

Saturday 25th July 2020
CoDA UK – **REVISED** COVID-19 Statement

Dear CoDA members,

Following the relaxing of restrictions by the UK government, some groups are considering returning to face to face meetings.

As per our CoDA Traditions, CoDA has no opinion on outside issues so we would encourage CoDA groups to follow the most up to date advice given by their relevant Governments and health services across England, Scotland and Wales. Actions taken to reduce the spread of the virus by individual groups will be dependent on the layout of the venue used, attendance and demographic of the fellows. Further restrictions may have been imposed by individual venues and landlords where your face to face meetings are held to reduce the spread of the virus and in line with their responsibilities to tenants as outlined by their local authorities.

Regarding anonymity, groups are encouraged to co-operate with medical authorities. Therefore, if a member of a group is requested to supply names of members to relevant authorities for tracking COVID 19 spread, it is suggested that the Group hold a conscience about the dissemination of Group member identities so an agreed procedure is in place. Below are examples of the actions some groups are taking across the CoDA UK fellowship community: -

- Taking Government advice to minimise spread e.g. hand washing, avoiding close contact, shaking hands, hugging, mask wearing etc.
- Develop a cashless system for Tradition 7 donations
- No longer supplying refreshments
- Insisting that members who think they may be at risk of having contracted the virus stay away from meetings until they are sure they are clear.
- We suggest that members who may be particularly vulnerable to the effects of the virus consider their safety before returning to meetings.
- Members who need to isolate themselves can be supported through telephone calls or electronically, e.g. WhatsApp, Facebook, Skype, Zoom. We would encourage fellows to make themselves familiar with the extensive recovery resources on both the UK and the US website.

Groups considering returning to face to face meetings:

We suggest groups should contact their venue and enquire if any further restrictions are being imposed by the venue in light of the Covid pandemic.

If the group is participating in the CoDA UK Public Liability Insurance policy they need to be aware that the policy provider has stipulated the following: **We ask that government**

guidance is adhered to and actions taken to reduce the risk of transmissions is recorded.

This information needs to be recorded where it is accessible to all group members.

A group does not have to be either face to face meeting or an online one; some groups are planning to continue with an online meeting in addition to the face to face one. Should your group decide to continue with both face to face and an online meeting can you please send an email attaching a completed [registration form](#) and/or all relevant meeting details to: meetings@codauk.org

Please consider the confidentiality/anonymity and vulnerability of our group members and issues around GDPR when implementing changes to your meeting format.

All the suggestions above are best discussed in advance so the group is prepared for any eventuality. As with most things, they are best facilitated by the group talking about them in a group conscience format with the guidance of their higher power.

These are extraordinary times for all of us so please utilise self-care to keep yourself safe.

In Love, Gratitude and Fellowship. CoDA UK National Service Committee