

Guidance from meeting on 28 October 2021

Wearing face coverings

Latest evidence reviewed by SAGE shows that wearing a face covering gives greater protection than thought previously.

Train Operators and other rail employers are committed to issuing updated guidance for the use of face masks by railway staff and passengers following the latest evidence. This message will be pushed at stations and on trains as well as in workplaces. The guidance is copied below for reference:

RICF- Reminder – Importance of the Wearing of Face Coverings

Due to the recent increase in Covid-19 infection rates across the country it is important to reiterate the importance of complying with the current Government Guidance to help mitigate the risk of transmission of Covid-19.

Employees working in busy or enclosed environments are encouraged and recommended to wear face coverings when undertaking their duties to both protect themselves and others.

In wearing a face covering in busy or enclosed environments employees can act as good role models to help reinforce the message contained within station and on-train announcements of passengers also complying with the Government Guidance.

Employers will ensure stations and on-train announcements strongly encourage and recommend passengers wear face coverings in enclosed environments and when trains and stations are busy in line with Government Guidance.

Employers are continuing to maintain additional cleaning regimes including provision of hand sanitisers to help ensure passengers and employees are not exposed to a higher risk of infection when travelling on rail services

Vaccines give you the best protection against Covid-19. They're safe, effective, and easy to receive.

Working from home

In light of high covid case numbers and with the aim to reduce transmission and avoid risk of contracting coronavirus, it was agreed at RICF that working from home should continue and employees should not be actively forced back to work.

Rail employers including Network Rail and train operators are signed up to RICF. If there are any infringements by employers, please let your reps or organisers know.