

## CHAPLAINCY DURING COVID



**Churches and Industry  
Group Birmingham-Solihull**

### RISK MITIGATION

CIGB is committed to minimizing risks to our Chaplains and to those we minister with. We are all created in the image of God, and the safety and wellbeing of life is important. Chaplaincy is an intentional ministry involving prayer, discernment and preparation.

We are asking all Chaplains thinking about Chaplaincy during the Covid-times to view and take note of our training materials. They can be downloaded from the website <http://www.cigb.org.uk/covid-policies/>. There is a training session on the practicalities of Chaplaincy visiting (or not) during this time; as well as some training on pastoral issues that may arise more commonly now. If you belong to a Chaplaincy team this training might best be delivered and discussed at a team meeting.

If you are thinking of returning to Chaplaincy visiting, we are asking you first to do a 'scoping' visit to assess the situation and the business policies for chaplaincy, and to complete the attached Risk Assessment form. This can demonstrate to the businesses that we visit that we are acting professionally and carefully. It also evidences to CIGB Trustees that we have thought about the risks and how we will act as safely as possible.

We are living and working in a fluid situation: rules and guidance may well change again. But being aware of the risks on every Chaplaincy visit means observing Government rules and guidelines, noting our local, specific risks and acting appropriately to minimize them. CIGB can provide face masks and hand-cleanser supplies (contact us).

Chaplaincies in different contexts will encounter different risks – although some are common to all – so each CIGB chaplain is asked to do their own assessment.

Risk Assessment forms also give an overview for the Trustees of CIGB as to what the main risks are that CIGB Chaplains are encountering: the Trustees can then decide if further action needs to be taken to minimize those risks. The Assessments will be reviewed by CIGB and we might request further mitigations or discussion. A copy of the risk assessments will also be held on behalf of CIGB Management Council.

The Risk Assessment exercise is to engage intentional thought, discussion and planning. It is unlikely that a risk assessment will give a complete statement of all the nuances or implications of every possible event – we are trying to focus on the main hazards and possibilities.

Please let us know quickly if there are other significant hazards (not on this list) that you are noticing and you think that others would benefit from thinking / being aware of them.

Since with Covid-19, there are additional risks and precautions that absolutely need taking account of, we are asking that every Chaplain who is returning to visiting Chaplaincy to complete this new Risk Assessment.

**Overleaf** is the framework that we suggest to use to record significant current risks and actions that you are undertaking. When completed, please keep a copy yourself, give a copy to your team leader (if applicable) and return a copy to Val Dalton ([val.dalton@cigb.org.uk](mailto:val.dalton@cigb.org.uk)) for reviewing and recording.

We hope that this process is helpful to you, as we wish to keep you as safe as possible.

Peter Sellick

15/6/20

<b>NAME:</b>			<b>CHAPLAINCY:</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>			<b>Date:</b>	
	<b>Risk / Possible means of virus transmission</b>	<b>Observation</b>	<b>Risk &amp; impact assessed: High/Medium /Low</b>	<b>Mitigating Actions to take to reduce risk</b>
<b>1</b>	Closeness / number of people in one space – at different times of day			<i>Eg Visit at quiet time of day? Stick to spacious area?</i>
<b>2</b>	What is the airflow like? outdoors / indoors / atrium?			<i>Eg Wear a Mask? Are staff wearing masks?</i>
<b>3</b>	What Surfaces might you touch? – counters, handrails, door handles			<i>Eg Avoid touch if possible; Hand sanitizer, wear Gloves?</i>
<b>4</b>	How will you safely travel to Chaplaincy? Public Transport?			<i>Eg Follow guidance re public transport.</i>
<b>5</b>	How will you take a break / sit down / refreshment?			
<b>6</b>	How will you make sure Leaflets, business cards, paper work is clean / safe?			<i>Eg Carry minimum in paper envelope?</i>
<b>7</b>	How will you keep a note of who you have been (in case of contact tracing)?			
<b>8</b>	Will you be transferring contamination by Handbags / Umbrellas etc?			<i>Eg Carry minimum and wipe down after?</i>
<b>9</b>	Monitor your own Personal Hygiene and Clothing?			<i>Eg Cover up coughs and sneezes; wash hands; don't put hands to face; wash clothes afterwards</i>
<b>10</b>	Practical risks – slips/trips/hazards?			
<b>11</b>	Other			