Capsticks COVID-19 Risk Assessment

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Reviewed by: Jeanette Lucy, Director of Governance and Risk

Approved by Martin Hamilton, Managing Partner

Date last updated: 09/12/21

Date of next scheduled review: February 2022

Introduction

This Risk Assessment has been completed based on current working arrangements for Capsticks where:

- all our offices are open for business;
- desk capacity in each office is at c30%;
- as a general principle we continue to encourage social distancing within the office environment wherever possible;
- the wearing of face masks in the office is on a voluntary basis;
- office attendance outside of the Essential Services Team continues to be on a flexible and voluntary basis until at least September;

The Risk Assessment will be reviewed regularly and updated as appropriate in light of any changes in current working arrangements (including any further phased return to working in the office), government advice and/or legal requirements and members of the firm will be consulted on those changes as appropriate.

Risk title	Description & consequence	Mitigation	Action
Spread of COVID-19 in the firm	This will result in multiple individuals becoming infected and possibly seriously or fatally ill	Most members of the firm continue to work from home where possible	With e memb Servic
	Vulnerable workers could be worst affected		for the attend
			reasor
			-
			-
			-
			Befo a lat build shou
		Flexible start and finish times to reduce the number of	N/A fo home.

Appendix 3

n effect from 10 December 2021 most nbers of the firm except the Essential vices Team (EST) will work from home he majority of the time, with office ndance in the office for the following sons: Being unable to work from home Being in the office will support your wellbeing It is necessary to be in the office for client work or meetings efore attending the office colleagues must take

lateral flow test. When moving around the uilding particularly in corridors and lifts a mask hould be warn, unless an individual is exempt.

for members of the firm working from ne. Standard hours of service for the EST

Risk title	Description & consequence	Mitigation	Action
		The upper occupancy limit in place for all our offices is currently c50%.	N/A fo home. been i advan ratios distand
		Desks removed (or desks sealed with tape) to encourage physical distancing	Any m will ha with th a wirel desks
		Closure of kitchen/canteen/communal areas and/or putting in place social distancing markers and measures in communal areas including kitchens and canteens	All kitc social remov encoul Water will co cup if pause tablew Collea and cu
		No one reporting as feeling ill will be allowed to come to work	N/A fo of the that if self-is
		Communication and awareness-raising posters referring to the above measures	Any m will be bookle firm to procec social washir lifts/toi materi takes poster
		Enhanced cleaning regime, including for toilets, pantries and frequent touchpoints such as door handles, light	New e with a includi showe

on

for members of the firm working from ne. An online desk booking system has n introduced and desks must be booked in ance prior to attending the office. The os in place allow for effective social ancing in each office.

member of the firm attending the office have an allocated desk and be provided their own personal equipment including reless mouse and keyboard. "Open" ks have been spaced apart.

itchen areas in each office have in place al distancing and where possible we have oved some of the furniture to help ourage social distancing.

er and machine produced hot beverages continue to be provided, via disposable if necessary. Provision of any food will be sed and all communal cutlery, glass, eware and mugs have be removed. eagues may bring their own cups, plates cutlery for personal use.

for staff working from home. Any member he firm attending the office will be briefed if unwell they should not attend work and isolate where appropriate.

members of the firm attending the office be provided with a local office guidance klet which has been put together by the to confirm the new measures and cedures in place. This includes details of al distancing measures/markers, hand hing, number of people allowed in toilets/shower facilities etc. – cleaning erials will be provided to ensure cleaning as place and "Wipe down after use" ters all in place.

v enhanced cleaning schedule in place additional cleaning for high use areas uding lifts, stairs, toilets, kitchens, wers, changing rooms and first aid room.

Risk title	Description & consequence	Mitigation	Action
		switches, reception area using appropriate cleaning products and methods	Cleaners
		Hand washing awareness: see the <u>NHS guidance</u> Sanitation products (hand sanitiser, cleaning wipes) widely available. Consider providing a 'cleaning pack' for staff with hand gel, wipes etc. Reminding everyone of the public health advice through posters, leaflets and other materials made widely and prominently available: see <u>government guidance</u>	Hand wa lift, entra Sanitatio lift, in me facilities. use also Public he lifts, toile
		Other steps taken	A Plexigl commun This is no onsite re has beer every off and hand All desks personal which wil cleaning.
Spread of COVID-19 to clients or visitors	This will result in multiple individuals (partners, staff, visitors/clients and contractors) becoming infected and possibly seriously or fatally ill		All on site Any cont procedur attendan washing
		Face-to-face meetings discouraged with conference calls to be used instead	Both on a discourag circumsta measure guidance provided available calls.
		Upper limit on meeting numbers determined by available room size	Upper lin been put distancin
		Meetings staggered so no congestion possible	

aners provided with uniform and any vant PPE equipment deemed appropriate.

d washing awareness posters in place in entrances and toilet facilities

itation products available outside of each n meetings rooms with doors and in toilet ities. Hand gel and wipes for personal also included in new hotboxes.

lic health advice displayed at entrance, toilets and communal areas

exiglas screen has been installed on the munal ground floor reception in London. is not necessary for other offices as te reception is closed. A separate desk been set up for external deliveries in ry office which will be stocked with wipes hand sanitiser.

lesks in the office have been cleared of all conal effects/non-standard issue items ch will be stored safely to aid ease of ning.

on site events cancelled until further notice. contractors visiting site fully briefed on edures/requirements in advance (nonndance if unwell, social distancing, hand hing etc.)

n on and off site meetings are ouraged save in exceptional umstances and where appropriate asures in line with current government lance are in place. Guidance has been vided to members of the firm and Zoom is lable firm wide for video and conference s.

er limits on meeting room capacity has n put in place to encourage social ancing.

COVID-19 case (suspected) in our offices This may result in the individual staff member vivus among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among other people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to the wirks among ther people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the wirks among ther people with whom the individual If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the wirks any at thome any advised and covid in the workplace, the	Risk title	Description & consequence	Mitigation	Action
COVID-19 case (suspected) in our offices This may result in the individual staff member with amount of the maxima of the maxim				At lea
COVID-19 case (suspected) in our offices This may result in the individual staff member experiencing medical distress on-site and could increase the risk of onward transmission of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity This may result in the relevant office to be informed in proximity In anyone store and advised to informed in the relevant office to be informed N////////////////////////////////////			o 1, j	to allo
COVID-19 case (suspected) in our offices This may result in the individual staff member experiencing medical distress on-site and could increase the risk of onward transmission of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to of the virus among other people with			 before/between/after each individual meeting Sanitation products (hand sanitiser, cleaning wipes) available inside each meeting room No catering/refreshments offered inside meeting rooms Pre-meeting notification (if possible) sent to all 	Increa ensure Sanita meetin No ca Any vi meetin
COVID-19 case (suspected) in our offices This may result in the individual staff member experiencing medical distress on-site and could increase the risk of onward transmission of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with Covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity If anyone becomes unwell with covid-related symptoms of the virus among other people with whom the individual ha				Given appro
experiencing medical distress on-site and could increase the risk of onward transmission of the virus among other people with whom the individual has been in proximity			1-hour upper limit on meetings strongly advised and communicated No cloakroom service – visitors should look after their	Social For no for trib No Fir
Managers to increase the frequency of contact with N/A those they supervise during this time or i	COVID-19 case (suspected) in our offices	experiencing medical distress on-site and could increase the risk of onward transmission of the virus among other people with whom the individual	in the workplace, they will be sent home and advised to	N/A fo of the illness sympt Immed assista aside First A Conta
those they supervise during this time or i			Everyone in the relevant office to be informed	N/A for of the office team sympt for Co
				N/A in or in tl daily c

ion

east 1 hour gap between meetings in place llow for cleaning.

ts removed from meeting rooms in line upper limits to ensure social distancing.

eased hours of day cleaning team to ure cleaning measures in place.

itation products already available in all eting room.

catering/refreshments being offered.

visitors fully briefed in advance as part of eting arrangements

en very low numbers visiting site not an ropriate measure at this time.

ial distancing reminders in place.

now most of the meetings on site will be ribunals, inquests etc. so not

First Impression Services available on site.

for staff working from home. All members ne firm attending the office fully briefed not ttend the office in the event of any signs of ess and if displaying potential C-19 aptoms in the office to self-isolate nediately and call First Aider for istance. Meeting room in each office set le for temporary isolation if required and t Aiders provided with PPE equipment. atacts will be advised to self-isolate.

for staff working from home. All members be firm working on site in the relevant ce will be informed in the event another m member on site has displayed uptoms. Contacts will be advised to test Covid and self- isolate

in this context for staff working from home the office. Onsite Manager for EST in contact with all EST members.

Risk title	Description & consequence	Mitigation	Actio
		Majority of people instructed to work from home	Major In the sympt servic anoth accor
		Re-emphasise that no-one feeling ill is allowed to come to work	Anyor that o
		OPTIONAL: Temperature checks at building entrance should prevent anyone with an elevated temperature entering the office	Given appro
		Maintaining up-to-date contact information (including emergency contacts) for all partners and staff	Firm a as par Memb servic
		Record keeping on who is in and where in the office on a given day to aid potential contact-tracing efforts and processes	Desk attend aware memb each under
COVID-19 transmission via communal resources or areas	This may result in increased risk of transmission, including to/from clients and visitors	Marketing material (brochures and literature), newspapers and magazines removed from client reception area	All ma remov rooms
		Information Services to develop a special protocol for cleaning all books, journals and other publications held in the open	N/A a home When and q
		If advised that a member of staff or visitor has developed COVID-19 and was recently on the premises the management team will ask the local public health authority for advice, identify people who have been in contact with them and take on any actions or precautions	This p the loo follow
COVID-19 transmission via mail/packages	This may result in increased risk of transmission by handling of objects	Cleaning protocol is in place for all incoming mail and courier packages	Separ office
		Staff advised to clean any mail/post items delivered to their desks (wet wipes to be provided)	All tea post t comp
			N/A a

ority of firm continues to work from home. ne event a member of the EST displayed aptoms we would seek to determine which vices can be delivered from home or ther office and redeploy team members ordingly.

rone feeling ill should not attend work, be on site or off site/working from home.

en very low numbers visiting site not an ropriate measure at this time.

n already maintains up-to-date information part of business continuity process. mbers of the firm can update via self*v*ice.

sk booking system has details of all office endees and Business Services Manager is are of and keeps a record of all team mbers and contractors who are on site h day. Additional floor walk check ertaken each day across all floors. marketing material and other literature loved from client reception and meeting ms until further notice.

as not utilised given all staff working from ne and service is now provided remotely. en back in the office books will be cleaned quarantined for 72 hours.

s process and any subsequent advice from local public health authority will be bwed by the firm.

parate desk set up as drop off point in each ce for external deliveries.

eam members involved in opening the to wash their hands thoroughly after npleting the task.

as no post physically delivered to desk.

Risk title	Description & consequence	Mitigation	Action
Mental health problems and poor wellbeing	This may result from increased stress caused by home-working and the lockdown, potential bereavements, increased caring responsibilities, elevated incidence of anxiety and depression associated with isolation, concerns about personal and family circumstances and job security	Signpost to <u>LawCare resources and the Law Society's</u> <u>mental health resources</u> The firm has in place an active MHFA programme and which now includes Mentally Healthy training for managers and the Hello Self reflective practice forum.	Added to Covid-19 resource page
	Staff members of BAME background and staff from other vulnerable groups or who live with a vulnerable person may feel more uncomfortable coming back into the office	Increase volume of guidance materials and resources available	Signposted on Covid-19 resource page.
		Raise awareness of the Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) offering access to additional resources and support	Included in regular all firm communication and signposted on Covid-19 resource page.
		HR policies and working practices adjusted for home working and leave-taking to support working parents and carers	HR policies reviewed and updated where appropriate, supportive working practices included in regular all firm communication
		Regular internal communications from senior leadership emphasising self-care and regular and inclusive communication. The emphasis should also be on honesty and transparency about the difficulties the firm is facing and how to best manage these together	Included in regular all firm communication
		Regular communication of mental health information and an open-door policy for those who need additional support	Monthly reminders of contact details for the Mental Health first aiders
		Provide assurance over measures taken to protect employees' health and safety	Included in regular all firm communication
Ergonomic injuries	Insufficient chairs, screens, footstools, desks etc. may be available in the office	Virtual self-administered workplace risk assessment module to be made available	Individual workplace risk assessment for all members of the firm undertaken by on-line survey in June.
	It may be difficult to perform workspace risk assessments whilst maintaining physical distancing or if people sit in different locations each time they are in the office	Where possible, people to be asked to bring their more portable ergonomic equipment (such as keyboards, wrist supports or mice) with them when working in the office	N/A to members of the firm working from home. All members of the firm working in the office to be provided with their own desk spaced apart from others along with personal equipment – including a wireless keyboard and mouse - allocated to them for their own individual use. Laptops now also to be provided to all staff.
Public transport virus transmission	Crowded and unsanitary conditions on public transport services	Individuals who feel that they cannot travel safely to/from the office will not be required to do so.	N/A to members of the firm working from home. Arrangements for members of the EST have already been discussed and agreed with them. Any other members of the firm currently attending the office are doing so on a voluntary basis only and again arrangements have been discussed and agreed with them. Parking at each office is offered where available and where public transport is required working hours will be allowed to be staggered to avoid peak times.

Risk title	Description & consequence	Mitigation	Actio
		An interest-free loan/subsidy scheme that makes buying a bicycle very cost-effective and together with ample space for cycle storage on-site	Promo via int
		Travel Policy to make it clear that if staff members need to travel (for example to courts or to do site visits) they should not share vehicles or taxis, unless suitable distancing can be achieved	Updat memb Office
Car/bike park virus transmission	Narrow spaces in the firm's carpark or bicycle storage area may elevate the risk of person-to- person transmission	Social distancing advisory notices displayed in car park	N/A to Suffici storag policy bikes within
Safety and security at building entrance	There is a risk that individuals waiting for extended periods of time at building entrances due to physical distancing and temperature checks	Staggered arrival times for those attending the office should limit congestion	N/A d arranç
	experience adverse weather-related health impacts or could be subject to opportunistic crime/harassment	Staff encouraged to arrive early before temperatures rise	N/A d arrang
		Building management to increase staffing at main entrance and increase contact with police	N/A d arranç
COVID-19-related stigma and harassment	Risk that there is an increase in targeted harassment or stigma directed at individuals who have been ill or are from a specific ethnic	Reporting channels to permit investigation and where proven appropriate misconduct procedures followed	Revis publ
	background	Partners and managers to offer support to staff who are affected by COVID-19 or have a family member affected	Heads tailore
		Review Capsticks' bullying and harassment policy and remind managers of it	Revie obliga
		Publish or signpost colleagues to facts about COVID-19 to dispel myths	Covid Intran
		Ensure senior figures in the organisation issue and support messages about values and diversity and inclusion	Provid conce
		Diversity policies	Provid
Non-compliance with government regulations	Risk that a member of the firm ignores firm's guidance	Communicate the importance of the adherence to the rules	Regul SMT d
		Stricter enforcement of rules against people continuing to attend the office while feeling unwell	N/A to Strict under appro

ion

mote the interest free bike to work scheme internal communication.

lated guidance has been provided to nbers of the firm and is now included in the ce Manual.

to members of the firm working from home.

ficient space in existing car park and bike rage arrangements although temporary cy members of the firm are allowed to bring es directly into the office and store these hin their allocated area.

due to size of onsite team and building ngements.

due to size of onsite team and building ingements.

due to size of onsite team and building ngements.

vised Raising Concerns Policy blished.

nds of to work with HR BP team to deliver ored support as appropriate.

riew the policy and remind managers of the gations under the policy

rid-19 resource page on the anet

vide suitable messaging and monitor any cerns reported

vide reminder training

jular reminders sent as part of the firm's I communication plan.

to members of the firm working from home. ct enforcement is already in place erpinned by disciplinary sanctions as ropriate.