
Update on Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Dear Colleague,

These are challenging times as we try to navigate this uncertain period and make the best decisions we can for our workforce, our visitors and our families with the available information in a swiftly changing Covid-19 situation.

Following the latest advice from the Government, as of today MGS is moving to home working by staff and we are aware that many of you, who are in a position to do so, are taking the same measures.

At the time of sending there is no government ordered population distancing strategy that directs the closure of museums, galleries or other public spaces but you will be considering how you manage these measures.

We recognise that in this evolving situation it is increasingly difficult to plan ahead and we will be flexible and responsive to your needs. Yesterday we published [advice to support our current grant holders](#). The bottom line is that we welcome any discussions on your projects that might need to change or be postponed due to the current situation.

Our grants programme remains open and we will welcome new applications so continue to get in touch with our [Grants Manager](#) to discuss your plans.

Thank you to all have been in touch to tell us about the pressures you are facing. This has helped us to determine the situation's impact on our sector and we are working with other organisations who are also calling for information so that we combine our efforts. We have shared (unattributed) details with the Scottish

Government and will do so on a regular basis so continue to stay in touch and let us know the impact on your museum as the situation evolves. We need to know what support you need now and in the coming period and we will advocate on your behalf.

We are planning a social media campaign to highlight how museums and galleries can continue to entertain, educate and inspire by signposting digital resources that will continue to give access to museums for those stuck at home and be helpful to those caring for children in the coming period. Please do send details of any online outreach or learning resources or virtual tours to our [Marketing and Communications Manager](#) and we can share these through our platforms.

We are undertaking our own business continuity planning and looking at how we will deliver the services you need and will keep you informed regularly throughout. We want to be visible and accessible to you throughout the time ahead using all the technology available to us.

We are all here for each other at this time. We will stay in touch and please do the same.

Lucy Casot

Chief Executive Officer