

Goals and Objectives

The primary goal of this pandemic recovery plan is to enable VIC to return to normal working practices as soon as possible with minimum disruption.

This is a living document relating to Covid-19 due to ongoing and varying parameters relating to the easing of restrictions and social distancing rules which are set by the Government.

Road Map steps

On Monday 22nd February the Government set out its roadmap for the easing of restrictions reiterating the importance of data not dates. There is a five week period between each step for the Government and the scientific advisors to assess the impact of the previous step. Each step will be assessed against four tests before the next step of restrictions are eased.

The Government will assess the impact over four weeks, and provide a public update giving one weeks' confirmation or otherwise that the next Step will proceed.

Step 1

- All pupils at schools and college will return on 8th March. Residents in care homes will be able to nominate a single named visitor who will be able to visit.
- During this time, workers are to remain working from home where they are able to.
- Individuals will now be able to leave home for recreation with their own household members or with one other person. Safe behaviours to be maintained.
- From 29th March people can meet outdoors (including private gardens) in groups of up to six people or in a group from two different households.
- Also from 29th March, outdoor sports facilities will re-open.
- From 29th March, people should work from home if you can, but there is no legal requirement to stay at home.

Step 2

Step 2 will take place **no earlier** than 12th April. Once data is assessed it may be necessary to delay this and the subsequent steps. One week notice will be provided to confirm or otherwise the date of Step 2 easing of restrictions.

- Non-essential retail can open, including gyms, hairdressers/barbers,
- Social contact rules will not change (6 people or 2 households outdoors with no indoor mixing unless otherwise exempt).
- Libraries and community centres (public buildings) can re-open
- Hospitality venues can only open for outdoor service only.
- Individuals should continue to work from home where they can

Step 3

Step 2 will take place **no earlier** than 17th May. Once data is assessed it may be necessary to delay this and the subsequent steps. The Government will announce one week in advance whether restrictions will be eased as planned.

- Indoor hospitality will resume with table service requirements.
- Remaining outdoor and also indoor entertainment will re-open (theatres, cinemas and museums etc.)
- Some larger scale events such as conferences, theatre and concert performances will be permitted up to 1,000 people or 50% venue capacity, whichever is the least. Outdoor events which are seated will permit up to 10,000 people or 25% venue capacity, whichever is the least.
- Restrictions on meeting others outdoors will be lifted, but gatherings of more than 30 people indoors will remain illegal.
- The Government will continue to advise people to work from home where possible.

No later than Step 3, the Government will update advice relating to social distancing between friends and family, including hugging. Until then, individuals should ensure social distancing, handwashing and good ventilation are prevalent.

Step 4

Step 4 will take place **no earlier** than 21st June. As per the previous steps, the Government will announce one week in advance whether restrictions will be eased as planned or if this step will be delayed.

- All legal limits on social contact will be removed.
- All remaining closed settings will be opened, eg. nightclubs
- Limits will be removed on weddings on other life events.

Ahead of step 4, the Government will complete a review of social distancing measures and other long term measures that have been put into place to limit transmission. The results of this review will help inform decisions relating to 1m+, face coverings and other measures.

Impact of road plan onto VIC – proposals

Walks

Providing no more than five other people attend, the walks can recommence from 29th March when people are able to meet in groups of up to six people.

VIP and Allotment

As both of these activities are outside and groups of up to 6 people can now meet, it is proposed for both projects to formally re-start on 29th March.

VIC centre – general opening

Under Step 2 public buildings, including libraries and community centres are allowed to re-open. The Government within their guidance have stipulated that community venues “*are valuable and safe places, often to the most vulnerable groups in society*” With this guidance in place it is envisaged that VIC can re-open as a community venue on 12th April 2021 (assuming the Government do not delay the easing of restrictions).

VIC Hyndburn

As non-essential retail as well as community space providing support, it is proposed that the retail unit at Accrington can re-open under Step 2 guidance.

Sandbag café and Middleton Mess Tin

Indoor hospitality is allowed to re-open during Step 3, however this should be via table service only. Community centres are allowed to open at Step 2 and it may be

that the Public Health Service at Rochdale permits our group to attend when the centres re-open. (On the premise that *libraries, and other community centres, are valuable and safe places, often to the most vulnerable groups in society* and that gyms are re-opening at this time and larger numbers can attend weddings and funerals)

Art Group and Craft group

Community centres are allowed to re-open in Step 2, recognising the support provided to vulnerable groups in society. It is envisaged that the craft group can re-start at this stage as has done previously.

With the provision of a Covid-19 Risk Assessment and fewer numbers, it is proposed to re-start the art group at this step.

Permission for both activities to re-commence can be sought from the Environmental Health/Public Protection Unit at Rossendale BC.

VIC Choir rehearsals

As with the art group and the craft group, the Choir who meet in a community centre environment should be able to meet at the Step 2 phase. However Ronnie will see advice from the Musicians' Union and the Environmental Health/Public Protection Unit at Rossendale BC.