

Cavendish Venues Policy on Covid-19 (Coronavirus) – reviewed

The UK Chief Medical Officer has raised the risk to the public from moderate to high following the declaration from the World Health Organisations declaration that there is a public health pandemic emergency warning of international concern.

Cavendish Venues have temporarily closed whilst the latest Government guidelines have been enforced on all businesses and we continue to monitor the situation daily. The health and wellbeing of our staff and clients alike remains of paramount importance to our organisation and we will continue to follow and take guidance from the UK Government and Public Health England and will act accordingly as and when policies or advice changes. Currently we envisage re-opening on the 14th April after the current lock down has been lifted however we will act accordingly if this period is extended further.

The government has now (23 March 2020) introduced three new measures.

1. Requiring people to stay at home, except for very limited purposes
2. Closing non-essential shops and community spaces
3. Stopping all gatherings of more than two people in public

Every citizen must comply with these new measures. The relevant authorities, including the police, will be given the powers to enforce them – including through fines and dispersing gatherings.

These measures are effective immediately. The Government will look again at these measures in three weeks, and relax them if the evidence shows this is possible and we at Cavendish Venues will act accordingly.

The symptoms for Coronavirus to date are:

- a cough
- a high temperature
- shortness of breath

- we are recommending all delegates into keeping at least 2 meters apart and washing hands as often as possible using the plentiful products we have provided in all our premises as it is now understood that the virus is transmitted from human to human through close contact and via respiratory droplets i.e. sneezing or coughing.

Precautions in place at Cavendish Venues:

- All public areas have been supplied with extra alcohol sanitizer dispensers and are freely available and encouraged for use throughout all parts of our buildings.

- All public areas have multiple laminated posters in place with “Catch It: Bin It : Kill It” emphasising the importance of personal hygiene being an added requirement to safe guard everybody in the buildings.

- Cleaning schedules have been further enhanced further with extra staff constantly disinfecting high-volume areas such as handrails, door handles and push plates, lifts and chairs etc.
- As customary and part of our Health and Safety for all clients and colleagues alike we actively encourage:
 - Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub.
 - Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with a tissue.
 - Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.
 - Thoroughly cook meat and

eggs. Potentially infected individuals:

- Anybody attending Cavendish Venues who displays symptoms and who is considered 'at risk' will be given a protective mask and protective gloves to wear and directed to an isolation room where available. Immediate advice would then be sought from Emergency Services in the first instance by dialling 111. A record of the patient plus any staff or delegates having contact with the patient will be kept.
- In line with recommendations from Public Health England a 14-day quarantine period will be initiated for any colleagues who may be displaying symptoms.
- Our Industry Association, the MIA (Meetings Industry Association), is maintaining an archive of all relevant information regarding the virus. For details follow this [link](#).

Updates:

27/02/2020:

We are monitoring the skin temperature of staff members.

28/02/2020:

Now that Coronavirus is appearing to be more widespread within the UK we are following NHS England advice; if we have reason to believe that anybody appears to have been in close contact (as defined [HERE](#)) with anyone who has been diagnosed with the virus, we will advise them to self-isolate even if they do not show symptoms. In practical terms no member of our staff is ever likely to be in close contact with a delegate as so defined (unless in memorable exceptional circumstances ie being stuck in a lift / medical emergency etc), if it were an event organiser then close contact could be possible.

04/03/2020:

We note that Kent's Hill Park Hotel and Conference Centre in Milton Keynes has reopened after serving as a quarantine centre for a number of UK nationals returning from Wuhan.

09/03/2020:

One of our directors attended an MIA (Meetings Industry Association) meeting, specifically about Covid-19 and how our industry should respond. We will continue to follow all government advice to the letter.

13/03/2020:

We continue to monitor and follow government advice, <https://www.mia-uk.org/Coronavirus-Resources>.

We have signed up to the regular webinars organised by UK Hospitality on Covid-19 and the gov.uk broadcast email.

16/03/2020:

We continue to monitor all government resources to ensure we are abiding by best practise at all times.

23rd April

Based on the evolving guidance from the WHO and the UK Government, we believe it is our responsibility to heed their advice to help slow the spread of the Coronavirus and are abiding by best practise at all times.

We are committed to the safety and well-being of our teams, clients and business partners. Our thoughts are with everyone who has been impacted by COVID-19. We are proud to be part of a resilient industry and believe that we are stronger together.

We continue to monitor the fast-moving situation closely and any updates with regards to our venues will be published on our website in the first instance and also shared on our social media channels.

Our doors may be closed as we practice social distancing, but we are committed to brightening your feeds and sending you positive vibes on social media, so please join our community of #eventprofs.

Stay safe, stay home and let's take this opportunity to look after ourselves and others.

Further general information relating to COVID-19

- NHS advice - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- UK Government response - <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>
- WHO info and guidance - <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>