

## **COVID - 19**

## (Coronavirus)

COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus (nCoV) which is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans. It was first identified on 31 December 2019 in Wuhan City, China.



The British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI) has issued its own statement to inform its members, industry and the wider general public, about its involvement with industry shows and events throughout 2020.

"The British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI), a trade association representing over 900 organisations and individuals operating within the ornamental horticulture sector, will continue to keep abreast of developments regarding COVID-19, and will be communicating to members about its ongoing plans for its own regional events for the remainder of 2020. To-date, BALI continues to follow guidance issued by the UK Government and confirms that there is no reason to cancel events; words echoed by Deputy Chief Medical Officer Jonathan Van-Tam in a Government statement on 3 March 2020, and that based on current predictions on the virus's spread, these types of action are not currently necessary.

BALI will continue to monitor and evaluate any further information provided by Government officials and Public Health England, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of its own employees and individuals employed throughout its membership, remain a top priority.

Following a statement issued by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) on 4 March 2020 in an interview with Horticultural Week regarding whether RHS Chelsea Flower Show will go ahead in light of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), in the meantime, BALI's regional events will proceed as planned, and, the Association looks forward to supporting organisations like the RHS with its planned events, starting with RHS Chelsea Flower Show in May. BALI has already advised its own employees, and is starting to advise its members, to ensure a regular and thorough hygiene routine is maintained, at home and at work, and to continue to follow guidance and protocols published by Public Health England, the NHS and the World Health Organization."









