

University of Wolverhampton Science Park Tenant Information Bulletin

Nigel's Science Park Update 16th July 2021

Dear all,

I hope you, your families and staff are keeping well.

Following on from the update issued on Tuesday 13th July I would like to confirm the position with regard to continued safety measures post Step 4 of the Government's roadmap, scheduled for Monday 19th July 2021.

The Prime Minister's message and <u>updated Government guidance</u> is clear that while cases are high and rising, everybody needs to continue to act carefully and remain cautious. The return to pre-Covid behaviours should be taken slowly and cautiously.

There is obviously a need to balance and respect the needs of differing user groups within the Science Park community: the staff keeping operations going and providing additional touch-point cleaning, users who are clinically vulnerable or concerned about returning to the workplace and those users that want full freedom from restrictions.

We have consulted with the local agencies and regret to inform that both infection rates and hospitalisation rates in Wolverhampton have increased; the current infection rate is 283 per 100,000. Surrounding travel to work areas such as Walsall and Birmingham are higher and Telford is virtually the same as Wolverhampton.

Against this backdrop, as employers, we all have a legal responsibility to protect workers and others from risk to their health and safety, including from the risks of Covid-19. Having liaised with the relevant authorities the management team has decided the Covid-informed measures below will be in force from Step 4 for at least a **period of 4 weeks**, where after they will be reviewed again. We all have a role to play and the management team strongly encourages responsible behaviour and respectfully requests that everyone thinks about those around them:

- 1) One-way systems for entry and exit will remain in place to minimize high touch point areas and avoid face-to-face contact
- 2) Protective screens will remain in place to protect staff and users
- 3) Sanitizer stations will continue to be provided and replenished
- 4) Additional touch point cleaning throughout the day will continue

- 5) Cleaning kits for offices will continue to be provided and replenished as necessary
- 6) Masks should be worn (unless exempt) when moving around the building, they can be removed once sitting down in communal areas
- 7) Social Distancing markers will remain in place as a reminder to help limit the potential for a surge in cases after Step 4
- 8) The need to report a positive case of Covid-19 remains and full information can be found on our dedicated Covid-19 webpages

We urge everyone to continue to play their part in keeping our Science Park and the wider community safe once we enter Step 4. Science Park staff are encouraged to take a lateral flow test twice a week and we hope tenants will do so too - kits can be obtained via https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

There are specific actions that are crucial for everyone to adopt, to ensure the site remains safe. Current guidelines from GOV.UK can be found at the <u>Government website</u>. Advice to employers regarding the benefits of **encouraging employees to participate in the vaccination programme** can be found <u>here</u>,

If you have any queries, please forward your queries by clicking **HERE**:

Hoping everyone can continue to keep safe and well.

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Commercial Director - University of Wolverhampton Science Park