

## Dog A.I.D. Plans for Lockdown in England and Scotland from the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2021

In light of the Government's announcement of a third national lockdown across England starting at Midnight on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2021, Dog A.I.D. will be stopping all face to face training and assessments in England from the evening of 4<sup>th</sup> of January until further notice. Guidance for Scotland has also changed, with mainland Scotland being placed in level 4. As such, this guidance also applies to those Dog A.I.D. members residing in mainland Scotland.

Current guidance is to stay home except for a limited number of exceptions which are outlined on the government websites (<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home</a> and <a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/</a>) The safety of all of our members remains paramount and as such, we ask you to please comply with this and cease face-to-face working with your volunteer trainer / client as applicable.

We appreciate that this will be disappointing news for many of you, and we will continue to review the situation and resume face-to-face training and assessments when possible. We have already announced one online webinar (Pet Transport with guest speaker Claire Harris) on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January and will endeavour to put on more virtual training opportunities for clients, and also for our team of volunteer trainers.

Although the Dog A.I.D. staff team will continue to work remotely, you may experience a small delay in obtaining a reply to any emails / calls while the team are set up to work from home and we do apologise for this.

The online shop will be closing for the period of the lockdown, and the website has been updated to reflect this. Any orders placed after 9am on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January will therefore be subject to delay.

This information supersedes any previous covid-19 guidance from the Dog A.I.D. office for clients, trainers and assessors based in England and is accurate on date of publish: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Dog A.I.D. will continue to monitor and review the situation and will provide updates when required.

**End of Statement**