

Health and Safety Committee

Covid-19 Meeting

26 February 2021, 2.00pm

Minutes

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46 Covid-19 outbreak response

46.1 Mr Richard Jackson

000088713(m)-6(p)-3(li)4(a)6(n)-6 The IJSG

had requested that UCL inform a wider group of individuals (particularly, those who had been sharing a space) when a positive case had been identified. At the subsequent PHAP meeting, members expressed their concern over this approach. The minutes of the meeting on Thursday 28th January noted that

the community, as well as potential mistakes being made between people who are actually contacts and people who have shared a space but are not defined as a contact. There is also a requirement to protect the identity of individuals who report symptoms or test positive and maintain the trust of

46.2 To date UCL had identified 17 outbreaks, which had primarily taken place in student accommodation and Estates operated environments, with one case in a laboratory or associated administrative space. There had not been any identified outbreaks within teaching spaces.

46.3 Students living in student accommodation received a range of support for their welfare and to ensure compliance during periods of s5.32 8000088713(m)-6(p)-3(li)4(a)6(n)-

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survey results cou
departments or locations.

- 51.3 It was agreed that a new review of workload would be undertaken, to be led by a UCL academic and to include members of the Committee.
- 51.4 The Trade Unions suggested that a risk assessment associated with stress and workload could be initiated. The Head of Wellbeing reported that after discussions with the UCL Institute of Mental Health it had been decided not to pursue an institutional risk assessment but to focus on helping staff with mental health and wellbeing initiatives now.
- 51.5 The Trade Unions requested a report on the measures in place to ensure that decisions about increasing student numbers were taking account of space constraints, particularly given that there will be an expectation of social distancing in autumn term 2021.
- 51.6 The Chief of Staff to the Chief Operating Officer reported that UCL was being cautious and had put a number of mechanisms in place to address social distancing in its approach to timetabling.
- 51.7 The Trade Unions welcomed the recent installation of screens in the Chemistry building and asked that screens be placed at all reception desks.
- 51.8 The request was declined as each reception area had individual requirements, but it was agreed that a process for requesting a screen would be established to include requests from contractor staff.
- 51.9 The Trade Unions recommends

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happening in this and in next term applying the rule to all spaces was not seen as necessary.

51.12 The Trade Unions requested that the key worker disturbance allowance which ended in June 2020 be reinstated, alongside a clear policy on who is classified as a key worker.

51.13 The Executive Director of Human Resources responded that with the safety measures and risk assessments in place the efficacy of which was reflected in the low number of reported cases of Covid-19 infection on campus - key workers did not face additional risks necessitating the reintroduction of the allowance.

51.14 The Trade Unions

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Jon Blackman

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