



Introduction

Hello everyone,

We hope that you are all well and keeping safe. Our thoughts are with you, your families and loved ones during these worrying times.

Here's the latest COVID-19 information bulletin from Step Change in Safety, bringing you the latest updates and useful links in an ever-changing situation.

The **Workforce COVID-19 FAQ** section of our website is now fully up and running, and the support team is working diligently in responding to all queries and keeping the responses up-to-date. We cannot reply to each individual query but we are carefully reading every question and grouping them into topics with very similar concerns.

This week, we have published 6 new information films featuring Steve Rae, Executive Director Step Change in Safety, and Trevor Stapleton, HSE Director OGUK. The short videos explain current industry updates and practice, guidance and discussion. Topics include: helicopter travel, face coverings, social distancing in heliports and offshore, essential work, safe havens and transport.

We'd also like to draw your attention to the 'good practice' check-sheets which have been compiled (and anonymised) using examples of current practice for transit and offshore living from several Operators.

With our very best wishes to you all, The Step Change in Safety Support Team.



***NEW* COVID-19 safety information films**

More than a month on from the onset of COVID-19 in the UK, Step Change in Safety and OGUK have produced 6 new short information films for the UK oil and gas industry workforce to bring them up to date about the strategy for addressing the virus offshore and at heliports.

OGUK HSE Director Trevor Stapleton outlines the 4 key components of the strategy:

- (1) 'Preventing and Protecting' strategy, which includes testing and health checks.
- (2) Offshore Helicopter travel and the current discussion around face coverings, social distancing in heliports, and temperature checks.
- (3) Installation-specific health and safety, including 'essential work,' personal hygiene, cabin-sharing and social distancing.
- (4) Current procedures for arriving back at UK heliports, 'safe havens' and 'safe passage.'
(NOTE: All information correct at time of recording 20/04/2020)

Step Change in Safety Executive Director Steve Rae looks back at an unprecedented time for the UK oil and gas industry:

- (1) A retrospective view of "the journey" we've all been on since COVID-19 took its grip on the UK; the workforce's role in effective Control of Work and Management of Change.
- (2) The way forward - commitment, the use of social media, family concerns and the need to ask the 'right questions.'

You can watch all 6 short information films on the Step Change in Safety YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UN2okNLTRfs&list=PLEnmrCRFSAQ9rDk5kzmTnhGOY8hkXpp>

Or you can view them on our website:

<https://www.stepchangeinsafety.net/covid-19>

Problems with bandwidth or YouTube offshore?

We've been receiving several emails from our members asking if there is another way of capturing the videos by other means. This is absolutely no problem and we are more than happy to send the films via file transfer so please don't hesitate to get in touch: info@stepchangeinsafety.net

NOTE: members only please

COVID-19 Good practice

COVID-19 CURRENT PRACTICE: Steps to reduce the risk of Coronavirus transmission.

Step Change in Safety has collated and published current practices being undertaken by some of its member companies to lessen the risk of Coronavirus transmission in:

- (1) heliports
- (2) on helicopters
- (3) on-board installations.

These practices go beyond the Government and Health Protection Scotland recommendations. The checklists and other information regarding COVID-19 can be found at:

<https://www.stepchangeinsafety.net/covid-19>



COVID-19 Impact on safety

Current practice to lessen transmission risk – Onboard Installations

NB - Information current at time of issue on 16/04/20

Ref.	Measure Description	Status
	Accommodation	
1	Welfare facilities – reduction of recreational seating to achieve increased distancing, define max number for cinema etc, rec rooms could double-up as large meeting rooms	
2	Reduce the number of chairs available in communal areas, ensuring adequate distance is in place between the remaining chairs	
3	Tea Shacks – reduced seating with marked up increased distancing and staggered break times	
4	Mess – communal condiments, jars, dishes, cartons etc - replaced by individual sauce, sugar, salt & pepper sachets, milk tubes	
5	Mobilise additional catering crew for frequent sanitisation of the accommodation door handles, handrails, communal toilets and similar touch-points etc.	
6	Staggered meal-times to decrease numbers sharing a table	
6	Food handlers to serve food rather than individuals using buffet style 'help yourself'	
7	Additional sanitiser available for use around site	
8	Cutlery pre-wrapped in napkins and laid on tables or issued by catering team	
9	Display tape on the floor to encourage increased distance between people whilst queuing to be served	
10	Nominated person should ensure each individual uses hand sanitiser before/at entry to galley	
11	Display signs to encourage people to wash hands before and after eating	
12	Mobile phone/electronic device usage will not be allowed in galley during meal service	
14	Single occupancy cabins per shift, no same shift sharing, rooms sanitised after normal cleaning, room serviced each shift	
15	Avoid critical roles sharing the same cabin where possible	
16	Identify isolation cabins / areas	



COVID-19 Impact on safety

Current practice to lessen transmission risk - Helicopter

NB - Information current at time of issue on 16/04/20

Ref.	Measure Description	Status
1	All ear defenders sanitised between all flights	
2	All passenger lifejackets sanitised between uses	
3	Aircraft deep cleaned every evening with further sanitisation taking place between every flight	
4	Consideration for IOGP guidance that only disposable earplug used as lessens the risks of virus spread between flights using ear defenders.	
5	Helicopter operator recommendations on social distancing on all aircraft types up to the point of face covering being issued.	



COVID-19 Impact on safety

Current practice to lessen transmission risk - Heliport

NB - Information current at time of issue on 16/04/20

Ref.	Measure Description	Status
1	Heliport staff are subject to daily temperature screening upon arrival for work	
2	Flight departure times arranged to reduce the number of passengers in heliport at the same time	
3	Signage to encourage social distancing practices	
4	Ground markings to encourage social distancing at check-in	
5	Increased cleaning and sanitisation regimes in place	
6	Tannoy announcements reminding passengers of social distancing guidance	
7	Personal security searches will continue with use of wands where available Security checks to be confirmed with CAA	
8	Security personnel will use hand sanitiser between searches	
9	Passengers to stand with back to security officer during body searches	
10	Security and Check-in staff to wear disposable gloves when checking Vantage cards	
11	Notice board dedicated COVID-19 information available for passengers	
12	Single-use, disposable cups etc to be used in passenger canteen	
13	Social Distancing during safety brief where practicable	
14	Check-in staff to be separated from passengers by screen or face shield	

COVID-19 FAQs – now *LIVE*

<https://www.stepchangeinsafety.net/covid-19-faqs>

The questions published on our dedicated COVID-19: FAQs webpage have all come from the oil and gas industry workforce via the Step Change in Safety website, social media channels and email inbox; OGUK; trade unions; and our members.

We have also included the questions which, due to time constraints, could not be answered during our **COVID-19 webinar**. The responses are constantly updated and kept accurate by the Step Change in Safety support team.

Topics:

- WAGES and WELFARE
- ESSENTIAL WORKERS
- PRE-FLIGHT TEMPERATURE CHECKS
- TRAVEL TO/FROM HELIPOINT
- OFFSHORE HELICOPTER TRAVEL
- SCREENING
- OFFSHORE CHECKS
- OFFSHORE CLEANING
- OFFSHORE SAFETY
- PPE
- GOVERNMENT POLICY
- TRAINING
- MANNING LEVELS

We will endeavour to secure accurate answers to all workforce questions and concerns via a variety of sources including webinars, our website, the joint information hub with OGUK, films and digital platforms.

All correspondence is being treated in confidence. Many thanks indeed to all those who have contributed so far.

Please continue to send all queries and correspondence to:
emma@stepchangeinsafety.net

COVID-19: Impact on Safety Webinar

Many thanks to those who joined us for our **COVID-19: Impact on Safety webinar**.

Around 300 people registered to listen to and take part.

We would like to thank our panellists for their time and expertise:

Jake Molloy - RMT Union

Bob Egan - Workforce Engagement Specialist, HSE

Craig Wiggins - SVP Global HSSE, Aker Solutions

Trevor Stapleton – HSE Director, OGUK

Dale Checksfield- OIM, Chrysaor

You can listen to the audio from the webinar on our YouTube channel or on our website.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htsJw6xddFg&t=11s>



COVID-19 information films

Susan Elston, Vice Chair of the Caterers Offshore Trade Association (COTA) answers questions regarding cleaning, catering and hygiene offshore during the COVID-19 pandemic.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ImMFAf4nKQ&t=22s



Graham Wildgoose, OGUK Aviation Advisor, and **Matt Rhodes**, Bristow Helicopters UK answer questions from the workforce about offshore helicopter travel during the COVID-19 pandemic. These Q&As focus on operational procedures, arrival and departure, and transfer of passengers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goxyJwZPQjg&t=6s>



Dr Graham Furnace, OGUK Medical Advisor, answers current questions about medical issues surrounding offshore helicopter travel. Topics include: Temperature checking; what to do if your temperature is high; and self-isolation offshore

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeokyeNnSsM>



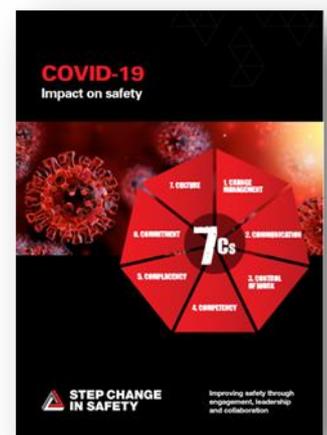
We've created 7 short information videos around each of these Cs: Change Management, Communication, Control of Work, Competence, Complacency, Commitment and Culture. All of these films can be found on our **YouTube** channel and are also on the website:

<https://www.stepchangeinsafety.net/covid-19>

COVID-19 7Cs Information notes:

The Step Change in Safety support team has produced an accompanying information pack which can be downloaded from the website and is **FREE** For all our members:

www.stepchangeinsafety.net/safety-resources/publications



Please note, we are more than happy to send the films via file transfer (to our members only) so please don't hesitate to get in touch: info@stepchangeinsafety.net

Useful links

<https://www.stepchangeinsafety.net/covid-19>
<https://oilandgasuk.co.uk/covid-19/>
<https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/>
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>
<https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/coronavirus.htm>
<https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/home.cfm?orgid=457>
<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/directorates/public-health/health-protection>
<https://www.ogauthority.co.uk/news-publications/news/2020/covid-19-response/>
<https://www.opito.com/covid19>
<https://unitetheunion.org/campaigns/coronavirus-covid-19-advice/>
<https://www.rmt.org.uk/news/covid-19--rmt-update/>
<http://www.cota.org.uk/>
<https://www.aberdeenairport.com/coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

Feedback and contact information:

More than ever before, we want your feedback, thoughts and suggestions. As the UK's recognised safety organisation for the oil and gas industry, it is our duty to respond to your needs and your concerns so please, stay in touch with us and tell us what you need.

You can do this in a number of ways:

Email: info@stepchangeinsafety.net or call **+44 (0)1224 577 268** and we will respond promptly

Speak to any of our team – we're working from home but are still available by the usual means:

Steve Rae, Executive Director
Kirstin Gove, Head of Communications
Emma Gracie, Support Team Co-Ordinator
Gillian Simpson, Programme Delivery Manager
Carolyn Smith, Programme Delivery Manager
Aimie Clark, Support Team

steverae@stepchangeinsafety.net
kirstin@stepchangeinsafety.net
emma@stepchangeinsafety.net
gillian@stepchangeinsafety.net
carolyn@stepchangeinsafety.net
aimie@stepchangeinsafety.net