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## The Institute of Healthcare Engineering and Estate Management

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2 April 2020

Email

Dear Darryl

### **COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) – IHEEM, IFHE, IFHE-EU INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT**

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well in these difficult times.

I'd like to update you on the support I've put in place here in the UK regards how IHEEM are actively supporting our members, companies and specialist technical platforms to connect and engage with central policy teams in the UK to respond to Covid19.

Secondly, I'm seeking your support and endorsement to establishing an International Covid19 information portal that supports our IFHE & IFHE -EU members to actively share and disseminate vital engineering knowledge and experiences in the fight against Covid19.

### **UK Arrangements**

In response to discussions I have held with NHS England & NHS Improvement (NHS E&I) as to how IHEEM can best support them as the UK approaches what is going to be a critical time as infection rises at an exponential rate in the next two weeks.

I have put the following arrangements in place managed by IHEEM headquarters.

- 1) Two way, communications between national policy teams and all of our affiliate companies, technical platforms and members. This is to predominately facilitate the sending out requests for national and local support relating to specialist services, and professional support. Alongside capturing individually and corporate responses of offer to support nationally and local needs.
- 2) This is now operating through a dedicated IHEEM Covid-19 inbox, alongside social media and website arrangements. All IHEEM members, affiliate companies have been contacted personally to alert them to these arrangements alongside the calling for specific professional & technical help and support in relation to medical gases and ventilation. <https://www.iheem.org.uk/News/official-call-to-efm-community>
- 3) I have also established an IHEEM Covid19 Technical group led by me that includes specialists from the following areas. Ventilation, Medical Gases, Water, Fire, Decontamination, Electrical and Spatial planning. Within one day of establishing this group I was contacted to provide professional advice to Government Chief Scientific Officer regards the London 4000 bed emergency Nightingale Hospital.

## **IFHE IFHE-EU – Proposed Arrangements.**

I am sure you will agree that it is vitally important that our international Estates & Facilities community is able to share its knowledge and experience and lessons learnt relating to COVID-19.

Given the support IHEEM is now providing to NHS E&I here in the UK, the Institute is now well placed, to monitor, manage and disseminate international key messages from all our member countries. The effective sharing of this intelligence, best practice and lessons learnt with all our global membership has never been more needed than now. It is my aim with your support to seek to provide this support to many 1000s of our communities that are working tirelessly across the globe to keep medical staff, patients and themselves safe in these unprecedented times.

Once we have the hub up and running, I intend to also with help of Andy produce a two weekly Covid19 newsletter as part of sharing the information gathered. I would envisage that this goes out as a jointly from you and I, in our respected positions of IFHE President & IFHE-EU President in collaboration with IHEEM.

Given the urgency to get this up and running I have started to put plans in place with the team so we can take forward and develop the supporting arrangements next week.

I look forward to hearing from you by return, I appreciate you will be extremely busy so a simple yes or no will suffice, leave the rest to us.

Best Regards



Pete Sellars  
Chief Executive Officer, IHEEM  
President, IFHE-EU