



## Message from the Tower – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 COVID 19 Update

Hi All,

As expected, the light at the end of the lockdown tunnel is nearing. On March 2<sup>nd</sup> the Government published its latest information regarding the roadmap out of lockdown.

For Cornwall Flying Club members, that time will start from the 29<sup>th</sup> March onwards. Between now and the 29<sup>th</sup> March the 'National Lockdown' rules that apply for General Aviation (GA) will still apply, i.e. no leisure flying is allowed, only permitted engine health flights.

From 29<sup>th</sup> March onwards, flying members may once more fly as solo pilots, or with members of your own household or bubble for leisure purposes. If you are intending to resume flying from that date, bear in mind that it is not yet clear if flights other than 'to and from Point A only' are allowed, so please plan only local flights and no fly-aways until this point is cleared up or confirmed.

From April 12<sup>th</sup>, flight training will resume at Bodmin Airfield. There are some restrictions in regard to safeguarding, but students may start to book their lessons from this date onwards.

Bear in mind that these permitted activities are subject to change by the government, as they are based on the continued fall of Covid infection rates, hospital admission rates due to Covid and the death rate attributed to Covid-19.

More information will be sent out to you all once they are made public by the government. The actual wording of the current government announcement, made through the Department for Transport, are as follows;

### **National lockdown**

[National lockdown rules apply in England.](#)

For General Aviation (GA), this means that no leisure flying is permitted.

### **Permitted GA activities**

GA flying is permitted for the purposes of work, where it is not reasonably possible to work or provide those services at home. [Social distancing measures](#) must be in place and observed at all times.

Flying training organisations providing training for professional pilots, for the purposes of work, may continue to do so. Individuals undertaking such activity may continue to attend for these purposes. Social distancing measures must be in place and observed at all times.

Engine health and maintenance check flights can only take place where there is a critical safety requirement to do so, and alternative options are not available. Such flights, where conducted, must be kept to the minimum duration possible and should land at the same airfield from which they departed, except where this is outside the reasonable control of the pilot.

The guidance below is to help pilots and businesses put measures in place to prepare to restart safely.

### **Step 1 - from 29 March**

People will no longer be required to stay at home.

This will allow the safe restart of GA flying for non-professional purposes for solo pilots, or individuals flying with a member of their household or bubble.

Training for professional pilots, or those in training to be professional pilots, will be able to continue.

Training for leisure or recreational purposes should not take place.

GA activities should take place in line with the wider restrictions. Travel should be minimised as far as possible.

### **Step 2 – no earlier than 12 April**

Flight training for all pilots, and flights with an instructor, can resume.

GA businesses will be able to open following COVID-secure guidance, for example commercial balloon operators. The rules on social contact will apply in these settings. Outdoor gatherings must still be limited to 6 people or 2 households, and no indoor mixing will be allowed.

GA activities should take place in line with the wider restrictions. Travel should be minimised as far as possible.

Stay safe.

Kind regards,

JAY