**Staff Protocol for Working within the Designated Green Zones**

The ‘Green Zones’ have been developed within the UHB at UHL and UHW to enable the reintroduction of protective elective surgery for urgent patients. We all have a crucial role in ensuring that the environment for our elective surgery patients are safe and Covid-19 free.

The Green Zone at UHW will be located in Theatres 0-5, Wards A2, A3 link (consisting of PACU and Recovery) and SSSU and in UHL it will be Main Theatres, Critical Care, Bethan, West 6 and CAVOC. Each hospital will have their own Green Zone entrance/exit into the hospital for staff and patients. Work is underway to create staff rest spaces, changing rooms and showers.

Staff who will be based in the green zone will remain in this location and **will not be permitted** to go to other areas of the hospital such as the staff restaurant, coffee shop etc. for the duration of their shift. On a shift by shift basis staff may be asked to work in other zones.

The staff who will have contact with patients in the Green Zone have been defined into the following two categories;

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| **GREEN ZONE BASED STAFF**   * those who will be based in the Green Zone for the duration of their shift) | **VISITING STAFF**   * those who will enter green zone to undertake a procedure |
| Medical Staff – Consultants, Registrars, Trainees etc.  Registered Nurses  Operating Department Practitioners  Operating Department Assistants  Nurse Practitioners  Theatre Porters  HCSWs  Housekeeping staff  Ward Based Caterers  Receptionists  Therapy Staff (excluding SALT) | Radiographers  Speech and Language Therapists  ECG Technicians  Resuscitation Team  Nutrition Nurses  Clinical Nurse Specialists  Estates/Maintenance Staff  **Deliveries to Green Zone – please see overleaf** |

\*The above list is not exhaustive

To help staff understand the requirements of them when working in the Green Zone, the following guidance has been produced, each line manager must ensure that all of the staff they are accountable for are fully briefed and understand the guidance.

**GREEN ZONE BASED STAFF**

1. These staff must work exclusively within a Green Zone for the duration of their shift.
2. Staff must remain within the Green Zone area for the duration of the shift and so would be unable to go to other areas of the hospital e.g. staff restaurant, shop, outside etc.
3. Staff must only use the Green Zone coffee area/rest room for taking breaks. Food and refreshments will be available to purchase in this area and staff must not use any other facilities which are outside of the green zone. This will also include WCs. A microwave and fridge will be provided for staff to use.
4. Staff are requested to shower but this is not mandatory however all staff **MUST** change at the designated green zone facilities prior to commencing their shift.
5. Staff must follow all appropriate social distancing guidelines both in and outside of work to minimise the risk of becoming infected.
6. Whilst in work, staff must at all times wear the ‘Green Zone’ identification (Badge/arm band – where adopted).
7. Staff must only enter and leave the Green Zone via the indicated route and must not use the other staff entrances through the concourse/main entrance etc.
8. Depending on how the anti-body testing progresses within the UHB, staff may be offered this testing at appropriate intervals in accordance with the government advice provided at the time.
9. Staff will be required to wear appropriate PPE to protect patients whilst in the green zone. Further advice on this can be sought from the Ward Sister/Charge Nurse.

**VISITING STAFF**

These staff will only attend the Green Zone to undertake specific procedures with the patients e.g. for radiography, ECGs, Speech and Language therapy etc. Where possible, it is good practice to attend the green zone at the beginning of the shift if only one visit is required.

1. Visiting staff must only enter the green zone if they have changed into clean uniform or scrubs for the duration of their time in the green zone and have decontaminated their hands.
2. The PPE guidance does not state that showering and washing hair is mandatory and so staff will not be mandated to do this however, facilities for the green zone are available if staff wish to do so.
3. Whilst working on the green zone, staff will be expected to wear appropriate PPE to protect patients. Further advice can be sought from the Ward Sister/Charge Nurse.

**DELIVERIES TO THE GREEN ZONE**

All deliveries including post, linen, food, equipment must be delivered to the entrance of the green zone. The individual making the delivery must not enter the green zone but should ring the call bell to alert the Green Zone Porter to move the goods into the department.

Security Staff will attend urgent calls and fire within the green zone. In these circumstances it would not be feasible for them to change into clean uniforms or scrubs.

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