



## **COMPANIES HOUSE | PRESS RELEASE**

16<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### **Further relaxation of COVID-19 measures**

Companies House Gibraltar (“CHG”) has remained open for business since the start of the pandemic. With the successful roll-out of the vaccination programme, and the virus having been suppressed locally, most measures to counter the spread of the novel coronavirus in Gibraltar are now gradually being relaxed or lifted. CHG is also moving in this direction, and will now be taking steps for a progressive and prudent return to normality.

As from the beginning of next month the drop-off and collection counter at the registry will be removed, and users will again be able to access CHG’s public counters. Over the past few months, apart from being able to deliver documents in hardcopy to our drop-off and collection counter, it has also been possible to file documents electronically with CHG either via the e-Registry’s e-Filing platform, or by making use of the temporary email filing facility.

CHG has pressed on with the further development of its online platform, with a significant improvement to the e-Filing service having been released in January of this year – the e-Filing document upload facility. As already announced in January, with the testing of the new e-Filing document upload service and its satisfactory roll-out having been completed, the temporary email filing facility will be phased out at the end of the current month. Users may continue to send or deliver paper documents to the registry, or may file documents via the e-Registry’s e-Filing portal.

As it is once again possible to make normal arrangements locally for the signing of any document that needs to be sworn under oath, users are reminded that documents lodged with the registry must comply with the relevant statutory requirements.

During this past year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, online searches have replaced searches of hardcopy records. As from the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021, users will again be able to conduct searches at CHG’s premises. They will be able to choose between viewing the record in electronic form, or in hardcopy. The fee payable for conducting a search in electronic form at CHG’s premises will be the same as for carrying out an online e-Search – £10.00, being a £7.50 reduction of the personal search fee. Where a search of a hardcopy file is specifically required CHG will make this available subject to payment of a £2.50 handling fee in addition to the existing £17.50 fee. Users are encouraged to continue conducting e-Searches via the e-Registry platform from their own office or workplace, and to make full use of CHG’s expanding online services.

For further information on e-Filing, the e-Registry, general guidance and information, and access to all CHG’s statutory forms, please visit [www.companieshouse.gi](http://www.companieshouse.gi) For the latest information and updates follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or check the “What’s New” section on CHG’s website.