



Briefing Note 13 - COVID-19 Guidance

As at 09:00 Tuesday 31st March 2020

1. **Headline developments announced on Monday 30th March 2020**

Item		Source
A	Easy-read guide with advice for looking after your feelings and your body	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876656/Easy_read_looking_after_your_feelings_and_body.pdf
B	Advice for parents and carers on looking after the mental health and wellbeing of children or young people during the coronavirus	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak
C	Advice on staying at home: an easy-read guide	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876715/Coronavirus_COVID-19_advice_on_staying_at_home_20200328.pdf
D	Keeping away from other people: an easy-read guide	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876699/COVID-19_Keeping_away_from_other_people_20200328.pdf
E	Series of four slides used by Chief Scientific Adviser during press conference on 30 March 2020	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876889/FINAL_Press_Conference_Slides_20200330.pdf
F	Government partnership with airlines to provide assisted returns for British tourists stranded abroad	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876888/FCO-DFT-letter-government-assisted-returns-by-air.pdf
G	Small Business Grant Fund and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund Guidance: Expanded guidance (version 3)	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876893/small-business-grant-fund-retail-guidance-vers-3.pdf
H	Foreign Secretary's press briefing 30 March 2020	https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-statement-on-coronavirus-covid-19-30-march-2020?
I	UK statistics: 1,408 dead (+180) 22,141 tested positive (+2,619)	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public



2. Key Sources of Government Advice

Document	
A	<p>Coronavirus: action plan – A guide to what you can expect across the UK</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869827/Coronavirus_action_plan_-_a_guide_to_what_you_can_expect_across_the_UK.pdf</p>
B	<p>World Health Organisation advice</p> <p>https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019</p>
C	<p>NHS health advice</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</p>
D	<p>Mental health helplines</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/</p>
E	<p>Essential travel guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-essential-travel-guidance</p>
F	<p>Guidance on social distancing for everyone in the UK and for vulnerable people</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults</p>
G	<p>Guidance for schools and other educational settings</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-schools-and-other-educational-settings</p>
H	<p>Guidance for schools and local authorities on maintaining educational provision</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision</p>
I	<p>Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE): COVID-19 guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response</p>
J	<p>Guidance for employees, employers and businesses</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19</p>
K	<p>Measures to protect people at higher risk from Coronavirus</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19</p>
L	<p>Guidance on home care provision</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-residential-care-supported-living-and-home-care-guidance/covid-19-guidance-on-home-care-provision</p>

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M	<p>Guidance on vulnerable children and young people</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people</p>
N	<p>Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children & young people's mental health</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak</p>
O	<p>Guidance on temporary closure of schools in England</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-for-schools-about-temporarily-closing</p>
P	<p>Compliance advice for businesses and other venues directed to close</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures/businesses-and-other-venues-subject-to-further-social-distancing-measures</p>
Q	<p>Emergency measures for railways to ensure continuity of operations and ticket refunds</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-ensures-ticket-refunds-and-protects-services-for-passengers-with-rail-emergency-measures</p>
R	<p>Stay at home guidance</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance</p>
S	<p>Easy-read guide on protecting extremely vulnerable people – also known as ‘shielding’</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875126/Easy_read_guidance_on_shielding_March_2020.pdf</p>
T	<p>Coronavirus Act 2020</p> <p>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/7/pdfs/ukpga_20200007_en.pdf</p>
U	<p>Guidance for UK businesses trading internationally</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses-trading-internationally</p>
V	<p>Guidance on cyber security and home working</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/home-working</p>
W	<p>Guidance for local authorities for controlling fraud during COVID-19 emergency</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/875844/Fraud-Control-in-Emergency-Management-COVID-19-UK-Government-Guidance.pdf</p>
X	<p>Guidance for closing certain businesses – as at 27 March 2020</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/876535/270320_Revised_Guidance.pdf</p>
Y	<p>Guidance on how to help safely</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely--2/coronavirus-how-to-help-safely</p>

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Z	Financial help for the self-employed https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-gives-support-to-millions-of-self-employed-individuals
A A	How to check if you're covered under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme
B B	How employers can claim wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme
C C	New interim safeguarding guidance for schools, colleges and other premises in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers
D D	Non-statutory renting guidance for landlords, tenants and local authorities in England https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?
E E	Collection of healthcare guidance for healthcare workers and others https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance
F F	Online support and practical guidance for those suffering with mental health issues https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19

3. Commentary

At the daily government press briefing at 5.15 pm yesterday, the Chief Scientific Adviser presented four slides (available at 1E) and said there were early signs that social distancing measures were making a difference. He also pointed out that an additional 1,000 patients a day were being seen by the NHS and described the situation as 'stable'.

The Foreign Secretary announced financial support measures agreed with airlines to bring thousands of British travellers stranded in other countries back to the UK. Where commercial flights remain available airlines will be responsible for getting people home and, where this is not possible, the government will be providing financial support for commercial charter flights.

The government is beginning to add version numbers to downloadable PDF guidance documents to ensure people are referring to the current version. This is essential with frequent updates being made. An example of this is the Small Business Grant Fund and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund Guidance: Expanded guidance (version 3) which is available at 1G.

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