



Meetings and events re-starting in ENGLAND : update 24/7/20

Michael Hirst sits on the Visitor Economy working group which is working with DCMS to advise government on our sector. Michael has kindly provided supporting information following the announcements on restarting meetings and events in England.

Meetings at hotels and permitted venues.

Indoor meetings of up to 30 persons can take now place in PERMITTED VENUES.

Further clarity on this point, including whether that is limited to one meeting or more in one venue is being sought.

Face masks do not have to be worn in indoor meetings x 30.

Banqueting: Currently no banqueting can take place other than for wedding receptions

For lunches associated with meetings, see guidance for Restaurant operations* (we assume at this point that it is not allowed to serve food in a meeting room).

What is a 'permitted venue'?

A permitted venue is any venue in England which has been allowed to open since 4th July and is operating under the Covid-19 health and safety protocols as per government directives.

Currently conference centres and exhibition venues are not permitted venues, but further discussion is taking place as to why, in particular, conference centres should not be able to host meetings at this time.

From 1 August

Exhibition and Conference Centres in England can welcome up to 30 persons for site inspections/ event planning meetings. This is in expectation of larger events being able to take place from 1 October.

Larger meetings, events and exhibitions in England

Other meetings/events/exhibitions can be planned to take place from 1 October, assuming that the indoor pilot case studies are deemed successful/safe.

It is currently anticipated that two pilot events for our sector – an exhibition with small adjacent meetings, and a larger meeting/conference - will take place at two London venues in the next three weeks. Information on other pilot events will be advised.

Outdoor business events

The guidance indicates there is no size constraint with for events organised by businesses and held outdoors under Covid-19 measures.

Further information on business events & conferences re-starting can be found [here](#)

Latest Government guidance for our sector (under Visitor Economy) has been updated [here](#) See Section 2

Restaurant operations guidance from government is [here](#)

Additional recommended reading [UK Hospitality guidance](#)

We will bring you further updates as we are notified.