

National Joint Council for local government services

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**To: Chief Executives in England, Wales and N Ireland
(copies for HR and Finance Directors)
Members of the National Joint Council**

12 February 2020

Dear Chief Executive,

Novel Coronavirus: COVID-19

Public Health England (PHE), the Department for Health & Social Care and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government continue to monitor the evolving situation with the outbreak of the Coronavirus.

The LGA has created a new [webpage](#) that collates useful information for councils including links to national advice, answers to common questions and campaign materials from PHE.

Government advice is being [updated](#) regularly and PHE is addressing common questions on its [blog](#). A UK-wide public information campaign has been launched to advise the public on how to slow the spread of coronavirus and reduce the impact on NHS services.

We also remind you of the provision set out in the 'Green Book' sickness scheme at Part 2 Para 10.9, as follows:

"An employee who is prevented from attending work because of contact with infectious disease shall be entitled to receive normal pay. The period of absence on this account shall not be reckoned against the employee's entitlements under this scheme"

In the event that an employee is required to self-isolate or is placed in quarantine, the provision above should be applied.

Yours sincerely,

Naomi
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Rehana Azam



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Joint Secretaries