

COVID-19

- Please visit our website for more info on [#coronavirus](#) [#COVID-19](#) and how to reduce the risk of it spreading including some resources for sex, drugs, mental health and well being in what can be a stressful time: www.crew.scot/coronavirus-general-hygiene-tips
- We take the health of the people who use our services, volunteers and staff seriously and in order to maintain the best health of everyone in our community there are certain changes that we have made to our day to day running as an organization.
- Firstly, with the announcement that events over 500-person capacity should be banned as of Monday the 16th of March we have decided that it is best to cancel our planned outreach events for now. We are really sad that we won't be out in Edinburgh to give harm reduction info to people but it is a necessary measure to prevent the spread of this virus to members of our community.
- People who do not have symptoms may still have the virus and be able to pass it on to others. It is important that we all take care to reduce the spread of viruses.
- We also recognize that some people are at greater risk from the virus - this includes those with existing health conditions (such as respiratory conditions or those affecting the immune system), older people and people who are homeless.
- We want to do our bit to keep as many people as possible safe.
- So a few changes mean that we will be offering hand sanitizer at the entrance points of our counseling service and drop-in.
- We thought that it might be helpful to share learning from our network of partners in mainland Europe. This article contains some information on the approach venues are having to limit the impact of the virus:
www.vice.com/en_uk/article/m7qxyq/coronavirus-nightlife-cocaine-drugs-drinking-nightclub

- **Most notably, Kit Kat club in Berlin (prior to events of 1000 person plus being cancelled) had adopted some strict hygiene approaches including DJ decks being cleaned down between each DJ, sound desk being cleaned on a regular basis and so on. They also suggested taking emails of everyone in attendance on entering the venue: www.facebook.com/KKClubORIGINAL/posts/3946832485334891**
- **So please if you have any of the following symptoms please follow national guidance and self isolate where possible**
 - a cough
 - fever (high temperature)
 - shortness of breath
- **But these symptoms do not necessarily mean you have the illness as the symptoms are similar to other viruses like the cold and flu.**
- **The best ways to prevent spreading the virus are to:**
 - **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sneeze/cough into your elbow - bin any tissues straight away.**
 - **Wash your hands with soap and water often - washing them for at least 20 seconds.**
 - **When soap and water are not available - use alcohol-based hand sanitiser.**
 - **Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell and self isolate if have any of the symptoms.**
 - **Avoid touching your face if your hands are not clean.**
 - **Clean and disinfect any frequently touched objects and surfaces - including your phone!**
- **Please share our information with guests at your venue where possible - the measures we take now help to protect the health of others. We have a responsibility to look after ourselves and each other and keep the party scenes we love safe!**