

Fairmuir Depot Outbreak, 27 January 2021, No. 40

I would like to provide an update on the current position within Fairmuir Depot. I appreciate that the informal grapevine can circulate information, not always accurate, quicker than any communication I can offer however, the current position is as detailed below.

I can confirm that we have been notified by three employees based at our Fairmuir Workshop/Depot that they have tested positive for COVID-19.

At this stage, the three employees are apparently experiencing relatively mild symptoms and we hope this continues to be the case and they all make a speedy recovery.

I'd like to reassure you that we are following our Protocol for the Reporting and Communication of Suspected/Positive COVID-19 Cases and are managing the situation as appropriate, ensuring that the health and safety of you, our employees is at the forefront. Our Health & Safety Team and management representatives from Transport are working closely together preparing an Action Plan to deal with the response and recovery of the situation. Key points in this regard are:

- We have stood down the remaining employees within the workshop and are temporarily closing it to allow a deep clean of the workshop and any relevant vehicles.
- We have already been in dialogue with the relevant local TU reps, they are aware of the situation and we will continue to liaise with them to keep them updated.
- We are arranging that alternatives are in place for operational requirements, such as vehicle workshop maintenance and response.
- We are investigating who may be close contacts of those who have tested positive for Covid-19 and advising them they must self-isolate.
- Test and Protect may have already contacted you or may contact you soon if you are deemed to have been a close contact.
- Investigations are ongoing to determine whether this is a workplace transmission or otherwise.

Provided you are not identified as a close contact of those involved the risk of infection is no greater than that faced on a day-to-day basis. If you have been adhering to Tayside Contracts' Control Measures, Risk Assessments and Scottish Government guidance, it is unlikely that you will be classified as a close contact.

Whilst Tayside Contracts takes all reasonable steps to mitigate the risks from Covid-19 there is also a personal responsibility to follow the guidance and if you feel you have symptoms which may be related to Covid-19 STAY at HOME.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If you have any of these symptoms or are in any doubt – STAY at HOME and get a test!

If you feel that you need to discuss anything related to the above please get in touch with your line manager or HR representative.

Dougie McKay, Head of Operations