

## COVID-19 (coronavirus) – information and advice to members and customers – updated 22 April 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 and members, and to minimise the impact on operations. Welfare remains our top priority.

### Coronavirus Information Hub

To help our members and customers locate information and resources that relate to the coronavirus pandemic we have created the Coronavirus Information Hub: [www.icheme.org/coronavirus-hub](http://www.icheme.org/coronavirus-hub)

This provides a 'one-stop shop' resource to allow members to easily and quickly find information covering:

- What IChemE and its members are doing in response to the crisis
- Developments within Membership and Qualifications
- Updated event information
- Resources and information to support continuing professional development (CPD)
- Other forms of support available for members

### 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).

Working with the Engineering Council we have secured a one-year extension to the accreditation periods of all programmes accredited by IChemE. We are currently writing to universities to inform them of this.

### 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 additional updates and our website will be continually updated to reflect the revised programme. 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)

## Events

Due to the wider effects of the coronavirus outbreak, IChemE has made some significant changes to our events schedule for 2020. All events due to take place over the next few months have been postponed or will be delivered virtually. IChemE is working hard to revise arrangements, communicate plans to delegates and stakeholders, and keep our events section of our website up-to-date with the latest information: [www.icheme.org/events](http://www.icheme.org/events)

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)

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.

## Contacting IChemE

IChemE staff around the globe are now working from home 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.

## Advice

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 — [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)
- Australia — [www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov](http://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov)
- Malaysia — [www.pmo.gov.my/special-contents/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/](http://www.pmo.gov.my/special-contents/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/)
- New Zealand — [www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus)
- World Health Organisation — [www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus](http://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus)