



## **SUBJECT:** HSE conducts Covid-19 checks

**RECIPIENTS:** All Council Services (including schools)

**ISSUE DATE:** AUG 2020      **REF:** HSB 167

*THE HEALTH and Safety Executive (HSE) has been contacting businesses in Greater Manchester to make sure workplaces are COVID-secure to help tackle the local outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases.*

Inspectors are out checking workplaces across Greater Manchester, putting duty holders and employers on the spot and ensuring that they are complying with the latest Safer Workplace guidance relevant to their sector.

Being COVID-secure means that all businesses need to put in place workplace adjustments to manage the risk and protect workers and others from coronavirus. Businesses can do this by following five practical steps:



- Step 1. Carry out a COVID-19 risk assessment
- Step 2. Develop increased cleaning, hand washing and hygiene procedures
- Step 3. Take all reasonable steps to help people work from home
- Step 4. Maintain 2m social distancing where possible
- Step 5. Where people cannot be 2m apart, manage transmission risk.

A spokesperson for the HSE stated "It is a legal duty for employers to protect their workers and others from harm and this includes taking reasonable steps to control the risk and protect people from coronavirus. This means making workplace adjustments to become COVID-secure. We advise employers to work with their employees when implementing changes, to help increase confidence with workers, customers and the local community", adding "Where some employers are not managing the risk, HSE will take action which can range from the provision of specific advice, issuing enforcement notices and stopping certain work practices until they are made safe. Where businesses fail to comply, this could lead to prosecution".

As a way of keeping our staff safe and to ensure we are complying with the workplace adjustments required by the HSE, Lincolnshire County Council have produced comprehensive advice and guidance documents, including example Covid-19 operational risk assessments, building specific risk assessments, site rules, working from home guidance and the [Managers health and safety toolkit](#) (Covid 19)

To access these documents, and more, go to the [LCC Professionals Health and safety](#) website.

**If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:**

**Corporate Health & Safety Advisers (see George section: Corporate > Information for Working > Risk Management > H&S Advisers)**