

Covid 19 Risk Assessment:

**Risk Assessment Overview**

In order to ensure that we reduce the risk of infection between therapist and client, it is important that certain procedures are assessed, and measures put in place to reduce infection risk. The matters to consider for each individual client are the same, but there are also some general procedures that are to be adopted.

It is important that we are transparent about our risk assessment process because you, as a client, have a part of play in the risk process. As a result, we must trust you and your ability to be equally as transparent.

We are acutely aware of obligations with regard to duty of care toward all clients, and in the current pandemic the interpretation of that duty becomes less obvious. For example, whilst the therapist’s duty of care towards your mental health remains the same, their duty towards your physical health and safety has now changed.

The pandemic and risk of infection requires that we consider the risk of infection and, in addition, your mental health as a result of the risks and restrictions that the pandemic brings. It may not be reasonable or appropriate to offer a face to face session to some clients even after all possible precautions have been taken to reduce infection. The therapist reserves the right to make this decision based on the facts at their disposal.

 **Risk Assessment**

Physical safety and risk of infection

1**. Reducing risk of contamination and spread before/during/after a session.**
*ACTION:*

* Each room will be cleaned and disinfected before appointments.
* The therapy chairs, table, doorbell and other surfaces will be wiped down with antibacterial wipes.
* Clients are able to use the on-site toilets (as indicated by the therapist) .
* Each client will wait outside their given door until asked to enter by their therapist.
* Only the therapist will open and close any doors.​
* After each client leaves, windows and doors left open for at least 5 minutes to air the room.
* Paper towels will be available for the washing & drying of hands
* Clients should bring their own drinking water (or alternative) as none can safely be provided at present
* Hand sanitiser and tissues are available throughout the session for clients to use at will

Other factors:
To maintain confidentiality, it is not possible to leave the door open during sessions – whilst the risk of a confidentiality breach is a low, many clients are likely to feel vulnerable to being overheard which could inhibit free expression.

2. PPE of therapist and client
*ACTION:*

* Hand sanitiser and tissues will be available throughout the session

 3. Social distancing in relation to entering/leaving and seating arrangements*ACTION:*

* The client will notify the therapist via telecom that they have arrived at The Butterfly Room and use the hand sanitiser provided on arrival.
* Clients will wait until the therapist asks them to enter the therapy room. Clients should wait in the waiting area before sessions.
* On leaving, the therapist will open doors and be followed by the client – maintaining social distance wherever possible.

4. Ongoing Review
*ACTION:*

Each party holds an obligation to be aware of and report to the other, any factors which may occur which could increase the risk of infection during the time face to face sessions.