

Covid-19 (“Coronavirus”) Policy

Introduction

We are doing all we can to make sure that our clients, members, pupils and staff are kept as safe as possible. We have carried out a covid-19 risk assessment and have taken appropriate and protective steps to minimise the risk of infection. We will continue to comply with Government advice and we will update our policy and practice as new Government guidance is announced.

This policy is for all members, pupils, staff and visitors.

Attending Chambers

You should **not** attend chambers if:

- A. You have developed symptoms of Covid-19. The main symptoms of Covid-19 are:
- (1) **A high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
 - (2) **A new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
 - (3) **A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms. Government guidance is that you should get a test and self-isolate for at least 10 days from when you first developed symptoms.

- B. You have tested positive for Covid-19 in the preceding 10 days.

Government guidance is that you should be self-isolating for at least 10 days from the date of your test.

- C. A member of your household or support bubble has developed symptoms of Covid-19 or has tested positive in the preceding 14 days.

Government guidance is that you should be self-isolating for at least 14 days from when the last person developed symptoms or tested positive.

- D. You have been contacted by NHS test and trace in the preceding 14 days.

Government advice is you should be self-isolating for at least 14 days.

- E. You have returned from a ‘non-exempt’ country in the preceding 14 days. Information travel corridors can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>

Government advice is that you should be self-isolating for at least 14 days upon arrival in the UK.

If you have visited chambers and within 14 days been required to self-isolate due to A-D you are requested to inform Clare Bello by email immediately (cbello@cornerstonebarristers.com) so adequate precautions can be taken.

Whilst in Chambers

To help avoid catching and spreading Covid-19 while in the building you are required to:

- Use hand sanitiser on arrival;
- Follow good hand washing hygiene;
- Observe social distancing and wherever possible stay 2 metres apart;
- Cover your mouth and nose with disposable tissues when you cough or sneeze. If you do not have a tissue, sneeze into the crook of your elbow, not into your hand. Dispose of tissues into a rubbish bag and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or use a hand sanitiser.

Information Sharing

- Information resulting from A-E above may be shared with other members of chambers, staff and pupils but on an anonymised basis so far as the efficacy requires; and
- Chambers will share information with law enforcement and public authorities where required to do so.

Cleaning Measures

- Chambers is thoroughly cleaned in advance of each business day;
- During the working day the conference facilities, toilets, kitchens and high touch contact areas are sanitised by a professional contractor;
- Hand sanitiser is provided throughout chambers;
- Sanitising wipes are placed in toilets and close to high contact touch points.

Visitors to Chambers

Every visitor to chambers:

- a) will be made aware of the policy; and
- b) will be required to confirm in advance that their compliance; and
- c) will not be allowed entry in cases of A-E above.