



11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## **STATEMENT: Legionella risks during the coronavirus outbreak**

The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) has advised that all premises, including bowls clubs, that have been closed or had reduced usage during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak must ensure that they take action to reduce the risk of Legionnaires' disease.

The HSE warns that any water system that has the right environmental conditions could potentially be a source for legionella bacteria growth, which means there is an increased risk of Legionnaires' disease if water has not been drawn off during the lockdown.

You are advised to review your [risk assessment](#) and manage the legionella risks when you:

- reinstate a water system or start using it again
- restart some types of [air conditioning units](#)

If the water system is still used regularly, maintain the appropriate measures to prevent legionella growth.

You can find out what Legionnaires' disease is, where it comes from, how people get it and symptoms and treatment by reading the guidance: [What is Legionnaires' disease?](#)

Useful information:

What is Legionnaires' Disease?

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/legionnaires/what-is.htm>

What you must do?

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/legionnaires/what-you-must-do.htm>

Legionella risks during the coronavirus outbreak

[https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/legionella-risks-during-coronavirus-outbreak.htm?utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=coronavirus&utm\\_term=guidance&utm\\_content=legionella-18-may-20#air-conditioning](https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/legionella-risks-during-coronavirus-outbreak.htm?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=coronavirus&utm_term=guidance&utm_content=legionella-18-may-20#air-conditioning)

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