

**PRESS RELEASE**

**DATE 31.03.2020**

## **CISRS REQUESTS LENIENCE ON RECENTLY EXPIRED CARDS**

CISRS is calling on employers and those responsible for site access and card checking procedures to use their discretion towards workers whose cards have expired since 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020 until the current COVID 19 restrictions are lifted.

Due to the closure of CISRS Training Providers and the suspension of HS&E tests, operatives are currently unable to renew their cards.

Rather than set a prescriptive time extension to expired cards, e.g. 6 months - 12 months, at this time, CISRS will continue to review the situation and make a further statement when we have more clarity regarding when centres can reopen.

We would expect cardholders to attend the required courses and renew their cards ASAP once approved providers have reopened.

Depending upon the length of time centres remain closed and the subsequent backlog of those requiring training or assessments, we will implement a realistic timescale to rectify the situation.

Until now we have been issuing a letter confirming an individual's qualifications and asking for them to be allowed to work until they are able to renew their cards. However, if we can have an industry wide understanding that recently expired cards can be accepted during this period, it will negate the need for the letter saving a huge amount of time, effort and administration for operatives, employers and CISRS staff.

Both CISRS and NOCN administrative staff are working from home allowing service to continue, CISRS cards are being issued and queries responded to.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

ENDS

For more information please contact [enquiries@cisrs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cisrs.org.uk)