

Appendix 1: Events Guidance for Directors of Public Health

Plan B measures have now been lifted, with people no longer advised to work from home and face coverings not legally required. People are still advised to wear face coverings in crowded and enclosed spaces. The legal requirement for the Covid pass has also been removed; although venues and events can still choose to use the pass on a voluntary basis.

Updated government guidance is at: [Events and attractions - Working safely during coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/events-and-attractions-working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/guidance)

The recent decline in community case rates and people requiring hospitalisation is encouraging, and it is of course thanks to the support of businesses, the events and hospitality industry, and the general public who have taken up vaccination and followed Plan B measures that we have got to this point.

However, the COVID-19 virus is still here. It hasn't gone away, and we need to remain proactive in reducing further spread, both now and in the future, to minimise harm and disruption in our communities.

This guidance has been developed with a view to supporting Directors of Public Health to produce and implement local advice for anyone organising or hosting an event or gathering.

- Request that people continue to take a rapid (LFT) covid test on the same day as the event, and ask people not to attend if the test result is positive. *Note, to detect infectious people, the LFT should be done as close as possible to the time of the event
- Remind people that testing is in addition to vaccination, as even if people are vaccinated they can still be infectious and spread the virus to other people
- Advise that anyone who has been in contact with a case of Covid in the last week should not attend the event (even if they have a negative test)
- Ensure staff are testing regularly and have a negative LFT on the day of the event. As employers, consider carefully how you will monitor this
- Strongly encourage the wearing of face coverings by staff and customers when appropriate to do so, especially when people are moving around inside a venue or event. Consider how you can make this as easy as possible for people to do, including through the supply of face-coverings for people who need them, and through active monitoring and encouragement.
- Make sure the event is well-ventilated – to reduce the amount of virus in the air. Avoid congestion and facilitate social distancing during the design stage of any event
- Do not admit customers (or staff) who have symptoms of Covid- even if mild.
- Get vaccinated. Encourage any unvaccinated staff and the public to take up the offer of vaccination without further delay. It is never too late to have your first vaccine. There are lots of resources available to promote and provide true information about vaccination at: <https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns>

In addition to the above, it is recommended that event organisers establish links with their local public health team/Director of Public Health (DPH), and liaise with them on any specific issues relating to Covid19, and also any general issues relating to Alcohol, Drugs, Gambling, Sexual Health, etc, where there may be value in work being carried out jointly. This could be done through the local Safety Advisory Group (SAG), Joint Advisory Group (JAG), or direct with the local director of public health.

List of Directors of Public Health can be found at the following link:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/directors-of-public-health-in-england--2>