



The adventure sector in Wales recently held a workshop on the 'Pathway to Recovery', host by the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum and supported by the Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation and Visit Wales. The workshop highlighted the most up to date guidance from Welsh Government and the Outdoor Alliance while providing an opportunity for businesses to share their concerns and approaches to being able to begin deliver activities again in the coming weeks and months. The event was well attended with adventure activity providers from around Wales with attendees commenting:

"Thank you everyone, this has been great. Good to have shared approach to how we operate. Important to give our clients a clear and consistent message from all of us." – Pete

And

"Really good to get together with other providers to learn and share thoughts on how to move our businesses forward. :) Thanks all" – Mark

Here's some clarity with regard to all of the information that is currently out there, to help you and your businesses make informed choices about how and when you restart. All that is listed **must continue to be applied in line with Welsh Government legislation and guidelines**

The following checklists might be useful in helping you prepare for a resumption of activities:

- Pages 3-7 of the [Outdoor Alliance Wales Post-Covid-19-Guidelines](#)
- '[Good to Go](#)' accreditation scheme for tourism businesses meeting Covid guidelines
- Welsh Government Tourism checklist editable version at:
<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-07/checklist-tourism-hospitality-businesses.odt> or access different versions via <https://gov.wales/tourism-and-hospitality-businesses-guidance-phased-reopening>

- **From the 6th July 2020**

- Travel restrictions will be eased to unrestricted for all travel
- Most of the countryside will be open BUT it is crucial that we act responsibly; and that Outdoor Providers continue to 'earn a welcome' by minimizing their impact on local communities, other users and the environment
- Two self-nominated households can meet indoors
- Second homes and static caravans can be visited by their owners to get them ready for 11th July



- Outdoor attractions will be opened up
- Retail is opening up on a phased return
- Clients and providers will be able to travel anywhere but only to operate in household groups (i.e. work with 1 household at a time) and not to stay overnight
- Providers still need to maintain 2m distance from clients and ensure hygiene in accordance with WG guidelines etc.
- Some outdoor activities by professional providers with groups of professional clients, such as some NGB courses (subject to confirmation by NGBs) and corporate team-building, are classed as 'work' so may now be run with appropriate workplace precautions in place by providers .

From 11th July 2020

- Self-contained accommodation will open up
- Static caravan parks, touring caravan and motorhome sites will open up but will need to be self-contained i.e. have its own water supply, showering and toilet facilities. The only shared facility will therefore be wastewater and chemical toilet disposal.
- Providers still need to maintain 2m distance from clients and ensure hygiene in accordance with WG guidelines etc.

From 13th July 2020

- re-opening of the outdoor spaces of bars/restaurants/cafes.

Useful Links:

- Guidance for Outdoor Providers at: <http://www.wato.org.uk/outdoor-alliance-wales/>
- Guidance for all tourism businesses at: <https://gov.wales/tourism-and-hospitality-businesses-guidance-phased-reopening>
- Guidance for all workplaces at: <https://gov.wales/workplace-guidance-employers-and-employees-covid19>



Points of concern for outdoor activity providers

Many insurers are currently changing client policies on renewal and removing cover for instance if someone claims they caught Covid whilst on the activity. Whilst this may be difficult to prove, it would be for the provider to disprove on their own if no insurance. Providers are advised to check with their insurers regarding cover when adhering to Welsh Government rules e.g. 2m social distancing.

Questions for which WATO is currently awaiting answers from Welsh Government

1. A number of business models rely on us transporting customers, many of whom are PSV registered. Such businesses have Covid secure plans in place, have reduced capacities and are wearing masks but cannot meet the 2m rule. We understand this rule only applies to premises and not transportation but would welcome some clarity.?
2. Does Welsh Government have any clear guidelines relating to handling and cleaning of equipment?
3. Are there any indications as to when the 2m rule will be relaxed in Wales to 1m, at least for outdoor activity?
4. Is there any indication when groups from multiple households will be able to meet up for the purposes of organised outdoor activity, with appropriate social distancing and hygiene precautions put in place by the outdoor activity provider?
5. With outdoor attractions and zoos allowed to attract multiple visitors from the 6th July and therefore visitors will come into contact with more than one member of staff, can outdoor professional providers (at work) now use multiple staff to deliver activities, with appropriate social distancing? And does this by extension mean that outdoor professionals can work with 2 or more households?
6. Being reminded of the importance of getting young people outdoors and improving their wellbeing post lockdown, would it be possible for an activity provider to help out at a local school, delivering outdoor education? If so does this have to happen on their grounds only or can a small group go on a local walk? The outdoor sector are ready to help but Welsh Government is currently advising against domestic trips (residential and non-residential) for children under 18 organised by education settings. (<https://gov.wales/coronavirus-travel-guidance-education-settings-and-students-html>)