



RUTTER & ALLHUSEN

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

APPENDIX 1 – MATTERS TO CONSIDER – MEETING TOPICS

GUIDANCE FOR OUR CLIENTS - CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

This resource is to support a meeting designed to help a team agree on a short-term tactical plan to support the UK government's objective to minimise and slow down the spread of Coronavirus to reduce pressure on the NHS.

The conversation includes time to gain a shared understanding of the problems but focuses primarily on listing and evaluating possible solutions and the creation of a short-term action plan.

Use this guide and the meeting agenda to answer the question:

“WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT CORONAVIRUS RIGHT NOW?”

The agenda and guide are not intended for use if the situation turns into an emergency, and it is crucial that follow-up meetings are scheduled. We recommend there is a weekly Coronavirus report and review meeting.

Topic 1 – Introduction and purpose of the meeting

- State the purpose of the meeting, to create a Coronavirus action plan to:
 - Reduce risk and financial impact
 - Support the government's objective to minimise and slow down the spread to reduce pressure on the NHS
 - Explore if there is an opportunity to provide support to the community
 - Review the situation report using the prompt questions
 - Get agreement of the level of risk to the business

Topic 2 - Employees

- Our duty of care
- Self-isolate
- Advise of sick pay
- Encourage employees taking sick days
- Consider a remote working policy
- Policy customer visits
- Encourage video / Skype / tele conference style meetings
- No shaking hands
- Policy on events
- Defer non-essential seminar training



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Topic 3 - Customers

- Advise customers of the firm's Coronavirus plans
- Fewer face to face meetings
- Use of video calls
- Courier papers rather than drop off
- Offer Coronavirus support
- Blog posts and newsletter

Topic 4 - IT & Cybersecurity

Remote working and cybersecurity is a topical subject. In an effort to do the right thing by having people work at home to limit the impact of Coronavirus, you may create a bigger problem; home working environments are likely to be insecure and not risk assessed, e.g. home Wi-Fi and sharing of work devices with family members.

- What IT is required?
- Hardware
- Remote working
- Video conferencing
- What data security risks need to be addressed and managed?

Topic 5 - Marketing & Business Development

- Events and exhibitions – cancel?
- Switch seminars for webinars
- Budget and resource
- Do we need to step up our investment?

Topic 6 - Purpose

- What can we do to support the community?
- Sector
- Town or region



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Topic 7 - Financial Impact

Cashflow management is key.

Consider the impact of:

- Customers paying more slowly
- Bad debts
- Fewer new customers
- Risk of clients moving to lower-priced competitors
- Customers asking for lower prices because profits are hit
- Look at payment terms
- Offer customers time to pay
- Expenditure – cut non-essential
- Delay capital purchases
- Finance all capital purchases
- Avoid discretionary costs
- Contact your bank – if you have an overdraft can it be converted to a loan?
- Loan holidays
- Alternative funding for the business
- Bookkeeping, VAT and payroll – do we need our accountants help?

Topic 8 - Actions

- Agreed actions
- To do or project
- Person
- Deadline/timeline
- Notes
- Who is producing notes?
- When and how are they to be circulated?
- The date for next review



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SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN: