

CORONAVIRUS (CoV)

– Latest information and Rolling Updates

UK Level of Risk

MODERATE

Although originating in China, Coronavirus (Covid-19) presents a significant possible risk to British retailers and manufacturers. The immediate impact is to Chinese supply chains but we recognise that, as responsible businesses we want to prepare for all eventualities. With that in mind we have created a rolling update to share the latest information to help you update and revise your resilience planning.

If Covid-19 cannot be controlled, it could affect about two-thirds of the world's population, according to a leading public health expert in Hong Kong. The World Health Organization recommends people take simple precautions to reduce exposure and transmission.

For more information see a copy of BPIF's Coronavirus - Questions and Answers document online.

Latest Statistics

UNITED KINGDOM		
28 February	People Tested	7,690
	Confirmed Cases	15
	Confirmed Negative	7,675

INTERNATIONAL		
28 February	Confirmed Cases	81,397
	Confirmed Deaths	2,770
	Recovered Cases	30,384

Date	Daily Cases	Total Cases	New Cases Identified within the following;
25 Feb	845	80,415	France, Spain, Bahrain, Kuwait, Austria, Algeria, Croatia and Switzerland
21 Feb	644	76,843	Iran, Israel and Lebanon
31 Jan	1,693	9,927	Germany, Italy, United Kingdom, Russia and Sweden
30 Jan	2,068	8,234	Philippines and India
26 Jan	684	2,118	Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Canada and Australia
22 Jan	555	555	China, Thailand, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, US and Macau

Common Signs of Infection to be aware of

- Respiratory symptoms
- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath and breathing difficulties
- In more severe cases;
 - o Infection can cause pneumonia
 - o Severe acute respiratory syndrome
 - o Kidney failure
 - o And death can occur

Recommendations and Health Tips

- Germs can live on surfaces for hours – protect yourself in public areas, avoid touching public door handles, especially washrooms where it's possible people may not wash their hands
- Good housekeeping regime supports a clean and germ-free environment – step up on cleaning operation; remove dust as much as possible; advise gloves are to worn by cleaners to prevent any potential spread of ill health;
- Ensure you wash your hands with soap and water for minimum of 20 seconds post washroom visit; prior to eating; preparing food etc.
- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze, bin the tissue and to kill germs wash your hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds
- Thoroughly cooking of meat, eggs etc.
- Avoid contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness i.e. coughing or sneezing
- If travelling abroad, check airlines before leaving for travel
- If you're looking to travel on business, think about alternative communication software such as Zoom; Skype; Conference calls etc. until the virus is on decline
- If you're in doubt and wish to cancel a holiday/event – check the travel company/airline prior to cancelling to ensure you remain insured
- If attending an event, check that it is still being held prior to heading out to attend the event
- If you've arrived back from a country where the virus is known, follow the specific advice for returning travellers
- Managers to be extra observant, looking out for employees with high temperatures; coughs; colds etc.

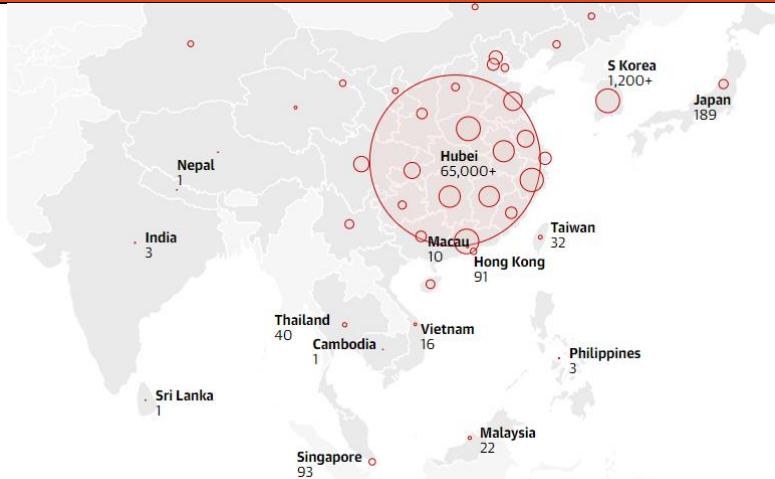
Additional steps for BRC Members and those in contact with food products:

- Take action to ensure ALL PPE is cleaned daily, in good shape and worn at ALL times
- Ensure employees comply with BRC standards, taking extra care to clean and sanitise.
- Step up the hand-cleaning regime to before and after;
 - o working activities
 - o lunch Breaks – eating and drinking refreshments, especially preparing foods
 - o visits to the WC
 - o any coughing or sneezing
- If beard nets are mandatory, request trimmed beards to ensure cleanliness and suitable fit
- Review the work conducted on site and wear additional protective equipment if appropriate i.e. face mask to prevent ongoing contamination
- Ensure continual communication through all employees

Useful Guides:

- Home Isolation – [click here](#)
- People living in the same environment as those in Home Isolation – [click here](#)
- Investigation of Possible Cases – [click here](#)
- Primary Care – [click here](#)
- Management of Suspected Cases – [click here](#)
- Interim Guidance for First Responders – [click here](#)
- BPIF Guides – 'Questions and Answers' and Posters – [click here](#)

26/2	Latest News!
	<p>The number of confirmed cases has risen rapidly since the respiratory virus emerged in December from its suspected source in a Wuhan wildlife market.</p> <p>Coronavirus is now spreading faster outside of China rather than in China. If Covid-19 cannot be controlled, it could affect about two-thirds of the world's population, according to a leading public health expert in Hong Kong.</p>
26/2	UK Health Secretary's Statement on Coronavirus
	<p>Polics taken down details of a statement made in the House of Commons by Matt Hancock, the Health Secretary, but in summary;</p> <p>Hancock says there have been 13 cases of the virus in the UK. Eight of those people have been discharged, he says. But the government expects more cases to arise, he says 'the government has a four-point strategy for dealing with this: contain, delay, research and mitigate'</p> <p>He says the government will be rolling out a publicity campaign soon. Advice for travellers coming back to the UK from Northern Italy and some other countries was published on Tuesday. He says the government is coordinating with its international partners to ensure it is ready for all eventualities.</p> <p>There are plans in place in case of the virus becoming a pandemic, he says. But he says the Government is still working on the basis of plans to contain the virus.</p> <p>He says people should only travel to the quarantined areas in Italy if their travel is essential. He says it is important that the government is not advising the blanket closure of schools. Testing sites are available at all A&E facilities in England, he says. But he says the NHS also wants to introduce home testing for the virus. That will allow the government to roll out testing for a much wider group of people, he says.</p>
27/2	Monitoring of Sports and Entertainment Events
	<p>The monitoring of sports and entertainment events has led to;</p> <p>Sports -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ireland Vs Italy Six National Games postponed - Nanjing World Athletics Indoor Championships due to take place in March has been postponed to 2021 - Euro 2020 – UEFA currently in discussion and monitoring the situation before making any decisions - International Olympic Committee – ongoing monitoring for the Olympic Games in Japan for July 2020 <p>Music and Entertainment –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stormzy postponed scheduled Asian tour - Japan, China and Korea between March 27-29 2020 - Khalid postponed scheduled Asian tour – Bangkok, Singapore, Jakarta, Manila, Kuala Lumpur, Tokyo, Seoul, Mumbai and Bangalore between March 24 – April 14 2020 - Mabel cancelled concert in Milan on February 24th 2020 <p>To keep abreast of all concert dates – check out CoronaVirus - Concerts Update</p>
26/2	Cancellation of some flights to Milan

	<p>British Airways cancelled dozens of flights serving Milan due to a drop in demand amid the coronavirus outbreak.</p> <p>The airline announced it was “merging” some of its flights between Heathrow and the Italian city’s Linate airport. About 22 return flights over the next two weeks are affected. BA flights to and from Milan Malpensa are continuing as normal.</p>
25/2	Confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Asia
	
25/2	China Joint Mission shares findings and recommendations
	<p>A team of 25 international and Chinese experts travelled to several different provinces of China, with a small group going to Wuhan, the epicenter of the outbreak.</p> <p>Among the team's findings was that the epidemic peaked and plateaued between the 23rd of January and the 2nd of February, and has been declining steadily since then. The team also estimates that the measures taken in China have averted a significant number of cases.</p>
24/2	Experts team travel to Italy
	<p>A team of experts from WHO and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) focus on: understanding how events developed, learning from the Italian experience and supporting control and prevention efforts by the authorities.</p> <p>To limit further human to human transmission, WHO experts will provide support in the areas of clinical management, infection prevention and control, surveillance and risk communication.</p>
24/2	UN Secretary-General visits WHO
	<p>UN Secretary-General António Guterres met with the WHO Director-General and other WHO leaders, receiving a briefing on COVID-19, Ebola and polio. He expressed great admiration for health workers, including in China, who are working tirelessly to save lives. The UN Secretary-General also stressed that there is no space for stigma and discrimination and said we must be guided by science and human rights-based interventions.</p>
18/2	Engagement in massive preparedness activities
	<p>Shipping of supplies of personal protective equipment to 21 countries - 40 countries in Africa and 29 in the Americas have the ability to detect COVID-19.</p>

12/2	Research and innovation forum sets priorities for COVID-19 research
	More than 400 experts and funders met at WHO's Geneva HQ to accelerate research to stop the COVID-19 outbreak. Featuring updates from the frontlines of the response in China, the meeting addressed issues such as: developing easy-to-apply diagnostics, accelerating existing vaccine candidates and preventing infection.
30/1	Public Health Emergency of International Concern declared
	WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus declared the 2019-nCoV outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, following a second meeting of the Emergency Committee convened under the International Health Regulations. Acknowledging that cases have been reported in five regions in one month, the Committee noted that early detection, isolating and treating cases, contact tracing and social distancing measures – in line with the level of risk – can all work to interrupt virus spread.
25/1	Launch of free online introductory course on the novel coronavirus
	Covering topics such as why the novel coronavirus is a global threat to human health and how to effectively engage communities in the response, this free online course gives an introduction to the novel coronavirus. It is available for free and online in English, French, Spanish and Chinese. Here's the link https://openwho.org/
23/1	First meeting of Emergency Committee regarding the novel coronavirus outbreak
	On 22-23 February, the WHO Director General convened the Emergency Committee to consider the outbreak of the novel coronavirus in China, with cases also reported in the Republic of Korea, Japan, Thailand and Singapore. Several Committee members considered it still too early to declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), given its restrictive and binary nature. Among other recommendations, the Committee advised that it be recalled in 10 days.
21/1	WHO makes field visit to Wuhan, China
13/1	First case of Novel Coronavirus outside of China confirmed
12/1	China makes genome sequencing of Novel Coronavirus publicly available
10/1	Developed with reference to other coronaviruses, such as SARS and MERS, WHO issued a tool for countries to check their ability to detect and respond to a novel coronavirus.
5/1	First Advice – publish of risk assessment and advice, reported on the status of patients and the public health response by national authorities to the cluster of pneumonia cases in Wuhan.

**For further information contact the
BPIF Health & Safety Team**

**STOP ● THINK II ACT ►
YOUR SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY**

Disclaimer –

This document is intended as a useful tool in any health and safety matters, and not stand-alone advice. The information and any commentary in the law contained in these documents are provided for information purposes only. Every reasonable effort is made to make the information and commentary accurate and up to date, but no responsibility for its accuracy and correctness, or for any consequences of relying on it, is assumed by the BPIF.