

Message from Jane Grant, Chief Executive

Yesterday's announcement of the four phase route-map to restart Scottish society while suppressing COVID-19 affects all of us personally.

It will also have prompted many of you consider what it means for you in your working life. We currently have many staff working from home in line with Government advice. As society re-opens, we must consider how staff can be safely supported to return to the workplace.

Guidance is currently being drawn up by our HR and OD Directorate, in consultation with staff side colleagues, on how we can safely work together whilst living with COVID-19.

The guidance will set out measures that we will take to ensure social distancing in the workplace is maintained as lockdown is eased. It will be shared with everyone shortly.

In the meantime, I urge everyone to continue to observe social distancing whilst at work. I know it's difficult to maintain this at all times but it is important for us all to respect each other's personal space and to keep two metres apart wherever possible.

Meetings should also continue wherever possible to be held virtually.

Like many of you, I'm getting very used to meeting colleagues through Teams. There is a certain 'etiquette' to the virtual meeting and we have all learned that certain things are to be avoided including rustling of papers, eating lunch whilst on screen and family members popping into the background. The ability to meet virtually has, however, enabled the organisation to remain truly connected and our eHealth Directorate are to be thanked for supporting us all to connect with one another so effectively.

Thank you.

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