



## Webinar: Future Leaders: making a personal impact post-lockdown

**Date: Thursday 23 July 2020**

Responses from the Steering Group for the Future Leaders Community, for the unanswered questions from the webinar:

**Q:** There's been an emphasis on Safety and Health practitioners being available from 6am to late. It is our job to help organisations put HS Management systems in place involving, Directors, Managers, Team Leaders, Supervisors, individual staff. This then allows emergencies, urgent queries to be planned for in a more managed way. We also need to lead by example, planning our workload, good ergonomic set up, healthy working practice taking breaks. Does everyone agree?

**A:** *Agree that we as OHS professionals should lead by example - as OHS professionals we need to build trust within our workplaces and a key example being that we live our values and deliver on what we say that we will do. Trust can be difficult to build but quickly lost...*

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**Q:** Working within an R&D environment i am regularly receiving information regarding air conditioning systems and how best to make them COVID safe especially within open plan offices. Do you have comment/guidance beyond the Govt guidance of opening windows and increasing fresh air supplies?

**A:** *I would suggest following Govt guidance and referring to the HSE website which has some helpful guidance on AC and ventilation in relation to COVID.*

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**Q:** How does the panel see technology involvement with health and the safety aspects of a work site and how do the safety professionals need to adapt for this?

**A:** *There is probably a whole discussion that could be had on this topic but in brief, I think OHS professionals need to grow their skills beyond just technical skills and future proof themselves with power skills. Developing commercial awareness for example will help with identifying how the landscape is changing in the profession, whilst curiosity and creativity will help adapt to new technologies.*

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**Q:** In certain workplace and site, complying with 2-meter distance between worker had really been a difficult thing to checkmate. at the point of entry/exist we have hand-washing points, temperature check and log-in protocols. Please what next can I do to ensure we improve on the Covid-19 workplace safety protocol?



**A:** *I would recommend you take a risk management holistic approach to managing the COVID risk in your workplace. Risk Communication - having signages and proper orientation and discussion of Covid risk assessment. A COVID 19 risk policy should be established by*

*management defining the Risk tolerance, Context and Scope. Having a look at the Hierarchy of Controls. If Work from Home is possible some workers - Eliminating/Substituting.*

**Q:** *Now that operations/works are starting gradually, how do you think social distancing being one the policy to reduce the spreading of coronavirus could be achieved especially in oil and sector (drilling)?*

**A:** *All workers in critical areas where social distancing might be impracticable should be tested. However a combination of other risk controls can help effective COVID risk mitigation.*

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**Q:** *How do you acquire experience when, as has frequently happened to me "thank you very much you have done everything we needed. We can take it from here. Here's a P45 to thank you"?*

**A:** *Persevere and use these experiences to grow yourself professionally. Look for organisations that want an embedded OHS Professional and which also have a track record of developing its employees. Keep growing your network and reaching out to OHS peers for opportunities.*

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**Q:** *Can you please share any standard workplace risk assessment designed COVID-19 and how we can update our existing risk assessment with COVID-19 risks? What risk scale we should use to give risk numbers to the COVID-19 risk?*

**A:** *I would suggest using the guidance on the HSE website; in terms of risk scale, I would suggest aligning this to whatever risk matrix/scale that you currently use within your organisation.*

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