			
Overcrowding in gazebos		Staff/Park Rangers/Recorders/Custodians	Each gazebo will be allocated one member of staff, ranger or recorder which will undertake			

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		mers	<p>registration, or identification. Only one person or family bubble will be allowed into each gazebo at a time.</p> <p>Social distancing will be maintained at all times.</p> <p>Staff to be briefed.</p>			
Food & Drink		Staff/Park Rangers/Recorders/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customers	<p>No food or drink will be provided directly by event staff. Refreshments are available elsewhere in the park at the ice cream kiosk, and in the café but no eating or drinking will be permitted in base camp (including gazebos) or wildlife recording areas.</p> <p>Staff can take breaks at any time and can have refreshments at the above facilities mentioned or can bring in a packed lunch which they can have in nearby seated areas (e.g. benches).</p> <p>Staff to be briefed.</p>			

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Bad weather		Staff/Park Rangers/Recorders/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customers	Despite bad weather, overcrowding will not be permitted in gazebos and the limits stated above will be kept to. If gazebos need to be more than 50% closed, then face coverings would be needed (as discussed above).			
Discarded hypodermic needles/drug paraphernalia		Staff/Park Rangers/Recorders/Ipswich Wildlife Group/Customers	Event area and surroundings to be searched for any drug paraphernalia. Any items found should be isolated and immediately inform Park Patrol to deal with safely Long handled litter pickers to be available in the event of being unable to safely isolate needle. Any needles found would be put into a sharps box or other suitable container.			

COVID-19-Secure RA completed for site and controls in place.
To be viewed alongside the Christchurch Park Ranger Bioblitz Event Risk Assessment