

# **COVID-19 POLICY**

### Introduction

COVID-19 is an illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It's caused by a virus called coronavirus. The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a cough, a high temperature, shortness of breath and loss of taste or smell. Simple measures like washing hands often with soap and water and social distancing can help stop viruses like coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading.

As from the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the Government announced the lifting of all restrictions in relation to the Covid 19 Pandemic after the successful roll-out of the vaccine programme.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 the Government removed the requirement for Employers to provide a risk assessment outlining control measures for Covid-19.

## **Policy Aims and Objectives**

### Aim

To clearly state Brenmar's position on safe continuous working, where Government guidance permit us, during the global Covid-19 Pandemic.

### **Objectives**

- 1. To ensure the company complies with appropriate guidance.
- 2. To minimise the risks associated with the spread of the virus.
- 3. To have clear hygiene rules in the workplace.
- 4. To provide employees with up to date guidance as set out by UK Government on the decisions made to reduce the infection rate across the country.
- 5. To continue to provide business continuity to our clients and reduce the spread of the virus.

### 1. Policy Rules

- 1.1 Employees working on any Brenmar site are to ensure strict hygiene practices are followed at all times. This includes the washing of hands for a minimum of 20 seconds regularly with soap and water. Facilities will be provided by Brenmar or in any agreement with the client to use their existing facilities.
- 1.2 Any employee who need to cough or sneeze are to do so into a tissue and dispose of in waste bins as soon as they are finished. No tissues or handkerchiefs that have been coughed or sneezed into are to be left in the working area or in the client public areas.
- 1.3 Employees must wear face coverings whilst inside all building on sites if required by the client. Office staff will not be required to wear a face covering.

Face coverings can be worn by operatives on site at their own discretion where clients have not made face coverings mandatory.

- 1.4 Operatives are encouraged to maintain distances where possible however where close working is required operatives can work as normal.
- 1.5 Operatives who test positive or believe to have contracted the virus can still work, however Brenmar encourage infected operatives to wear a facemask (although not mandatory) and maintain social



distancing where possible to reduce the spread onto other operatives which could affect the operation of the business.

### 2. Communication & Training

- 2.1 Training on hygiene practices and the above policy arrangements will be delivered to all operatives, office staff and senior management in the form of a toolbox talk. This will be delivered via email communication to minimise the amount of people congregating in one area.
- 2.2 Any new development and guidance made by the UK Government will be effectively communicated via email and/or telephone calls to keep employees up to date. Brenmar will follow all guidance and recommendations by the UK Government to ensure operatives are kept safe at all times.

# 3. Implementation of the Policy

3.1 This policy will be implemented through communication and honesty from all of our employees.

This policy may regularly change as and when new guidance and recommendations are published by the government. Once this happens, this will be communicated as per section 2 of this policy statement.

Signed

Mark Harvey Director

December 2023