

Empty Buildings & Reduced Activity Guidance

At Alan Boswell Risk Management (ABRM) we recognise that all companies have been facing, and continue to face, incredibly complex challenges. More than ever, the importance of applying sensible risk management principles is essential and our series of fact-sheets aim to provide relevant guidance in light of the current COVID-19 situation.

Further, we would like to extend access to our risk management helpline to all our insured clients during this period to, hopefully, provide additional support during these difficult times.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you require any assistance.

Empty Buildings / Reduced Activity

Companies will now be operating in different ways and this will mean that buildings may now be unattended or empty, the following should be considered;

- Insurers should be notified of changes to business operational activities
- Security controls should be assessed based on likely periods of occupancy to ensure they are adequate
- All fire protection, detection, and security systems must remain active and monitored remotely where possible
- Secure the entrances - doors and windows can easily be broken, allowing trespassers to gain entry. More robust measures may be required, such as steel security doors or window boards
- Prevent access to the site - where your site is open to vehicle access consider blocking the entrances (fences, barriers or secure gates)

Where activity is ongoing at reduced levels then;

- Risk assessment controls must continue to be followed and consideration given to the changing risk and supervision levels
- Hazardous work activities and hot-work must be reviewed to ensure that suitable controls are in place and can be adequately maintained
- Critical maintenance of plant, machinery and equipment is carried out as necessary
- External areas are clear of waste and combustible materials
- Consider waste build-up and the controls needed if waste collection services are affected



For further advice or support please contact ABRM on 01603 967900, email riskmanagement@alanboswell.com or speak to your usual account executive