

Planning: The lifting of covid-19 restrictions

- On 19 July 2021 England moved to [step 4 of the government's roadmap](#) out of lockdown.
 - The government provides this [guidance on managing covid risk](#).
 - If staff are returning to the workplace, risk assessments will need to be updated with consideration for:
 - Workforce management
 - Ventilation requirements
 - PPE requirements (if necessary)
 - Hygiene and workplace cleaning
 - Covid-19 testing and vaccination requirements
 - Read our [guidance on carrying out a covid-19 risk assessment](#) to help you consider what precautions to take.
 - How will you support staff, volunteers and beneficiaries that are clinically vulnerable? Read our guidance on [supporting staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable](#) and [supporting volunteers who are clinically extremely vulnerable](#).

Running activities and services safely

- Under step 4 of the government's roadmap out of lockdown, activities and services can resume in the workplace whilst taking the appropriate steps to help prevent the spread of covid-19.
- The government has [published a suite of guides for different workplace settings on GOV.UK](#).
- If your organisation runs a range of different activities or in different spaces you may need to consider multiple guidance documents.
- Common guides which may be used by voluntary organisations include:
 - [shops, branches and close contact settings](#)
 - [providers of grassroots sport and gym/leisure facilities](#)
- There's specific government advice for businesses and organisations [providing home care](#), [supported living services](#) and [education and childcare](#).
- Risk assessments should be developed for specific activities or services - things to consider in these risk assessments including:
 - Does the activity or service involve factors that make it particularly high risk? You can read the [government guidance on understanding the risks of covid-19](#). Be clear about what these are.
 - Do you know if those involved in the activity or service are clinically vulnerable? It could be for a particular age group/ethnic group that are known to be at higher risk.
 - Where the activity or service is held.
 - Will it be adequately ventilated?
 - Will good hand hygiene be possible?
 - Will the place be sufficiently clean?
 - How will those participating in the service or activity travel to the location? Will they have to travel at peak times?
- Steps those managing the activity or service can take to mitigate the risk of transmission include:
 - Asking those involved in the activity to not attend if:

- they have any symptoms
- they have been exposed to the virus.
- Encouraging those participating to do a lateral flow test and encouraging vaccination.
- If possible, minimising close contact between different people. You can do this by for example staggering arrival and departure times.
- If people are having to travel at peak times where they will be in a crowded or enclosed area with others, encouraging them to take appropriate precautions such as wearing a face mask etc.
- Providing hand sanitisers.
- Holding it at premises that have adequate ventilation (or meet outside) and a good cleaning regime.

Running events and visitor attractions safely

- Indoor and outdoor events can take place and venues can operate at capacity. However, organisations should adhere to the government's six priority actions when planning an event. These are:
 - complete a health and safety risk assessment, including one for covid-19
 - turn people with covid-19 symptoms away
 - provide adequate ventilation
 - clean more often
 - enable people to check in at the venue
 - communicate and train all your staff, workers and contractors on how you are using and updating safety measures.