

Health and Safety Forum meeting: 23 September 2021

Summary of key decisions and actions.

1. Welcome and introductions

The minutes and actions from the June meeting and the extraordinary meeting of the Forum in August meeting were agreed.

2. Feedback on experiences of the approach to reasonable measures since the move to Alert Level 0.

Members provided feedback on how they thought the approach to Alert Level 0 had worked in practice. Whilst some inconsistencies of local approaches were identified and anecdotal evidence of issues in specific settings discussed, the overall view was of a smooth transition to Alert Level 0.

3. Discussion on the future of the Forum

The Forum reflected on how the context for the group had changed since it was set up the previous year and recognition was given on how the Forum's relationships and networks helped inform the approach to reasonable measures, guidance and testing. The Forum agreed to move to quarterly meetings.

4. Public Health Wales update - agency workers, precarious employment categories and long covid.

PHW delivered an update on research which indicated Covid has had a disproportionate impact on workers in precarious employment. The Forum reflected their own perspectives, much of which was consistent with the findings presented by PHW. The Forum noted many of these issues were about wider matters than health and safety.

5. Dashboard, protocol on future operation and plans for next meeting

The Forum noted the latest data dashboard on inspections, visits and enforcement activity. The Forum agreed its next meeting would be in the New Year.