**What has to be thought about before we can restart visits?**

We have had to consider how many people can move from location to location while still maintaining social distancing of two metres or four large paces. This is to stop the spread of coronavirus and keep everyone safe. This does not just mean the visits hall but the route that visits and residents have to take to reach the visits hall.

In the visits hall, there has to be two metres or four large paces between seats. We also need to make sure social distancing is in place for residents and staff who are attending visits. This must be clearly marked out, including where people are walking.

This will be different for different prisons, depending on the layout and this may impact when a prison can restart visits or how many visits that can have.

**Why will we run less visits than usual?**

We are able to fit fewer people into the visits hall than we used to so that we can maintain social distancing, stop the spread of coronavirus and keep people safe.

In order to make sure that you can all see your loved ones, you may not be able to have visits as regularly as before COVID. This is so as many people who would like a visit can have one.

We have also had to change our cleaning schedule so that we are to fully clean the visits hall in line with public health guidance. Our searching procedures have also had to change to make sure it is being done in line with public health guidelines.

This means searching and cleaning will take longer than it used to and may impact on how many visits can be held and how regularly they can be held.

**What will happen if I am shielding?**

Special consideration will be given to those who are shielding. In some prisons, there be an opportunity to use the

**Why are some prisons starting visits and others can’t yet?**

Each prison has experienced coronavirus differently so it means that not all prisons will be in a position to ease restrictions at the same time. Recovery will be different across different prisons and will depend on some of the issues that are outlined above.

In Wales, the prisons will reflect the Welsh Government’s national position which may differ from England.