



# PREPARING OUR MOSQUES-

POST LIFTING OF GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS

REVISED

**umo** - Walsall  
Union of Muslim Organisations

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## INTRODUCTION

*Assalaamu alaikum warahmatullaahi wabarakatu,*

I hope this letter finds you in continued good health and safe.

The Congregation, Committee and the Management Members are all going through testing and difficult times due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and following Government's decision to temporarily close places of worship in the UK.

As an Umbrella organisation, we foresee potential challenges that our Mosques may face after the Government eases restrictions to allow places of worship to open again. This will of course have set guidelines which we must all ensure to comply.

These guidelines have been set to allow the management committees to ensure set measures are implemented for the safety of the public from the still serious threat by Covid-19 virus.

We must continue to emphasize **REFRAINING** from hand-shaking and other contact close contact greetings.

Maintaining Discipline coupled with volunteers will help in the smooth flow and order of people coming in and out of the Mosques.

It is recommended that congregations spend minimum amount of time in numbers even with social distancing and **ONLY FARDH** (mandatory) or collective prayers are offered in Mosques until normalisation returns.

**MAINTAIN A SOCIAL DISTANCE AT ALL TIMES**

## Preparing the Mosques

1. Each Mosque has to carry out measurements/calculations to work-out the capacity of the congregation taking into considering social distancing measures of 2 meters around each person, including the Imam. This is 2 meters to the front, back, left and right. Markers can be placed on the carpet.
2. Hand sanitising dispensers must be provided **OUTSIDE** the entrance and each person **MUST** use them **BEFORE** being allowed to enter the Mosques. Mobile hand sanitisers will be helpful.
3. All internal doors should be kept open when the Mosque opens its main door(s) to the public in order to minimise contact with handles and stop potential infections.
4. Additional Collective daily prayers, Friday prayers and Eid prayers can be arranged once the capacity is reached, providing enough time is reserved in-between to minimise queuing outside and mixing of in-coming and out-going attendees.
5. All worshippers must bring their own prayer mat or headgear.
6. It is recommended that Masks should ideally be worn by attendees.

## Who should attend prayers?

1. As per the Government guidelines, it is recommended that the vulnerable people and over 70s **MUST** continue to **STAY** at home. Persons with flu, coughs or any other symptoms should stay away too. Otherwise, it is open to everyone with good health.
2. Children under the ages of 14 **DO NOT** attend the Prayers to help capacity limits, unless women opt to bring them where mosques have facilities for female attendance.

## Washing and Toilet Facilities

1. There should be **NO** washing or toilet facilities made available at the Mosque or strict wiping using sanitising tissues after each person visits should be carried.
2. Wudu facilities **SHOULD** be Closed or strict wiping of surfaces before and after use by each person with. Attendees should perform their wudu at home.

## Entering the Mosque

1. Maintain a two-metre distance when queuing to enter the Mosque. Markers two-meter apart, like in supermarkets, should be placed outside. A volunteer or security person should monitor and control entrance(s) and maintain count of numbers. Once the capacity is reached then admission to the Mosque should be ceased.
2. Only one person at a time to enter the shoe area at any given time and volunteer/security directing the person to place of prayer area.

## Entering Prayer Hall

1. You **MUST** leave two spaces empty between the worshippers either side of you.
2. You **MUST** leave two meters between the worshippers in front and behind you, unless partitioned barriers exist between the rows.

## Additional Prayers

1. Please refrain from performing the additional prayers (other than *Fardh*) in the Mosque. Smaller Mosques can permit additional prayers, but our intentions should be to minimise the amount of time spent outside of the home.

## Leaving Prayer Hall

1. Exit the Prayer Hall in an orderly manner, starting from the back row guided by the volunteers and security as quickly and safely as possible.

## **Exiting the Masjid**

1. Only one person at a time to enter the shoe area at any given time.
2. Use hand sanitiser when exiting the Masjid.

## **Cleaning the Masjid**

1. All surfaces to be cleaned with anti-bacteria wipes following every congregation prayer.

These are guidelines to help Mosques to move forward and slowly but safely make our Covid19 free as possible for everyone attending and our loved ones at home who may be vulnerable and elderly.

May Allah keep every safe and virus free.

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**Interim Chair**

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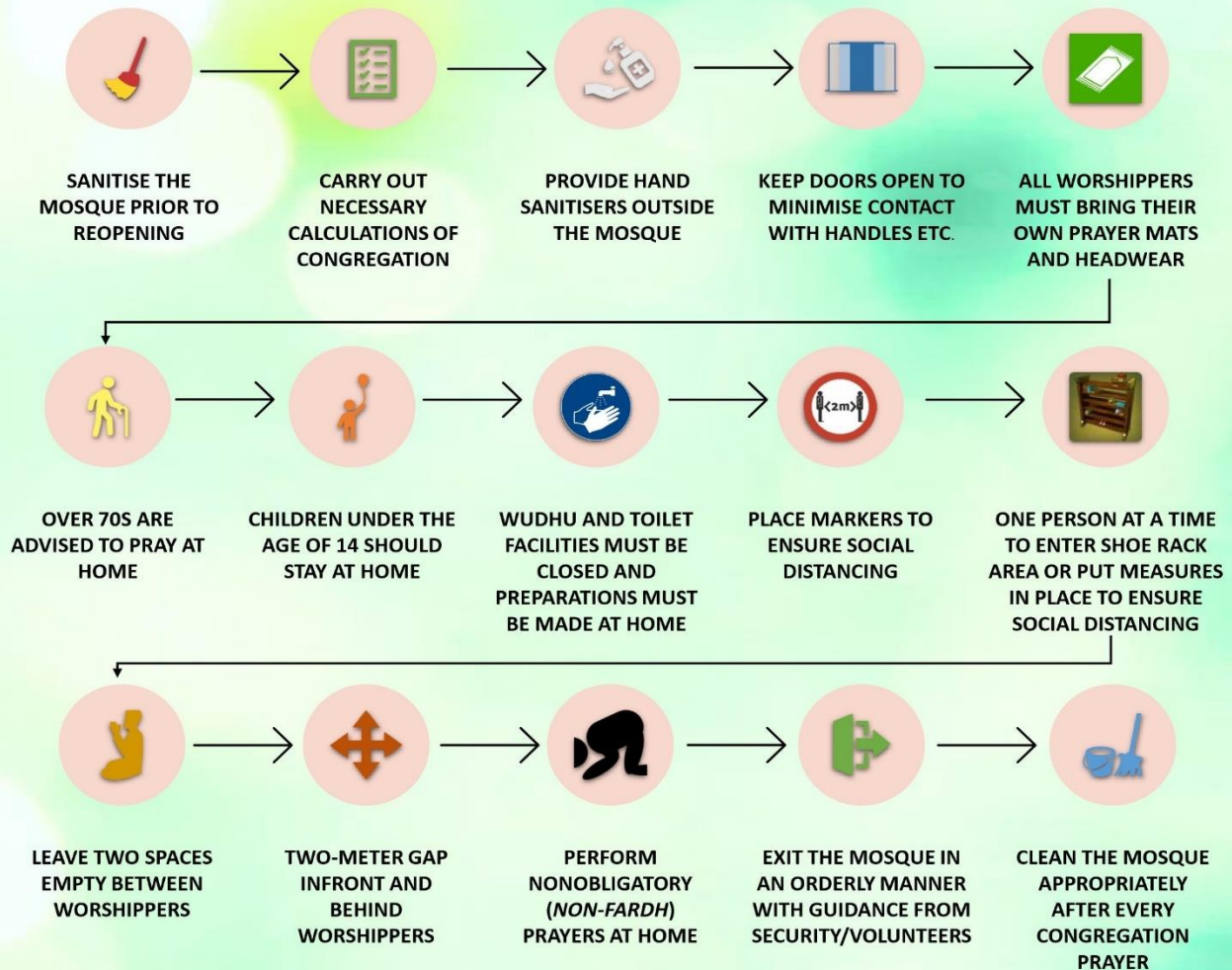
**First Revision: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**Second Revision: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

# INFORGRAPHIC GUIDE TO PREPARING OUR MOSQUES FOR REOPENING POST LOCKDOWN



AS AN UMBRELLA ORGANISATION, WE FORESEE POTENTIAL CHALLENGES THAT OUR MOSQUES MAY FACE AFTER THE GOVERNMENT EASES RESTRICTIONS AND ALLOW MOSQUES TO OPEN AGAIN. THIS WILL OF COURSE HAVE SET GUIDELINES WHICH WE MUST ALL ENSURE TO COMPLY WITH.



PLEASE REFER TO OUR 'PREPARING OUR MOSQUES- POST GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS' DOCUMENT FOR A DETAILED EXPLANATION AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE OR CONTACT US VIA TELEPHONE OR EMAIL FOR MORE INFORMATION.


**umo** - Walsall

Union of Muslim Organisations

Unity is our Strength

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# SHOULD YOU PRAY IN THE MASJID?



**ARE YOU A PERSON OF HIGH RISK  
OR LIVING WITH ANYONE THAT IS  
HIGH RISK?**

AGED 70 YEARS+, ELIGIBLE FOR THE FLU VACCINE,  
FRAIL OR CLASSED AS HIGH RISK BY THE NHS  
(CHRONIC RESPIRATORY, HEART, KIDNEY,  
NEUROLOGICAL, LIVER, DIABETES, WEAK IMMUNE  
SYSTEM, CANCER OR SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANT)

**DO YOU HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS OF  
COVID-19?**

- HIGH TEMPERATURE >37.8C
- A DRY COUGH
- LOSS OF SMELL OR TASTE
- COLD OR FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS

**ARE YOU BELOW THE AGE OF 14?**

CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 14 MAY STRUGGLE  
TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING

**IF YOU HAVE ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF  
THE QUESTIONS ABOVE PLEASE DO NOT  
ENTER THE MASJID**



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# MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to all member organisations for their tremendous efforts during these turbulent time, good work and keep it up. May Allah accept your efforts and reward you in abundance!

Afghan Community Centre, Caldmore

Aisha Mosque and Islamic Centre of Walsall

Bilal Academy, Palfrey

Central Mosque Committee and Community Centre, Chuckery

Darus Salam Masjid, Wednesbury

Dar-us-Sunnah Madani Trust, Caldmore

Ghausia Qasmia Trust Mosque & Community Centre, Caldmore

Jalalia Sunni Jami Masjid & Islamic Education Centre, Caldmore

Karimia Institute, Birchills

Masjid Abu Bakr (Abu Bakr Trust), Palfrey

Masjid Hamza, Butts

Masjid-Al-Farouq, Palfrey

Masjid-E-Umar, Darlaston

Masjid-E-Uzman, Caldmore

Minhaj-ul-Quran Walsall, Alumwell

Shah Jalal Mosque, Caldmore

Somali Community Centre, Caldmore

Walsall Central Mosque, Birchills

Zia-E-Madina Mosque, Darlaston



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