

One of Fells' greatest concerns for this year's Annual Portfolio Tasting event is your health and safety – particularly given current circumstances and the recent spread of the Omicron variant of Covid.

To this extent, we will be following all government guidelines and will putting a series of measures in place to minimise the health risk to yourself and other guests:

**1. Lateral Flow Tests**

Firstly, we would ask all guests to take a lateral flow test (LFT) before attending the tasting. If you test 'positive' we would politely ask you not to attend so that you do not put the health of other guests at risk.

Additionally - Even if your test is negative, but you are still showing some of the symptoms associated with Covid (high temperature, achiness etc.) we would also politely ask you not to attend.

**2. Temperature Checks**

On arrival at the tasting, we would ideally like guests to show proof of a negative test and may ask to take their temperatures if they are unable to do so. PLEASE NOTE: Fells reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone who is unable to fulfil these requirements.

**3. Optimum standards of Hygiene**

Fells will employ the highest standards of hygiene throughout the day to minimise any risk to you and your fellow guests:

- Hand sanitisers will be provided throughout the main tasting room and in all annex rooms
- Masks will be provided, should guests wish to use them when they are not tasting the wines
- Disposable gloves will also be provided should guests feel more comfortable wearing these than having direct contact glasses or bottles that have been touched by others
- There will be a plentiful supply of clean glasses, so if you see a selection of glasses on a table, and are unsure which one is yours, then please feel free to take a fresh one

**4. Space and Ventilation**

The Riverside Room at the IET, where the tasting will be held, is a big room, with sufficient space to allow guests to socially distance from one another. It also has a series of large doors and windows that can provide a plentiful supply of fresh air to the room if required to do so.

**5. Evaluating the overall risk**

At this stage it would appear that the Omicron variant, whilst more contagious than previous ones, does not pose the same health risk, particularly to those who have been 'double- jabbed' and have received their booster vaccine.

We therefore hope that this consideration, combined with the additional health and safety measures that we are applying will make you feel both comfortable and confident about attending the tasting, which will be our first one in 2 years.

We will, however, monitor the situation very carefully and should the government advice, or any other circumstances change in the meantime, we will advise you accordingly.

**Steve Moody**

**Executive Chairman and Managing Director**