After discussions with Interest Group Co-Ordinators by a member of the BL Working Group

Topic	Questions / comments
Suspension of groups A large number of groups will have been suspended since March and are likely to remain so	How many are there? They may resist any suggestion that the group is effectively defunct
Continuing Many groups will be able to continue, usually with reduced numbers to comply with the range of local and wider restrictions in force at any given time, or with the practical or technological limitations	In the medium to long term, the development and success of groups will always remain dependent on local skills and enthusiasm - as has always been the case
Meeting places The removal of anchors that have always been readily to hand, such as the physical spaces in which groups meet - whether these are community halls or private houses - have proved to be very challenging	How can these challenges be overcome?
Social interaction The loss of associated opportunities for social interaction is likely to have long term consequences	How do we address our ability to widen the group or recruit new members?
Group cohesion This becomes weaker as different members make different decisions regarding participation	How do we address the likelihood of significant changes to the make-up of groups over time
Accuracy of information What is available to new members may not be as reliable as it has been previously	How does the local committee address this?
Tech support Continuing need to be able to support co-ordinators with technology, or other aspects of organising activities, or collating/sharing resources	How does the local Committee address this and how can it draw on information and resources more widely within the movement?
Possibility of changes becoming more permanent Recent changes may become more permanent or more difficult to accommodate in winter	How are these being addressed?
Offers from other organisations A further issue is the increasing permeability that has emerged through a massive boost in the efforts of all sorts of organisations to find ways to attract and engage people and to make access to so many more offers so much easier	Where can/should U3A recognise that they may no longer be the first choice for our own members, let alone potential new members? What is an appropriate response to this - our own strengths and selling points? What are we able to offer that is not available on-line?