

HSE RESPONSES TO FURTHER QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE WORK AND PENSIONS SELECT COMMITTEE:**A. INVESTIGATIONS:**

How many HSE inspections related to the coronavirus outbreak have been conducted in each of the last 6 months? Please set out figures for the Sector of work to which the inspection is related, the outcomes of the inspections, and any measures subsequently imposed. Please also include details of inspections relating to care homes in your response.

Physical inspections of premises, whilst an important part of HSE's toolkit, are simply one part of a much wider piece of work that goes on within the organisation. For example, members of the public and employees are able to submit a concern to HSE in relation to unsatisfactory conditions or risk control measures in the workplace; concerns come into the organisation in a variety of ways, with most arriving either via telephone or the online form on our website.

Concerns received are triaged and classified either red, amber or green; those classified green are largely dealt with remotely by our Concerns and Advice Team, whilst amber and red concerns are passed to our field teams. Of these, the majority are resolved remotely, with only a small subset requiring a physical inspection or visit.

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, HSE has received in excess of 6,000 additional concerns from workers (and others) about social distancing and other Covid 19 risk matters. The majority of those cases have been dealt with satisfactorily by our call handling team.

- 2,469 of these cases were for other enforcing bodies e.g. relating to businesses closed under the emergency legislation which is not enforced by HSE – the team have referred these on to the relevant authorities.
- 1,100 further concerns were straightforward and could be handled and resolved at the first point of contact in HSE.
- 2,684 further concerns have been passed to our field teams for follow-up.
- 1,331 of the cases considered so far by our field teams required no further action. In a further 581 cases we provided verbal advice (512) or wrote a letter (69) to the company requiring certain action be taken.
- A small number, 47 concerns, required a physical inspection; following these HSE inspectors served one prohibition notice, wrote to dutyholders on 12 occasions identifying material breaches of Health & Safety law requiring rectification, gave verbal advice on a further 20 occasions and were satisfied with the remaining 14.
- In each instance, where enforcement action in any form is taken (and irrespective of whether the action was taken following telephone/email or physical contact), HSE Inspectors follow up with duty holders to ensure that any necessary remedial action(s)