

June 2020



Roadmap to Reopening

St Helens Christian Life Centre

Prepared by: Rev Craig Lawrenson, Senior Minister
To be read in conjunction with Health & Safety Risk
Assessment & COVID19 Assesement Documents

Current Provision

Through our charity The Hope Centre and alongside St Helens Foodbank we have continued to provide essential service throughout the lockdown pandemic. This has been done in collaboration with St Helens Council and other community & voluntary organisations under the umbrella of 'St Helens Together'. We have a Health and Safety policy and Risk Assessments in place for the current level of service including an addendum COVID19 Risk Assessment. These cover our weekly activities and employment and volunteer working practice.

Worship Gatherings

For church worship gatherings we will implement a broad, three phase approach ultimately leading to the resumption of full worship services and online livestream.

Our Plan

Our plan to reopen will happen in three phases.

- **PHASE 1** - Prepare and Communicate – We will begin to communicate our exit strategy through our online, social media and telephone communication platforms.
- **PHASE 2** - Small Group Gatherings - In line with Government guidance, we will begin to host indoor small groups at our church building.
- **PHASE 3** - Cluster Gatherings into Full Gatherings - by starting with clusters of small groups, we will steadily and safely increase meeting size until we are able to resume full worship gatherings.

Communication

We aim to produce a simple, concise video outlining the three phases for our people. The video will include the importance of Government and Elim advice to our moving through the three phases.

Phase 1

Prepare & Communicate.

As small groups will be our initial form of post lockdown gathering and as we see these as vital for the growth of church in relationship discipleship and mission. A key part of our prepare phase will be increasing involvement in small groups. We expect the following 3 actions to enable us to do this:

1

Map out Reach groups both in terms of membership and geographic location.

2

Work to assign new reach group leaders to facilitate new Reach groups.

3

Create an online system that allows church members and attendees to find an open Reach group to join in their area.

Reach Concept – Reach is a crucial element in our mission as a church. We will produce a Reach video series to communicate the concept of Reach and the impact on our mission.

We expect this Phase to take us into July when the government may allow Small group gatherings indoors.

Initially we are planning for our main worship gathering to be our online service at least up to September and possibly beyond.

Phase 2

Small group gatherings in our church building.

We aim to gather Reach groups at St Helens Christian Life Centre for worship, prayer, discipleship, teaching and fellowship. This will be implemented on a staggered basis with limited numbers in the building appropriate to current guidance on social distancing.

This phase will run along side our main online worship gatherings. During Phase 2 these gatherings will begin to develop from purely pre-recorded setup to a mixture of live and recorded media. Social distancing measures, hand washing facilities and PPE will be provided for those involved in live worship bands where appropriate and as per our risk assessment document.

Phase 3

Cluster gatherings to resumption of full gatherings.

As phase 3 begins, we will cluster Reach groups into larger groups for medium sized worship Gatherings. As Elim and government guidance allows we will move from small group to medium cluster worship gatherings.

This phase will initially run alongside our main online worship Gathering until it is possible to gather the whole church safely.

Multiple Services

This phase could include a multiple service approach to begin to have the whole church worshipping every Sunday. In this instance the online service will become live stream with online Pastors.

Online Service Transition

In Phase 3 the online service will transition between a mix of live & recorded to live streaming.

Resumption of Worship Services

Phase 3 will close with the resumption of full worship gatherings. Online Church will remain as livestream with online Pastors. Online teaching, training and discipleship content will continue to be developed.

Dynamic Risk Assessment

Monitoring and Updating our practices and documentation

Our Charity activity, along with church employment and voluntary activity has been included in our current Risk Assessment along with our three phase approach to resuming worship gatherings. We have also included weddings and funerals.

Our Risk Assessment will be dynamic and will be assessed and adjusted as we move through the phases. Our timescales are fluid as we follow advice from National Government, Local Government and the Elim movement.

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