

## Norfolk Island COVID-19 Alert Levels Summary

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LEVEL	RISK ASSESSMENT	RANGE OF MEASURES
1 - Prepare  Disease is either not present or contained	State of Emergency Declared     No confirmed cases of the disease     Reported cases spread on mainland Australia and New Zealand	<ul> <li>» Inward borders closed to Non-Residents (no visitors)</li> <li>» Residents encouraged to return home</li> <li>» Essential personnel allowed entry into island</li> <li>» High Risk people advised to stay home</li> <li>» Testing regime deployed</li> <li>» Establish mechanism for contact tracing</li> <li>» Schools and businesses remain open with compliance of social distancing</li> <li>» Approved large gatherings</li> <li>» Quarantine – control of flight arrivals in monitored accommodation for 14 days.</li> <li>» Self-Isolation – Local health issues identified by NIHRAC's where residents isolate in own residence awaiting health advice for clearance.</li> <li>» Social Distancing – use of Council resources to educate and monitor correct social distancing around town, shops, cafes, restaurants, clubs and public places</li> </ul>
2 - Reduce  Disease is contained but risk of community transmission growing	Suspected case of the disease.     Heightened risk of importing from cases increasing beyond control on mainland Australia and New Zealand	<ul> <li>» Flights restricted</li> <li>» Employers deploy measures to improve social distancing</li> <li>» Businesses open with compliance to social distancing</li> <li>» Indoor gatherings including places of worship, cafe's, restaurants, pubs and clubs limited to social distancing 4 square metre rule</li> <li>» Outdoor gatherings limited to 50 people while observing social distancing rules 1.5 metre rule</li> <li>» Compliance monitoring and education of social distancing by Council Rangers</li> <li>» High Risk people to stay at home</li> </ul>
3 - Restrict  Heightened risk that the disease is not contained	Confirmed or Probable case of disease in persons in quarantine.	<ul> <li>Residents encouraged to stay home as much as possible</li> <li>Residents returning from the mainland for medical or compassionate reasons allowed</li> <li>Essential personnel allowed entry to island</li> <li>People should work from home unless it is not possible</li> <li>Large group gatherings cancelled</li> <li>Public venues closed</li> <li>Home visits limited to 2 people</li> <li>Weddings limited to 5, funerals 10</li> <li>Low risk recreational activity is allowed</li> <li>Businesses can open premises but can not physically interact with customers</li> <li>Food and beverage providers can operate as takeaway/delivery only</li> <li>Contact tracing activated</li> </ul>
4 - Eliminate The disease is not contained	<ul> <li>Confirmed or Probable case not quarantined</li> <li>Likelihood of spread</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Lock down of Island</li> <li>» People instructed to self isolate</li> <li>» Businesses closed except for essential services</li> <li>» School and Childcare closed</li> <li>» Exercise from your house only, no more than 2 from same household</li> <li>» Territories Lock Down Plan followed by IMT</li> </ul>

**References** 1. New Zealand COVID-19 Alert Levels Summary (16th April 2020)

2. CDNA National guidelines for public health units <a href="https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-novel-coronavirus.htm">https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-novel-coronavirus.htm</a>



## **Reading the Matrix**

There are four levels to the matrix. The lowest level being 1 (Prepare) through to 4 (Eliminate). For each level the assessed level of risk is provided along with the corresponding range of measures that are put in place to respond and reduce the level of risk. Measures in lower levels remain in place in the higher level unless upgraded.

## **Definitions**

**Confirmed case:** - A person who tests positive to a validated specific SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid test or has the virus identified by electron microscopy or viral culture, at a reference laboratory.

**Probable case:**- A person, who has not been tested, with fever ( $\geq 38^{\circ}$ C) or history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills) or acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat) and who is a household contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19.

**Suspected case:** - Fever (≥38°C) or history of fever or acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat) who has been in close contact in the 14 days prior to the illness onset with a confirmed case

Close contact: - greater than 15 minutes face-to-face contact in any setting with a confirmed case in the period extending from 24 hours before onset of symptoms in the confirmed case, or sharing of a closed space with a confirmed case for a prolonged period (e.g. more than 2 hours) in the period extending from 24 hours before onset of symptoms in the confirmed case.

Essential services: - Medical Services; Port and Port Operations including Stevedoring; Water, waste water, Power and Fuel; Telecommunications and Internet providers; Waste Services; AFP; Critical Government Services for urgent matters only; Airline staff; Shopping Centres, Meat/Seafood suppliers; Service Stations and Pharmacies; On-call contractors for approved emergency repairs by the Incident Controller; Hardware stores for supplies of emergency materials; Schools closed.

**Quarantine:** - All arrivals into Norfolk Island are required to quarantine and this means being placed in monitored, separate self-contained accommodation that will be paid for by the NIRC. Applications for quarantine in private residence, must be accompanied by a plan setting out how the strict quarantine requirements will be met and must be approved by the Incident Controller. This will normally be for a period of 14 days and a medical clearance is required to cease quarantine.

**Self-isolation:** - A person may be directed by a medical officer to self isolate and this means isolating in the person's own residence with testing and regular health monitoring by NIHRAC.

**Social Distancing:** - Means when leaving home staying 1.5m from others; in places open to the public allowing 4 square metres of space per person on the premises.

**IMT:**- Incident Management Team established for the emergency

**Businesses can open premises but cannot physically interact with customers:**- Means businesses allowed to operate except for those which require close physical contact (spa, massage) or sharing of a closed space (Pubs, Clubs, indoor sporting venues, cinemas, personal services -excluding hairdressers, barbers & childcare). Payment using cash to be discouraged

Low risk activity: - Means non-contact recreational activities such as private picnics, rock fishing, surfing and swimming. Avoid activities that could result in requiring the services of our St John Ambulance, Emergency services or volunteer rescue teams. Boat fishing is 2 people or if commercial by request to the incident controller.

**Large group gatherings cancelled:** - Means any non-essential gatherings other than your close family unit + 2 people. The only exemptions are 10 people at funerals and 5 people at weddings. All other gatherings by request to the incident controller.

Essential gatherings would include workplaces, health care settings, pharmacy, food shopping, open air food market, school, day care and airport. These activities must allow for appropriate social distancing and provide for hand and surface hygiene.

Events which are likely to involve crowds of 50 persons or greater must be supported by a management plan approved jointly by the Emergency and Incident Controllers. The management plan must outline how social distancing rules will be adhered to and what systems of monitoring will be implemented to ensure compliance. Plans must be communicated publicly 5 days prior to events.