

Covid-19 Bulletin

17 March 2020



I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the various steps the BVRLA is taking in response to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 outbreak. These include the measures we are taking to keep staff and members safe. They also include the activities we are undertaking to ensure that we keep the industry protected and well-informed during these turbulent times.

Operational support and guidance

Although the BVRLA remains very much open for business, we are taking steps to adapt working practices to minimise face-to-face engagement.

We will review these processes again at the end of April but until then, the following now applies:

- There will be **no face-to-face meetings** of any kind either at the BVRLA office or off-site, including Committees, Working Groups or small business meetings.
- All meetings will be conducted using **telephone and videoconferencing** facilities such as Zoom and PowWowNow.
- All face-to-face BVRLA **training courses will be rescheduled**.
- BVRLA staff are setting up for **remote working**, where feasible and in accordance with government guidelines

As the pace of change continues to develop, the BVRLA will be working hard to ensure that you are provided with regular, rapid and repeated communications on all the latest advice and guidance relating to Covid-19.

We have introduced a dedicated [Covid-19 Business Advice](#) section on the BVRLA website and will be sending you a series of **Covid-19 Bulletin** emails to help keep you informed.

We are assessing our planned schedule of BVRLA conferences and forums and we will keep you updated in due course about any postponements or cancellations.

Industry representation

We continue to liaise directly with a range of government departments (BEIS, Treasury, DfT, MHCLG, Cabinet Office) and stakeholders (Leaseurope, UK airports, CBI, Tourism Alliance) to ensure that the needs of BVRLA members are taken into consideration. Some of the urgent actions we have called for include:

- Excluding vehicle rental branches and car clubs from any future business or transport restrictions
- Asking airports to relieve rental branches from the usual fixed fees and guaranteed operational requirements

If you have any questions, or would like to make suggestions about what support you feel our sector needs, please email the policy team via policy@bvrla.co.uk.

Along with the BVRLA management team, I will continue to review the situation and keep you updated via regular updates.