

# Lothians Conservation Volunteers

www.lcv.org.uk



A registered Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, No. SC020384

Version	9
Last revised on	2022-03-22
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Review by	2022-06-14

## Coronavirus: Volunteering Position Statement

### Context

Lothians Conservation Volunteers (LCV) is committed to supporting our clients at this difficult time. However, we must follow Government advice and legal requirements in relation to the current Coronavirus pandemic and protect the wellbeing of our clients and volunteers.

### The Scottish Government's Position

The Scottish Government has made regulations governing the management of the coronavirus pandemic: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2021/277/contents>

LCV conservation tasks fall under these Regulations and their associated guidance<sup>1</sup>.

As of March 21st, all legal restrictions on activities have been removed, apart from the requirement to wear face masks in certain settings. Nevertheless LCV will continue to maintain some measures, in line with Government advice.

### LCV's Position

The Trustees' view is that LCV conservation tasks are permissible as we are able to organise our tasks safely and thus minimise the risk of spreading the Coronavirus.

Volunteering tasks will be undertaken where

- Appropriate measures are agreed between the task leader and client to ensure safe practices while working on site.
- The task would not be inappropriate in light of restrictions on other similar activities.

LCVs Health and Safety Risk Assessment of each task will include:

- Volunteers attending must be symptom-free and not self-isolating, in line with the Scottish Government's guidance: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-test-and-protect/>
- Volunteers will be made aware of any specific task requirements using LCV's website prior attending a task
- In addition volunteers will be briefed before the task on these special requirements, alongside the usual tool and safety briefing.
- If the minibus is used, guidance appropriate for public transport will be used when determining capacity. In addition, volunteers *must wear their own face covering* before boarding the bus. The

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/>

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“COVID-19 INFECTION MITIGATION RULES FOR LCV MINIBUS” policy determines the current minibus capacity

- If food or drinks are provided on task, volunteers may partake at their own risk. LCV will clean all the communal utensils before each task but complete hygiene cannot be guaranteed.

Please note

Throughout the task the task leader(s) will ensure that:

- Disinfectant and hand sanitiser are available for use by volunteers and are used where appropriate

Use of our minibus is permitted under the guidance appropriate for public transport<sup>2</sup> and LCV has developed a risk assessment to aid in safe use of the minibus. This may at times require a reduction in capacity.

We are happy to discuss our policies and procedures with any client, volunteer or member of the public.

LCV will review this position statement regularly, and in any case when guidance or legislation is updated by the government.

## Changelog

2020-06-20	Initial version of position statement indicating we would follow social distancing rules
2020-09-27	Redraft position statement to indicate we operate under the rules for gatherings for “organised outdoor activity for over 18s” as defined in Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) Scotland Regulations 2020” Added reference to this SI.
2020-10-13	Redraft position statement to indicate we operate under the rules for gatherings for “organised outdoor activity for over 18s” as defined in Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) Scotland Regulations 2020” and that we provide “voluntary or charitable services”.
2020-11-01	Update legislation references to the Local Levels regulations (SSI 344). Example references are given to the Tier 3 regs; the legislation is substantively the

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.transport.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/guidance-for-transport-operators/#>

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	same (for us) whatever Tier we are in.
2020-11-25	Update wording for amended legislation and mention travel restrictions plus exemption for voluntary and charitable services.
2021-01-12	Update wording for amended legislation. Remove exemption for “organised activity” as this is no longer relevant.  Add additional reason to stop tasks: trustees feel they would be inappropriate in light of other restrictions on similar activities.
2021-03-21	Update references for amended legislation
2021-06-01	Update references for amended legislation
2021-08-11	Update position statement for legislative situation Beyond Level 0.
2021-10-12	Added reference to catering.
2022-03-22	Updated for new strategic framework and further relaxation of restrictions, allowing residential tasks to take place again