

Welcome ...

[Click here to download an online version of the Newsletter](#)

I am writing this as the UK government – like many others – has introduced measures to reduce the threat of corona virus to human life, but measures which in themselves are equally a threat to the life of businesses. Never has the truth of the Maslow hierarchy of needs been so evident: that when safety and security are threatened these will predominate over all other concerns.

The foundations are shaking and there will be irreversible change as a consequence. Although it may seem premature – indeed, it may seem flippant – I would propose that a lessons learned review after the crisis has passed would be of value, and the Centre will aim to do this when the time seems right. Already the risk of long supply chains is being questioned; will there be a trend to more local sourcing? Will air travellers not only have their luggage screened but also have to undergo health screening? Will there be a change in epidemiology as the population has learned to wash its hands more thoroughly? Will the merits of working from home become more apparent; or perhaps those forced to work from home suddenly appreciate the social benefits of working in an office environment.

But I don't think that ever before in my life has there been a requirement to curtail one's normal day to day activities to such an extent for the common good. Perhaps we will all emerge with a greater appreciation of the social freedom we usually enjoy.

Stay safe.

Calvert Markham

In this edition of the Newsletter, we describe our [Showcase programme](#) and [call for nominations for the CMCE Research Awards](#). We present [the first of a new series of ethical dilemmas](#) and challenge readers to tell us what they would have done. Our [In Brief](#) section highlights an analysis of the implications of the coronavirus epidemic for businesses and recent articles on consulting markets. Finally, our columnist [Jethro](#) is in reflective mood in the light of the coronavirus outbreak.

The Newsletter Editor

The Centre for Management Consulting is founded by



*The Worshipful Company
of Management Consultants*