

Covid-19: Resources and Information

London Museum Development will keep this document up to date with useful links and information on dealing with the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak on your organisation. If you have any questions, or would like to share your organisations experiences during this time, please contact us directly:

museumdevelopment@museumoflondon.org.uk.

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General Information

DCMS release coronavirus bulletin for museums:

DCMS Museums and Galleries Sector Coronavirus bulletin 18 March 2020:

https://mcusercontent.com/fdfb8683fe90cd04d8d480e2c/files/884be74b-a3fe-40d4-a3dc-d59d60d49ab4/Coronavirus_bulletin_20200318.pdf

DCMS Museums and Galleries Sector Coronavirus bulletin 23 March 2020:

<https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/application/files/1315/8497/1638/Coronavirus-DCMS-bulletin-20200323.pdf>

ACE guidance for NPOs

Arts Council England (ACE) have released guidance for NPOs and their other funded programmes regarding the current Covid-19 outbreak:

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/news-and-announcements/coronavirus-information>

AIM guidance

AIM has published a detailed page listing lots of useful information and resources on their website: <https://www.aim-museums.co.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Museums Association overview

The Museums Association has created an overview article, looking at how Covid-19 will impact museums and what can be done to mitigate it:

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/news/10032020-coronavirus-impact-museums-galleries>

Museum Association's Covid-19 FAQ page

The MA has published an FAQ page where they list frequently asked questions around Covid-19 and the support that's currently available:

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/news/25032020-covid-19-resources-for-organisations-and-individuals>

NCVO guidance

The NCVO has a helpful guide to dealing with Covid-19 within your organisation:

<https://www.ncvo.org.uk/practical-support/information/coronavirus>

The Heritage Alliance's Covid-19 Guidance Hub

The Heritage Alliance has created a Guidance Hub where they're sharing lots of useful links and resources (some of them already mentioned here):

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1p4w-6tGao9SmwDAfSB9yOY5482Tvmgz9miZyfn8XnNQ/mobilebasic>

The BBC has launched 'Culture in Quarantine'

Culture in Quarantine is a new initiative from the BBC, featuring support and partnerships with a number of sector bodies. The initiative includes shows, such as 'Museums in Quarantine', resources on their Culture in Quarantine webpage and a £250,000 fund in partnership with ACE:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/latestnews/2020/culture-in-quarantine>

Financial Information and Support

ACE £160million support fund

Arts Council England has announced a £160 million support package for cultural organisations dealing with the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak. This includes £50 million for organisations that are not in receipt of regular funding from ACE, £90 million available to NPOs, and £20 million of financial support available to individuals: <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19>

London Funders emergency support fund

London Funders have created an emergency support fund to help London's community and voluntary organisations. Find out more about the fund and its criteria on their website: <https://londonfunders.org.uk/our-blog/new-emergency-support-fund-announced-help-community-and-voluntary-organisations>

Charity Finance Group updates

The Charity Finance Group has a live web-page where they're releasing updates and information on how best to deal with the financial impact of the Covid-19 outbreak:

https://cfg.org.uk/coronavirus_guide

AIM summary of government support available for museums

AIM has created a page summarising current financial support made available to museums by the UK Government following the Chancellors announcement on Friday 20 March: <https://www.aim-museums.co.uk/coronavirus-support-finance/>

Business Continuity Guidance

DCMS guidance on dealing with emergencies or disasters

For those museums that are facing a period of closure during the current Covid_19 situation there is some guidance on the DCMS website for museums and galleries to help them to cope with emergencies or disasters which may be helpful:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/business-continuity-planning-for-museums-and-galleries>

DCMS guidance on Expecting the Unexpected

There is also general guidance for organisations Expecting the Unexpected,

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/expecting-the-unexpected>

American Alliance of Museums: using scenarios to plan Covid-19 response

The following article from the American Alliance of Museums is also useful and may help with your planning: Using Scenarios to plan your Museum's Covid_19

(Coronavirus) response <https://www.aam-us.org/2020/03/13/using-scenarios-to-plan-your-museums-covid-19-coronavirus-response/>

Security

Collections Trust security audit resource

If you are preparing to close your building for a protracted period you may wish to check your security provision prior to closure – you can carry out your own security audit using the Security Toolkit on the Collections Trust website at <https://collectionstrust.org.uk/resource/the-security-audit/>. Check the terms of your insurance regarding leaving the building unoccupied for periods of time and possible requirement for security staff / visits.

Collection Care

Advice from the Museum of London's Collection Care team

If your museum or gallery will be closed without any access check:

Can you safely, leave the heating / building management system as is, if it can maintain stable conditions? If you do turn off any building management or heating systems check for risks, such as possible leaks as pipes cool down, do you need to call in someone under a service agreement to do this, can you re-start systems without problems etc

Are items locked in cases or stores where possible? Walk round and check that collections are as secure and protected from physical and environmental threats as can be.

How best can you protect any items on loan from other institutions? Try and ensure that you check these early on once you re-open and refer back to any condition reports you have. Report any concerns or changes to the lender. Think about your items out on loan in the same light.

Do you have remote access to building management systems or environmental monitoring systems to keep an eye on things? If a company manages your building management system check whether they have remote access to environmental readings that can be sent to you. If not, check what has happened as soon as possible after you re-open.

Ensure you have access to your emergency plan. If possible, check salvage supplies, prepare areas that commonly suffer leaks and work closely with any security team remaining so you are advised of possible problems. Check your call-out list to reflect who could possibly come in and who cannot due to the current

situation and adjust your plan accordingly. The Museum of London [Pocket Salvage Guide](#) will be helpful in the case of an emergency.

<http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/application/files/9414/5615/4887/pocket-salvage-guide.pdf>

Historic England's COVID-19: Cleaning historic surfaces

Historic England has released guidance for how to clean historic surfaces and objects that you believe a symptomatic person may have touched:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/coronavirus/cleaning-historic-surfaces/>

Examples of Audience Engagement

- #MuseumFromHome: Started by Sacha Coward:
https://twitter.com/sacha_coward/status/1239572244604620808
- When Chicago Aquarium closed, they live streamed their penguins going on a tour of their empty Aquarium:
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2020/03/17/penguins-coronavirus-shedd-aquarium/>
- Barnsley Museums have started #BarnsleyBingo, a creative and fun way to share their collection:
<https://twitter.com/BarnsleyMuseums/status/1240941575531790336>
- Akron Art Museum has created #MuseumGames:
<https://medium.com/@AkronArtMuseum/play-with-us-museumgames-dfc5bb5fa2a5>
- Western Approaches has started online history lessons (with over 100,000 sign ups): <https://twitter.com/WestApproaches/status/1241648745336504320>
- The Ashmolean Museum has created #IsolationCreations:
<https://twitter.com/WestApproaches/status/1241648745336504320>
- Liverpool War Museums are running Live History Lesson from secret WW2 bunker in Liverpool: <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/live-history-lesson-from->

[secre/682955445790269/](https://www.facebook.com/iverenvironmentcentre/)

- Facebook LIVE Nature Sessions and other activities for children and families with the Iver Environment Centre: <https://iverenvironmentcentre.org/>
- The Royal Institute have released a number of their experiments for under 5s, families, etc on their website: <https://www.rigb.org/families/experimental>
- Headstone Manor and Museum are using their Family Mascot and creating adventures for him on Facebook as well as their Mini Museum Sessions: <https://www.facebook.com/HeadstoneManor/photos/a.182086918624605/1451622595004358/?type=3&theater>
- A number of museums have released their Discover Arts Award resources online, as well as trails and worksheets for children and families to use. For example the [Garden Museum](#), the [Foundling Museum](#), the [Wetland Wildlife Trust](#), the [Ashmolean Museum Oxford](#), the [Flying Army Museum](#), [Dogs Trust Dogs in World Ward 1](#) resources for 11–14 year olds
- The Bowes Museum are running a [number of arts and crafts session on their Facebook page](#) including a Kindness Quilt and other activities.

Digital Support

Spektrix online ticket converter

Spektrix has created an online ticket converter which will allow people to turn ticket refunds into donations to your organisation (free tool for all):

<https://support.spektrix.com/hc/en-us/articles/360006701377>

Digital Pathways

Digital Pathways from Culture 24 isn't necessarily Covid-19 focused, but it has a tonne of free and useful resources for doing all kinds of digital work:

<https://digitalpathways.weareculture24.org.uk/>

Charity Digital's list

Charity Digital has published a list of tech companies that are offering discounts and free subscriptions for their platforms for charities:

<https://charitydigital.org.uk/topics/coronavirus-tech-offers-available-to-charities-7209>

MCN's guide to virtual museum resources

The MCN has created an incredibly helpful guide to Virtual Museum Resources, E-Learning, and Online Collections: <http://mcn.edu/a-guide-to-virtual-museum-resources/>

Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy advice on selling tickets

The Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy have some useful advice for organisations selling tickets: <https://artsfundraising.org.uk/news/advice-arts-and-cultural-organisations-selling-tickets>

Spektrix free online ticket converter

Spektrix have launched a free online ticket converter which can be used by customers to change their cancelled ticket refund into a donation:

<https://support.spektrix.com/hc/en-us/articles/360006701377>

Rubber Cheese's useful resources and webinars

Rubber Cheese has a webpage with links to loads of useful resources and webinars:

<https://www.rubbercheese.com/insights/useful-resources-for-the-attractions-and-travel-industry-during-the-covid-19-outbreak/>

AMA's list of resources

The AMA has a list of really useful resources on their website: <https://www.a-m-a.co.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/>

MA's list of digital platforms

The MA has a useful article looking at digital platforms to help with museum work: <https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/19032020-how-digital-platforms-be-used-to-support-musems-during-covid-19-crisis>

Family Days Tried and Tested virtual museum visits

Family Days Tried and Tested have pulled together a list of a number of museums that you can visit virtually: <https://www.familydaystriedandtested.com/free-virtual-tours-of-world-museums-educational-sites-galleries-for-children/>

Tickbox's look at online participation

Tickbox has created a useful webpage looking at online participation with a nice case study from Volunteer Makers: <https://www.tickboxmarketing.co.uk/time-to-focus-on-non-contact-participation/>