Reimaging: RISK

Facilitated by Lesley Maltman

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Risk Assessment and Control
A new normality for Events

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Some basic definitions

Hazards: Any source of potential harm. In the case of COVID-19 this is, put simply, contracting the illness as a result of exposure to infection.

Risk: The chance or likelihood that a person will be harmed if exposed to an identified hazard. Again, in the case of COVID-19 this means the chance or likelihood that someone will be infected.

Control: An action or measure that reduces the risk (i.e. reduces the likelihood). Controls are used to mitigate (reduce) risk.

Risk Assessment: A systematic way to identify hazards, assess the risk and identify controls to reduce the risk.

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Vaccines and Risk

There are 3 key things to consider when considering the efficacy of vaccines

1: The likelihood of the person who has been vaccinated contracting the disease (and the potential implications/ramifications clinically if they do) – “Breakthrough Cases”

2: The likelihood of the person who has been vaccinated carrying and spreading the disease

3: New variants against which vaccines may be much less effective?

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"Tests" for Englands roadmap

There are 3 key things to consider when considering the efficacy of vaccines

1: The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully.

2: Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated.

3: Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS.

4: The government's assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new Variants of Concern.

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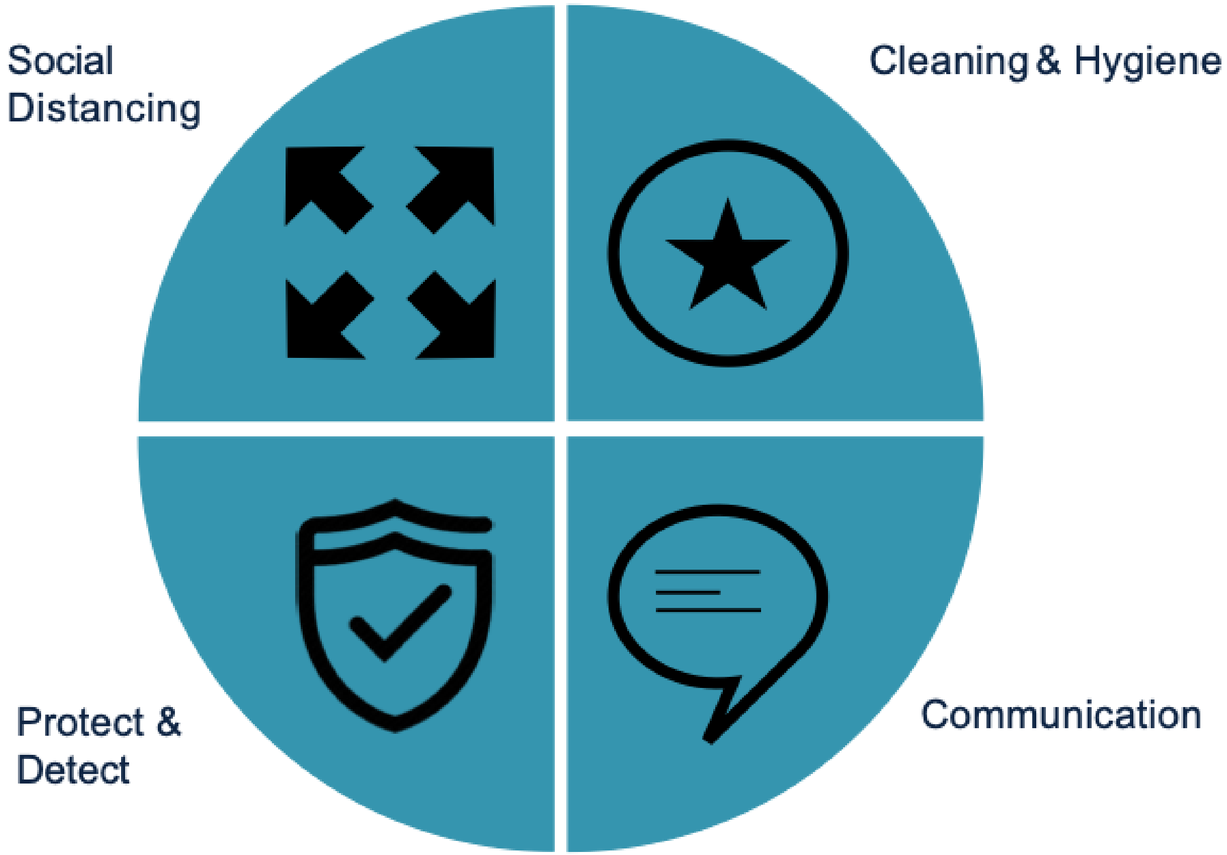
Guidance

CORNERSTONES

ALL SECURE STANDARD

AEO
ESSA
AEV



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Factors for consideration

1: Risk to local population health?
2: Is the event permitted at the relevant Step of the Roadmap?
3: Is it an event that is subject to restrictions?
4: Has the event organiser carried out a comprehensive risk assessment?
5: Has the event organiser taken into account the relevant COVID-secure guidance?
6: Can/will all mitigations be operated effectively?
7: What will be the impact on the local area and other adjacent areas?
8: Has the event organiser engaged appropriately with neighbouring businesses, transport operators and local police?
9:Enough local accommodation providers in the area in the event of overnight stays? Has
10: impact of increased footfall on the surrounding area and infrastructure?
11: Will attendees primarily local, or a national or international audience for the event?
12: Has the event organiser successfully run their event in line with COVID-secure guidance previously? SLIDE 4: GUIDANCE

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Outside Vs Inside

Key reference point is the requirement for smoking shelters contained within the Smoking (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

If a structure is wholly or substantially enclosed it is **indoor.**

At least 50% of the structure must be open

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Regulation and enforcement

EH Departments in Councils – not H&SENI

Talk to them – early – they will help you run your event as sately as possible and in compliance with requirements

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Summing up – the "new normal"

- Risk assessment – additional scope and even more importance
- RA is unique for every event – there is no "off the shelf" kit
- Increased scrutiny from both Regulators and the general public. (Due Diligence)
- Increased responsibilities on venue owners and organisers. Duty of care not only for staff but for customers/the public. If there is a case (or worse outbreak) what are the liabilities?
- Controls around ventilation (indoor events); social distancing; maximum capacity; hygiene requirements all likely to be required (ie legally)
- Testing and tracing (ie the need to retain details of those attending an event likely to also be specifically required - summarise requirements for England by way of example)
- Vaccine deployment programme continues successfully.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

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Further support

EH Departments in Councils

Independent professional advice, assistance and support

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Links to existing guidance (relevant for England)

Dept Digital Culture Media and Sport guidance (DCMS)

Sport

Coronavirus (COVID-19): grassroots sports guidance for safe provision including team sport, contact combat sport and organised sport events
Coronavirus (COVID-19): grassroots sports guidance for the public and sport providers
Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance on the phased return of elite sport
Working safely during coronavirus: providers of grassroots sport and sport facilities

Groups who utilise volunteers

Enabling safe and effective volunteering during coronavirus (COVID-19)
Working safely during coronavirus: heritage locations

Guidance for people who work in performing arts, including arts organisations, venue operators and participants.

Working safely during coronavirus: performing arts

Guidance for people who work in hotels and guest accommodation, indoor and outdoor attractions, and business events and consumer shows.

Working safely during coronavirus: visitor economy

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Guidance produced in collaboration with stakeholders (England)

Events

Association of Event Organisers - COVID-19 guidance for event recovery

AEV/ESSA/AEV Secure Standard

Fundraising Regulator - Coronavirus advice for fundraising organisations

Events Industry Forum - Keeping workers and audiences safe during COVID-19 in the outdoor event industry in England

Events Industry Forum, Association of Independent Festivals, Association of Festival Organisers - Music Festivals – COVID-19 supplementary guidance

Meetings Industry Association - COVID-19 business support

Museums

National Museums Directors' Council - Good practice guidelines on opening museums

National Youth Agency - NYA COVID-19 guidance

Cinemas

UK Cinema Association - Cinemas - keeping workers and customers safe during COVID-19

UK Cinema Association - guidance for cinemas

Hospitality (pubs, restaurants etc)

UK Hospitality - COVID-19 secure guidelines for hospitality businesses

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Risk Contingency Planning

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What is a Contingency Plan?

... a plan designed to take account of a possible future event or circumstance. (Oxford Dictionary)

In the context of event planning.

- A plan designed to mitigate risks arising from future circumstances which can not be controlled by the event organiser.
- A plan which can be strategic, operational, financial or a combination of all three.

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Americas Cup 2021

Case Study – 36th Americas Cup, Auckland New Zealand 2021

1. Event planned before Covid-19. Due to take place December 2020 to March 2021.
2. New Zealand has Alert Levels in place from April 2020. Levels 0-4
3. Event can proceed at Levels 0,1 and 2.
4. On land and on water dimensions
5. Command and control structures in place
6. Communicate with public as it is a free event
7. Authorise every day as a race day to allow for postponement within event

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Combined ECP

Risk event	Response (ECP level and description)	Key actions to give effect to ECP level		
		ACE	Auckland Council Group	Crown
COVID-19 restrictions (including border restrictions) are removed	**ECP 1 – Complete on land and on water event**	No change from status quo plans	No change from status quo plans	No change from status quo plans
RECOMMENDED APPROACH It is anticipated that the confirmed Alert Level one month prior to racing means that: • racing can take place (eg border restrictions and exemptions allow event participants to enter New Zealand) • the Cup Village can operate in full (eg Alert Levels don't require stringent social distancing measures to be practiced in a manner that substantially limits the number of people who can enter the Village)	**ECP 2 – condensed race schedule for ACWA, Prada Cup and the Match**	• Confirmation from CoR of revised race window • Hosts' outcomes, rights and benefits assessed, and amended as required • Confirmation three syndicates are taking part in the event • Protocol amended accordingly	• AT - contract services to support ECP 2 • Endorse continued Event Planning and City Integration (Summer Festival activations, digital and marketing campaign, city and event branding assets, business and readiness community toolkit, volunteer programme, C4/Security/Crowd Management, city event operations	No change from status quo plans
It is anticipated that the confirmed Alert Level one month prior to racing means that: • racing can take place (eg border restrictions and exemptions allow event participants to enter New Zealand and to compete in the event) • the Cup Village can operate but will require heightened social distancing	**ECP 3 – On water event with limited cup village**	As per ECP 2, plus: • Confirmation of race courses (race courses B and C to be removed) • Confirmation of approach to maintaining social distancing within the Race Village	As per ECP 2	As per ECP 2

Combined ECP

		Key actions to give effect to ECP level		
Risk event	**Response (ECP level and description)**	**ACE**	**Auckland Council Group**	**Crown**
It is anticipated that the confirmed Alert Level one month prior to racing means that: • racing can take place (eg border restrictions and exemptions allow event participants to enter New Zealand and to compete in the event) • the Cup Village is not permitted to open	**ECP 4 – On water event with no cup village**	As per ECP 2, plus: • Confirmation of race courses (race courses B and C to be removed)	• C4/Security/Crowd Management become key operational focus • MEOC required	As per ECP 2
N/A – advised this is not an option	**ECP 5 - One year postponement**	N/A – advised this is not an option		
It is anticipated that the confirmed Alert Level one month prior to racing means racing cannot take place (ie the Country is at Alert Levels 3 and 4 and no exemptions for event participants to enter New Zealand or compete are possible)	**ECP 6 – Cancel event**	Confirm cancellation of event with CoR	Confirm cancellation with contractors and parties involved	Event cancellation would need to be ministerial approved

Case Study - 36th Americas Cup, Auckland New Zealand 2021

1. Event took place and was completed within original schedule
2. There was no prospect of Level 0 (borders open) during the event
3. Auckland experienced Level 1, 2 and 3 during the event.
4. Level 3 led to postponement of race days. Level 2 led to limitations on Event Village capacity
5. Event delivered on budget
6. Extensive use of Track and trace App in population
7. No Covid-19 cases connected to the event

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Event Contingency Plan Template

Purple Moon

ECP level	Pandemic Status	Operational Response	Operational Response detail	Actions
ECP 1	Pandemic is no longer active, but recurrence is a threat	Event staged as originally planned but with mitigations in place	Plans around sanitising, face coverings, social distancing and other preventative measures in place along with responses to outbreaks	- mitigating measures costed and budget impacts assessed. - Response plan to outbreak during the event developed. - Decision making process identified. - Develop a full plan for ECP 1
ECP 2	Pandemic active in some places world-wide but very low level in UK and Ireland	Event staged with limited international visitors		
ECP 3	Pandemic active globally but low level in UK and Ireland	Event staged with limited spectators		-
ECP 4	Pandemic active globally Legal restrictions in UK and Ireland prevent event running fully	Event staged with no spectators in indoor or enclosed venues		-
ECP 5	Pandemic active globally Legal restrictions prevent event running fully	Event staged with no spectators		-
ECP 6	Pandemic active globally Legal restrictions prevent event	Postponement		-
ECP 7	Pandemic active globally Legal restrictions prevent event	Cancellation		-

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World Health Organisation
Guidance on Mass Gatherings

Web site to download Risk Assessment Tool
https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/10665-333185

The guidance is designed to cover all mass gatherings and builds on work with both the International Olympic Committee and International Football (FIFA).

In brief

- Tool is scalable, all sections may not be relevant to your event
- The 'Risk Assessment' section is short and easy to undertake, generating a 'Risk Score'
- The 'Risk Score' can be improved by accepting 'Mitigating Actions' from a very long list of possible actions
- Some Mitigating Actions are not relevant to smaller scale events or to domestic only events
- The list of 'Mitigating Actions' agreed to can be exported to create an action plan.
- A separate assessment is required for each contingency plan level.

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Does legislation prevent your event taking place?

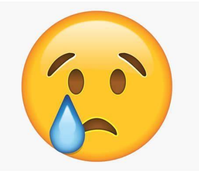
Yes

Can the event be modified to run entirely online?

yes

Is a modified event commercially viable?

no



No

Conduct a risk assessment using WHO Mass Gathering Risk Assessment tool

No

Do NOT proceed with the event

yes

Proceed with a modified virtual event

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Please answer yes or no to the following questions:		
Risk of COVID-19 to the mass gathering		**Yes No**
Original Risk of Mass Gathering	**Will the event take place in a host country experiencing community transmission (larger outbreaks of local transmission), as defined by WHO?**	NO
	Will the event include international participation from countries experiencing community transmission, therefore increasing risk of importation of COVID-19 cases to the host country?	YES
	Will the event include a significant number of participants at higher risk of severe disease (e.g. people > 60 years of age or people with underlying health conditions)?	NO
	Will the event be primarily indoors or will people be in close contact (less than 1m distance) with one another for a prolonged period (more than 15 minutes)?	YES
	Is there a culture of risk taking behaviour (e.g. excessive drinking, illegal substance use, sexual activity etc.) that may be connected to the mass gathering or are there legitimate concerns of noncompliance with health and safety precautions?	NO
Modifications of the Event	**Can the mass gathering be modified so it can be held virtually?**	NO
	Can the mass gathering be modified so that there will be no international participation to reduce the risk of international spread?	NO
	Can the mass gathering be modified so those at high risk (e.g. people > 60 years of age or people with underlying health conditions) will no longer attend?	NO
	Can the mass gathering be modified so that the event will be held outdoors and with limited close contact between people?	YES
	Can there be enhanced monitoring and incident reporting during the mass gathering to reduce risk taking behaviours or noncompliance (such as smartphone apps for participants to report potential incidents)?	YES
Total COVID-19 Risk Evaluation Score		**0**

Mitigating Action Categories

1. Understanding COVID-19, the country situation, and the mass gathering.
2. Event emergency preparedness and response plans
3. Stakeholder and partner coordination
4. Command and control
5. Communicating with Staff, Participants, Media, and Stakeholders
6. Public health awareness of COVID-19 before and during the event
7. Surge Capacity

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