



The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland

W. Ramsay McGhee, M.St.J., D.L., Grand Master Mason

Alexander C.G. Moncrieff, Senior Grand Warden

W. Scott Sneddon, B.A., LL.B., Dip. L.P., N.P., S.S.C., Junior Grand Warden

6th March 2020

Dear Brethren,

Coronavirus – COVID-19

Further to the Grand Master Mason's memo of 3rd March, and in light of the guidance issued yesterday by The United Grand Lodge of England ("UGLE"), the Trustees of Grand Lodge consider it appropriate to update our guidance at this time. By adopting a similar approach to UGLE we aim to achieve consistency in the common-sense preventative measures which should be taken by Freemasons throughout mainland United Kingdom.

With immediate effect, all brethren are advised to take the following precautions:-

- **If you or a family member are showing signs of illness, please do not attend your Lodge or other meetings and follow the public health guidance below.**
- **Members should consider refraining from any physical contact at meetings. This includes avoiding handshakes. As physical contact is unavoidable during parts of our ceremonies, if any members or candidates are concerned about matters, Lodges may wish to consider postponing the ceremony meantime.**
- **Minimise mass shared transport (i.e. coaches) to meetings and functions.**
- **Wash hands thoroughly before and after meetings for 20 seconds with an alcohol based handwash or with soap and hot water.**
- **This advice applies whether or not gloves are worn during meetings.**

If a member is diagnosed with the virus, his Lodge(s) should immediately cancel all meetings until such time as the local health officials have indicated that it is safe to resume activities. In such circumstances it will be standard protocol for health officials to seek to identify everyone with whom that member has been in contact. It is therefore recommended that Lodge Secretaries maintain physical possession of the Attendance Register.

The safety and welfare of our members will always be the priority here. We therefore encourage all members to follow this guidance and to keep up to date with the ongoing advice from public health officials.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

W. Ramsay McGhee
Grand Master Mason

Alexander G.G. Moncrieff
Senior Grand Warden

W. Scott Sneddon
Junior Grand Warden



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Reduce your risk of Coronavirus infection



Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and hot water



Cover nose and mouth with tissues or inside of elbow when coughing or sneezing



If you have a fever, cough or breathing difficulties, seek medical attention but call in advance