

In the 30 working days since 17th March, we are proud to have stepped up and delivered support into our councils to help them work flexibly and smarter in fast moving times.



Welcome to the fifth edition of our weekly bulletin Covid-19 edition of The Pulse. This week WME has started, like many of you, to start to think about what our life will be like for the rest of the year, and we look forward to sharing our new delivery plan with you shortly, reflecting both our changed priorities in the wake of Covid19, and our standing ambitions for the region.

As a summary we have looked back over the last 30 days to share with you some of the numbers involved in stepping up our Covid19 support

Take care and stay safe during this difficult time,

From the WME Leadership Team



Social Care Campaigns

#comebacktocare **#StepUpNow** campaigns starting to make an impact

We are pleased to share that the regional pool for adults social care is growing with us having received 100 applications from qualified professionals looking to **#ComeBackToCare** and 66 applications from students looking to **#StepUpNow**.

For the team to ensure we target the campaigns based on local workforce needs, we do urge all councils to complete the regional data request on how these candidates are progressing (interviewed, appointed). With the increasing pressures upon independent care homes and care service providers, there may be further opportunities for students to support as your teams with fast-tracked inductions for new staff and administrative support.

Next week we will be launching the **#TimeToCare** campaign supporting independent care homes and services providers. This is gaining momentum, with support from regional and national bodies including DHSC in recognising the need for councils to adopt a local response to support the care sector. More details to follow....



Support For Subscribers Continues



This week we have continued our support to TalentLink subscribers by adopting some of the new ways of working that we have all been getting used to. Alongside support via tickets and emails, we held three support sessions via Microsoft Teams, looking at system configuration, process management and candidate management. It has been great to see colleagues on the other side of the screen and make use of the technology to troubleshoot and run demonstrations. If you would like to take advantage of this as part of your subscription contact d.hatton@wmemployers.org.uk

Executive Recruitment

Video interviewing is becoming increasingly popular with the need to continue to recruit to crucial roles. It was great to receive some feedback from candidates last week where they shared their experience on how important it was for them to be able to see panel members clearly so they could engage and convey their passion for the role. Have a look on our site where you can view some top tips when holding [video interviews](#).

HR Support

HR Guidance

Our Covid-19 microsite is live and continues to be updated as events change. We are updating this daily and all national circulars and guidance issued are on here for your ease of access.

<https://wmeccovid19.org.uk/>

This week we have updated guidance through our FAQs on changes to the furlough rules on multiple contracts, and the legal position concerning failure to work due to PPE issues.

L&OD Support

Help your team to develop their personal resilience – for free

Give all of your employees the ability to build their own self support strategy with our virtual resources

We are all coping differently with lockdown measures. Individuals may have developed strategies that worked at the beginning, but not so much now, or struggled to begin with but are now thriving. As the weeks roll on how your teams cope may change and therefore in partnership with Coaching Culture we are pleased to introduce this free 'Thriving through isolation' module.

It starts with a questionnaire to help understand how you are doing at the moment and then helps you think about areas you can improve to thrive during this challenging time. This module is free for everyone, and our members can give access to all their employees.

Take a look at the flyer to find out more. To access the free module visit:

<https://www.mindset.co.uk/thriving-during-isolation-wme/>

There will be further information in next weeks bulletin on some exclusive offers as part of our partnership with Coaching Culture to support managers to be resilient through our Mindset modules, and support developing coaching skills to support managers to manage teams virtually. Don't forget our executive coaching offer is still available until the end of July – find the link [here](#).

Promoting the incredible work of our Local Government Heroes

Next week we will be contacting you to share the details of our next campaign, #WMHeroes bringing a regional focus to those that are playing a vital role in our response to Covid-19 and the wider world of Local Government work. We aim to work with news outlets and media channels to really champion our sector and our region,

If you are keen to be involved in this work with us and highlight your incredible staff, please email info@wmemployers.org.uk and we will be in touch.

WME Here When You Need Us The Most

Do let us know if there is any specific support you need that we can help you with:

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WME Business Support

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Click here to read our latest wider WME Newsletter [The Pulse March 2020](#)

WME Events

DATE	WME EVENTS 2020	VENUE
04 NOV	Strategic HR&OD Network	Lost & Found Birmingham
04 & 05 NOV	Inspire (Day 1 & 2)	BCEC
23 NOV	WM Coaching & Mentoring Conference	BCEC
02 DEC	Strategic HR&OD Network	Lost & Found Birmingham
03 DEC	WME Associate Consultants Network	TBC
03 DEC	Menopause 'a life event'	The Studio
DATE	WME EVENTS 2021	VENUE
06 JAN	Strategic HR&OD Network	Lost & Found Birmingham
07 JAN	Inspire (Day 3)	BCEC
08 & 09 JAN	Inspire - HRBP (Day 1 & 2)	BCEC
15 JAN	HOT Network	BCEC
22 JAN	WME Management Board	Sandwell Council House
03 FEB	Strategic HR&OD Network	Lost & Found Birmingham

