



Covid-19 Update

5 January 2021

With the new English lockdown announced on Monday 4 January, most of the UK is now under lockdown restrictions. The Scottish government, that has its own restriction levels - from zero to four – has now moved mainland Scotland to "enhanced level four restrictions" and lockdown will last until at least the end of January. Wales is also enforcing a "level 4" national lockdown and so is Northern Ireland, where a six-weeks lockdown began on Boxing Day.

Parliament has been recalled and MPs will consider public health regulations relating to the new English lockdown on Wednesday 6 January. It is likely that services related to mental health will continue to be listed amongst businesses allowed to remain open as in previous lockdowns. The available guidance already mentions that support groups, including the ones providing therapy, can continue to meet in person. Therefore, clinicians who can provide a [fully COVID secure environment](#), once the needs of their patients and their own personal circumstances have been assessed, are not prevented to do so. However, we understand that the current restrictions and government advice to work remotely whenever possible to contain the spread of Covid-19, mean that many registrants will choose to work remotely, so please refer to the [BPC Guidance 2](#).

It is likely that the national lockdowns across the UK will continue until the Covid-19 vaccination programme is well under way and the infection rates start decreasing. Until then, please keep up to date with the latest [government](#) and [NHS information](#) and contact your insurer if you

need clarification about your cover given the many and sudden changes. We also advise registrants to check and follow the [regulations that apply to their location](#). More useful information is also available from the BPC [Covid-19 Updates page](#).