Covid-19 Dog Walking Risk Assessment

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| **What are the hazards?** | **Who might be harmed** | **Controls Required** |  **Additional Controls** |
| Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus | * Staff
* Visitors to your premises
* Vulnerable groups – Elderly, those with existing underlying health conditions
* Anyone else who physically comes in contact with you in relation to your business
 | **Hand Washing*** Hand washing facilities with soap and water in place.
* Stringent hand washing taking place.
* See hand washing guidance.
* Drying of hands with disposable paper towels or personal towel.
* Gel sanitisers to be used to avoid using client facilities.

**Social Distancing*** Taking steps to review work schedules including start & finish times/shift patterns, working from home etc. to reduce number of workers on site at any one time. Also relocating workers to other tasks.
* Redesigning processes to ensure social distancing in place.

**Symptoms of Covid-19*** If anyone becomes unwell with a new continuous cough, high temperature and or loss of taste/smell in the Mutts and Moggies Pet Care household they will be advised to follow the stay at home guidance.
* Mutts and Moggies Pet Care request that clients inform them immediately if they or anyone in the household show symptoms of Covid – 19.

**Payment of services*** All payment must be made via electronic banking. No cash payment will be accepted due to the contamination risk.

**When walking a client’s dog:*** Consider each individual situation and how to safeguard the person you are assisting and adjust protocol accordingly.
* Agree the process in advance including time and duration of walk.
* Find a way to collect and return the dog securely, in a way which maintains a two-metre distance between you and minimises any time spent in the owner’s home.
* Wash your hands for 20 seconds using soap and water before leaving your home.
* Use a different lead to the owner’s.
* Where possible, ask someone from the household to open and close the doors for you.
* Do not handle anything else, such as your phone, during any time of contact.
* Where possible, minimise touching the dog.
* Maintain your social distance while walking, keep to quiet areas.
* Wipe the pet with a pet safe damp cloth at the point of collection and drop off. All wipes or cloths should be disposed of immediately after use.
* Wash the lead with soap and water once the dog has been returned.
* Wash your hands for 20 seconds using soap and water as soon as you get home.

**When walking a client’s dog from a shielding household:*** Avoid any contact with the occupants of the home – maintain at least two metres distance.
* Keep the dog on a lead to avoid them coming into contact with anyone or other pets.
* Wipe the dog with a disposable pet-safe wipe or clean, damp cloth before returning to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus to the owner.

**When walking a client’s dog from a suspected Covid – 19 household:*** Avoid any contact with the occupants of the home – maintain at least two metres distance.
* Wipe the dog with a disposable pet-safe wipe or clean, damp cloth before the walk.
* Keep the dog on a lead to avoid pets and other people touching them in case the virus is on their fur.
* Take care when cleaning up after them; use a sturdy poo bag and dispose of it as soon as possible.
* must be walked at the end of day after all other dogs.
 | On a regular basis to wash hands for 20 seconds with water and soap and the importance of proper drying with disposable towels/individual towels. Also reminded to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues – Follow Catch it, Bin it, Kill it and to avoid touching face, eyes, nose or mouth with unclean hands. Tissues will be made available throughout the workplace.To help reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) reminding everyone of the public health advice - <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus>  When the service commences for each client, they will be asked about the health of their household so that appropriate protocol can be established.An invoice system will be set up for client’s who require it.All clients, regardless of their individual circumstances, will be informed, electronically, of the updates to protocol and how this may affect them. |