

SAFETY TOOLBOX MEETING

107 – Coronavirus (COVID-19) RW9 22 May 2020

The following symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure**.

- Fever
- Runny nose
- Cough
- Headaches
- Shortness of breath
- A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

However, as a reminder, it is recommended that everyday actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the bin.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Government & NHS advice:

If you are unwell go straight home avoiding close contact with others.

When home call 111 and take advice.

Also;

- **Stay home:** People who are mildly ill with COVID-19 are able to isolate at home during their illness. You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care.
- **Avoid public areas:** Do not go to work or public areas.
- **Avoid public transportation:** Avoid using public transportation, wherever possible.
- **Stay away from others:** As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

Below is the Risk Assessment on Covid-19 with the tasks and control measures stated.

The Hazard is: Scaffolders and all other persons affected by their acts or omissions contacting Covid-19.

The residual risk is low.

| Task | Control Measures |
|--|--|
| Transportation To and from the place of work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If using public transport please leave earlier than normal, you may be given specific start and finish times to ensure you do not travel in high traffic hours. Face coverings must be worn while using public transport. • When using a motor vehicle to go to work travel on your own if possible. Where this is not possible refer to the “Getting to and from work using a vehicle” Risk Assessment. Face coverings must be worn while sharing a vehicle, unless the operatives live together. • Wherever possible maintain the 2m rule and avoid touching your faces. • Use a bike/walk if your site is near enough. • Whatever form of personal transport you use, practice good hygiene and wipe down hard surfaces regularly. |
| Access to and from site | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When going onto and off site remember to use the 2m SDR when going through the entrances/exits. Wait safely to one side if necessary. • Bio scanners and turnstiles will be disabled. Other forms of registering your attendance on site will be in place which do not require any physical contact. • If you need to leave site inform your supervisor by phone. • You must wash or clean your hands before entering or leaving the site. • Once you have put on your gloves avoid touching your face. |
| Access around site | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must only use the new designated access routes, and obey instructions from the marshals who will monitor these routes to ensure SDR is maintained. • Use of the hoists/lifts will be restricted to material movements only. • Drivers should remain in their vehicles if the load will allow it and must wash or clean their hands & face before and after unloading/loading goods and materials. Avoid unnecessary contact with others. |
| Canteen facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break times will be staggered to reduce congestion and contact at all times. • Hand cleaning facilities or hand sanitiser will be available at the entrance of any room where people eat and should be used by all when entering and leaving the area. • Seating areas will be set up to enforce the 2m SDR, please respect this. • Please bring your own lunch/snacks as no food will be available to purchase. • It is likely that the microwaves will not be available. Do not congregate outside local shops. • You must clear your own waste into the bins provided, unnecessary touching of surfaces must be avoided, no spitting. • Tables will be cleaned after each break time sitting, (your site may have 2 sittings per break time). • Marshals/monitors will be in attendance during break times to enforce the SDR and to clean the surfaces after each sitting. • Introduce staggered start and finish times to reduce congestion and contact at all times. |
| If a worker starts to display symptoms of COVID-19 Symptoms are fever, cough, sore throat and headaches and loss of, or change to, your | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay at home and self-isolate. • Return home immediately avoiding public transport if at all possible and book a Covid-19 test. • Keep well away from others. • Avoid touching anything. • Cough/sneeze into tissue paper & discard into a bin. • Inform line management immediately. |

| Task | Control Measures |
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| normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). In severe cases difficulty in breathing | Benchmark Site Manager must inform the PC by phone or email as quickly as possible to allow a deep clean where appropriate. |
| Safe Starts and Tool Box Talks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The App will be used to record both the Safe Start and the TBT, this will be carried out in the open conforming to the SDR. • The supervisor giving the briefing will sign the screen on your behalf so as to avoid unnecessary contact. |
| Working gangs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All gangs will be made up of 2 people although some tasks may require multiple gangs, with each gang practicing the SDR. • Non-essential work that requires close contact between workers will not be carried out. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working areas can be excluded and pre-loaded with materials on most sites. • A Big Ben pulley or Scaffolders Hoists can be used to lower/raise materials on certain scaffolds. • You must manage your work area/task. If others encroach into your SDR you must remove yourself to a safe place and inform your supervisor at once. • Elements of the scaffold task may change after starting; remember that no work must be undertaken if it necessitates you working closer together than the 2m space that is required. • No skin to skin contact to be made at any time. • If single use PPE is being used it must be discarded hygienically after use to prevent someone else using it. (Destroy after use and place in a bin). • Never share any PPE. • If dispersal or muster takes place in the event of an evacuation, The PC must formulate a plan and distribute it to all on site. |
| Using toilet facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash hands before and after using the facilities. • Do not touch any door handles, locks, or the toilet flush after cleaning your hands. • Ensure SDR is being followed. There will be a Marshal to restrict access to the toilets. • If this rule is being broken, wait until the toilets are less populated before using the facilities and then report this to your line manager. • Use paper towels to dry your hands or an air hand dryer. Do not use an air hand dryer to dry your face. |
| Scaffolders passing materials to each other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The virus can be transmitted on objects or surfaces. • Follow the coughing and sneezing rule, contain the cough or sneeze in a tissue and dispose of it in a bin or if no tissue is available use the crook of your elbow to reduce spread. • Manual handling of materials should only be undertaken if the SDR can be maintained. Use mechanical means to load/unload lorries wherever possible. • Always wear gloves and clean them at the end of the shift. Additional gloves are being sent to all our working sites. • Plan how you are going to maintain the SDR when passing materials to each other. • All tools (impact wrenches, recip. saws, hammer drills etc.) to be cleaned using a minimum of a damp soapy cloth before and after use. but do not get water in the tool. Alcohol based wipes to be used if a damp soapy cloth is not available. |
| Contact with site management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate by phone or with a 2m safe distance. • When writing out handovers wear disposable PVC gloves and do not share |

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|---------------------|--|
| | <p>pens, alternatively wash hands thoroughly afterwards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave paperwork to be signed by the PC and collect with gloves on when completed. • If emergency first aid is required take precautions to minimise contact with the first aider. Surgical gloves to be worn by the first aider as well as FFP2 masks when treating an injured person. • Follow NASC guidance note SG19:17, A Guide to Formulating a Rescue Plan. Wear a FFP2 mask as a minimum if available. All involved in this operation will check themselves for symptoms of the virus and if symptoms appear follow the “If a worker starts to display symptoms of COVID-19” section on this RA. |
| Plant and machinery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one operative to operate plant and machinery on any shift. The controls of the plant or machinery must be cleaned down thoroughly after and before use, using a warm sappy cloth or wipes. |
| Going home | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember to wash you face and hands before leaving. • If possible, take your PPE with you and wash it as appropriate. • Take extra care when you get home, change and wash before you have physical contact with your family. |
| Compliance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Risk Assessment will be monitored for compliance by a site supervisor and any non-conformity will be reported to the BSL Site Manager. Also this document will be reviewed on a weekly basis. |

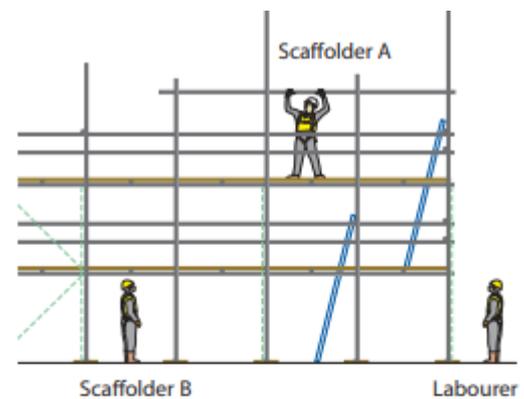


Figure 1

A safe system of work as follows:

Scaffolder A gains access to the next lift and positions himself at one end, near to the access ladder.

- Tubes and fittings are then transferred from below and stored on the lift.
- When placing materials, care must be taken not to overload a local area of the scaffold and to maintain a clear walkway in case of an emergency evacuation.
- Once Scaffolder A is clear of the access point, Scaffolder B can then gain access to this lift.
- Scaffolder B then receives the remaining materials from the labourer below.
- Scaffolder B then follows behind Scaffolder A, fitting transoms and boards (See Figure 1).

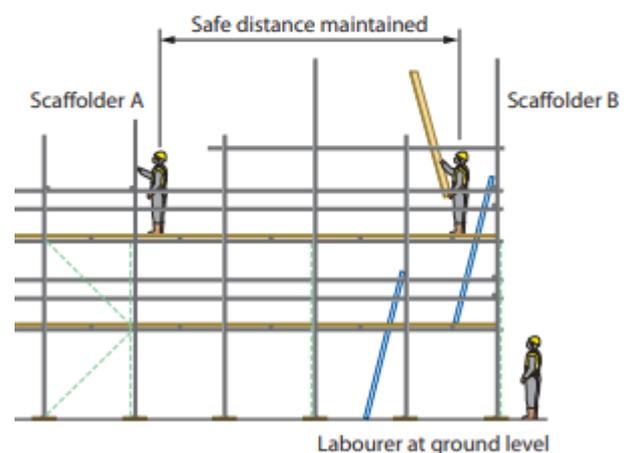


Figure 2

- Once Scaffolder A clear of the access point, Scaffolder B can then gain access to this lift.
- Scaffolder B then receives the remaining materials from the labourer below.
- Scaffolder B then follows behind Scaffolder A, fitting transoms and boards (See Figure 2).
- Work then progresses in this way along the lift, with both scaffolders maintaining at least one 2.0m segregation bay between them at all times.
- Bracing, ties, advanced guardrails and ladders may be fitted by either or both scaffolders as work progresses along the lift, ensuring that at least one segregation bay remains between them at all times.

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When the lift is complete, one scaffolder gains access to the lift above (scaffolders should take care not to pass each other in close proximity) and the process is then repeated to the full height of the scaffold. Other safe systems of work will be devised to suit different working situations and different types of scaffolds, but these will always strive to facilitate the strict requirements of maintaining 2.0m social distancing at all times. Where this is not possible a Special task risk assessment will identify suitable controls. Before any scaffold is dismantled, the work sequence will be planned to ensure that all necessary safety precautions and social distancing rules are adopted.

Finally

We would like to say thank you to all of you who have returned to work and adapted quickly to all the new processes in place. Our safety team is visiting sites to get feedback from you to find out how you are coping and to ensure that our customers have the necessary control measures in place so that you can continue to work safely. Don't forget your right to refuse to work if the conditions are not suitable!

If the site you are on is not working safely or other trades around you are ignoring the rules then contact your line manager immediately so that we can take the necessary corrective action.

This will help our customers as well as ourselves.

Your signature of attendance will not be required as the distributor of this Toolbox Talk will record the persons present.