

# Issue No8: COVID-19 (coronavirus):

## **UK GOV Text Messages**

By now most of you will have received a UK government text message that will have been titled 'ALERT CORONAVIRUS'. This UK GOV text message was sent through all mobile networks to reiterate the points of the new coronavirus response measures. A link was included in this text message that takes you to the UK gov website. The message behind that link reads:

### **Stay at home**

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (where this cannot be done from home).
- Stay 2 metres (6 ft) away from other people.
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home.

## **NHS text messages and letters for vulnerable people**

The NHS have identified approximately 1.5 million vulnerable people who require immediate shielding from the coronavirus. If you are one of these people you will receive a text message and/or a letter from the NHS informing you that you should isolate immediately for 12 weeks. These NHS texts must not be confused with the blanket UK GOV text messages and are aimed at our most vulnerable in society.

## **What does this mean for us at Acumen:**

### **UK GOV text message**

Acumen are classed within the essential industry bracket during the Covid-19 response. This means that we are still an active company and should carry on with our tasks. Within the company we have identified positions that are able to carry out normal duties whilst working from home, and these people should do so. We have also reduced the footprint on our sites to a skeleton staff where possible, and all our personnel are working in-line with Covid-19 precautions. For field-based staff this means that we can carry on our duties whilst still practicing our Covid-19 precautions. The global and national situation is very dynamic, and the response is reviewed daily, that response is televised at 1700 hours on all UK news channels.

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## **NHS text message and/or letter**

If anybody within Acumen receive a text message or letter informing them that they are classed within the 1.5 million vulnerable people, then they should follow that advice immediately. You should also inform your line manager so that this can be logged, and the relevant people informed.

## **For further information and self-isolation advice, visit:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>