

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) – information and advice to members and customers – updated 27 March 2020

Following the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19), IChemE is closely monitoring the advice given by the relevant national governments. The Institution has put in place the plans and contingency measures necessary to ensure the health and safety of our employees, members and visitors, and to minimise the impact on operations. Welfare remains our top priority.

For information on any alterations to our services, as well as details on how the Institution can support you at this time, please read the information below.

### Membership/Accredited Company Training Schemes

All membership interviews will be held online for the foreseeable future. Accredited Company Training Schemes that have visits scheduled in the coming months are being contacted individually to discuss arrangements.

### University Programme Accreditation

We have written to universities and colleges recognising the very difficult challenges that they and their students face. We understand that most will be changing their programme delivery and possibly content at very short notice. We want to work with universities to ensure that they and their students are not disadvantaged and have asked that they record any changes made and how the impact might be mitigated.

If you believe that you should have received this information and have not seen it, please contact [accreditation@icheme.org](mailto:accreditation@icheme.org).

### Training courses

All UK and Ireland IChemE training courses that were due to take place before September will no longer be delivered face-to-face, though where possible we plan to deliver the courses virtually. All attendees have been contacted with further updates as required and our [website](#) will be continually updated to reflect the revised programme. Public courses in Australasia and South-East Asia have been postponed until the end of June.

Please contact us using one of the following email addresses if you have any training related queries:

- UK [courses@icheme.org](mailto:courses@icheme.org)
- Australia [Austcourses@icheme.org](mailto:Austcourses@icheme.org)
- Malaysia [malaysiancourses@icheme.org](mailto:malaysiancourses@icheme.org)

To support members with continuous professional development we will be working with Members Groups and Special Interest Groups to deliver a varied range of webinars. We will advise members of forthcoming activity by email.

### Events

Hazards 30 will now take place in Manchester on 30 November – 2 December. For more details visit [www.icheme.org/hazards30](http://www.icheme.org/hazards30).

The *International Conference on Sustainable Production and Consumption* will no longer take place in

Edinburgh on 24-25 June. A further update will be issued shortly. For more details visit [www.icheme.org/spc20](http://www.icheme.org/spc20).

*ChemEngDayUK2020* has been postponed. New dates will be confirmed as soon as possible. For more details visit [www.chemengdayuk.co.uk](http://www.chemengdayuk.co.uk).

*The SOMChE conference in Kuching, Sarawak* has been postponed. A revised date has yet to be confirmed.

The annual IChemE Global Awards Dinner is expected to proceed as planned in November. Entries are being accepted until Friday 26 June. For more details visit [www.icheme.org/globalawards](http://www.icheme.org/globalawards).

In addition, we recommend that all member-led activities should also be held virtually or postponed.

### **The Chemical Engineers Benevolent Fund**

We recognise that some chemical engineers may be facing times of hardship due to the wider effects of the Coronavirus. Please remember that The Chemical Engineers Benevolent Fund was set up by members of IChemE in 1934 to offer financial support to all chemical engineers and their dependents around the world in times of distress. The support takes many forms and include a range of one-off gifts, grants and loans. To find out more or apply visit [www.benevolentface.org](http://www.benevolentface.org).

### **Contacting IChemE**

IChemE staff around the globe will now be predominantly working from home. The office in Rugby, UK is closed with all staff working from home. All other IChemE offices have also moved to a full work from home basis until further notice.

We recommend that if you need to get in touch with an IChemE member of staff that you use their normal email address. If you have any general enquiries, please visit our website for details as to how to contact your local office: [www.icheme.org/contact](http://www.icheme.org/contact). All email addresses will be monitored by staff members during normal working hours.

We will continue to monitor all relevant government advice and as the situation changes, we will keep under review how we support members, members groups and special interest groups in respect to any IChemE-related activities.

We strongly recommend that members keep themselves up to date on the latest travel and health advice from their national governments. For up to date advice, please click on the following links:

UK: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Australia: <https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>

Malaysia: <https://www.pmo.gov.my/special-contents/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/>

New Zealand: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

World Health Organisation: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>