



TOITU TAIRĀWHITI

NGATI POROU - TE AITANGA A MAHAKI - RONGOWHAKAATA - NGAI TAMANUHIRI

PANUI

7 MAY 2020

COVID-19- State of our Nation

	Total	Change in last 24 hours
Number of confirmed cases in New Zealand	1,139	1
Number of probable cases	350	0
Number of confirmed and probable cases	1,489	1
Number of cases currently in hospital	2	-2
Number of cases currently in hospital	4	-5
Number of recovered cases	1,332	16
Number of deaths	21	0

The Ministry of Health today [announced](#) one new confirmed case of COVID-19, taking the total number of confirmed and probable cases to 1,489.

The person who has tested positive for COVID-19 is a household contact of previously confirmed cases that are linked to the Matamata cluster. The DHB is publicly calling for anyone in Matamata who is concerned they may have been exposed to COVID-19, regardless of whether they were involved in the St Patrick's Day event or whether they have symptoms, to immediately seek advice on getting tested.

We now have 1,332 people reported as having recovered from COVID-19, which is 89% of all confirmed and probable cases. Ministry of Health Officials are encouraged by the steady increases in the numbers of people being tested and have advised that anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms, however mild, should rapidly seek advice about getting tested for COVID-19. It is important that people with symptoms get tested early to help us confirm whether they have COVID-19 and then take the appropriate follow-up actions as quickly as possible.

The Government announced, today that they are investing \$25 million to speed up the trial and deployment of innovations to help New Zealand's response to COVID-19. The funding is aimed at the fast development of new products and services that could help to detect, diagnose, treat, or prevent COVID-19, by supporting research and development, prototyping and pre-production activities.



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Today the Government announced that the State of National Emergency has been extended for a further seven days and released Level 2 guidelines in preparation for future move to Level 2.

We are still at Alert Level 3, which is essentially not that different to a full lock down. Alert Level 3 has meant that some of us can go back to work with strict physical distancing in place.

Under Alert Level 3:

- Keep working and learning from home if you can.
- Keep a 2-metre physical distance from others.
- Stay local and travel only within our region.

We wholeheartedly agree with the statement and sentiments of the Prime Minister's message today that, "We need to balance the risk of the virus bouncing back against the strong desire to get the economy moving again", we also need to be vigilant about travel restrictions and the maintenance of hygiene and safety practices,

Toitu Tairawhiti has worked collaboratively with the local CEG, Group Controller David Wilson and CEG Response Manager, Wiremu Tamati, to finalise the planning and logistics support for the arrival and distribution of 1,450 Hilux packs early next week. Recognising the size of the consignment, four big truck and trailer units, the Event Centre, at the Showgrounds has been secured as the central depot for the packs for Gisborne urban and rural and depots in Tolaga, Waipiro Bay, Ruatoria and Te Araraoa for the Coast consignment.

Our Communications Team have received good feedback from whanau at home and abroad, about the information that our Daily Panui and updates on the Tairawhiti COVID-19 response and recovery effort broadcast on our iwi radio stations and iwi communications multi-media platforms. While there are several good sites for receiving daily updates and information on COVID-19, they enjoy the contextualising of information to home and hearing about what is happening at home. This helps them to feel connected and in touch with home. Turanga FM's Manawanui programme is attracting a large following, with compliments about the anchors, Matai Smith and Rahia Timutimu, particularly the easy flow between Maori and English, polished look, and 'meaty' content. Radio Ngati Porou has established a supply line of weekly news items, with Maori Television, covering local stories and our Iwi communications teams have all significantly increased their FB followers and multi-media audiences.

REGIONAL PICTURE

Buying Local

Buying locally is now more important than ever. As activity starts to return to local businesses, we need everyone to spend locally, as part of the region's recovery effort.

'Many businesses have taken a hit due to the lockdown, and now that the alert levels are starting to move, we could all give them a boost by shopping locally,' Mayor Rehette Stoltz said today.

'Shopping locally helps create jobs and keeps dollars in our region. It builds local wealth, its better environmentally as it reduces the use of fossil fuels, and there's even evidence that it is better for our health.'



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The Regional Recovery Governance Group Tairāwhiti – Rau Tipu Rau Ora*, is focusing its efforts on supporting businesses and easing the economic hardship many in our community are facing.

Council is offering free parking throughout the city to help support initiatives by Trust Tairāwhiti such as Let's Shop Tairāwhiti! and increased funding to businesses via the Regional Business Partner Programme.

Many local businesses are open, with ordering online or by phone, and some of them are recovering steadily. And even if you are not able to buy locally now, you can still support the district's businesses by encouraging your friends and whanau to support them.

Spending our money locally is a win-win for everyone

Hauora

The War Memorial CBAC hours of operation changes to 9am – 5pm weekdays, 1pm to 4pm weekends and the Mobile testing has been discontinued.

Transport

The first draft of guidance for public transport under AL2 has been received and is being responded to by NZTA. Latest estimates for public transport capacity at one-meter physical distancing are around 40 percent of seating and no standing, reducing total fleet capacity to between 20 and 30 percent of normal.

Anyone in need of assistance call Tairāwhiti Civil Defence Coordination Centre at Council on 0800 653 800

NATIONAL PICTURE

Preparing for Alert Level 2

Alert Level 2 will see significantly more activity open up across the country requiring New Zealanders to play it safe and remain vigilant, so the virus does not bounce back. In a nutshell, Level 2 is a safer normal, designed to get as many people back to work as possible and the economy back up and running in a safe way. Strong public health measures such as physical distancing, good hygiene and contact tracing will be essential to making Level 2 work.

When will New Zealand move to Alert Level 2?

The government will make a decision on whether to change from Alert Level 3 on Monday 11 May 2020 with an announcement on that day by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern.

What will life and business look like at Alert Level 2 when we move to it?

While New Zealand remains at Alert Level 3, the following information on Alert Level 2 was released by the Prime Minister.



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- Businesses can restart for staff and customers
- Bubbles can cease
- Domestic travel recommences
- Schools and early learning centres can open
- Gatherings both indoors and outdoors are limited to 100 people
- Public places reopen
- Sport and recreation come back on-stream, including professional sports competitions
- Home gatherings must be kept small
- Hospitality must follow the three S's – seated, separated, single-server

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In a nutshell, Level 2 is a safer normal designed to get as many people back to work as possible and the economy back up and running in a safe way, made possible only by our collective actions at Levels 4 and 3 to beat the virus and break the chain of transmission.

Strong public health measures such as physical distancing, good hygiene and contact tracing will be essential to making Level 2 work.

There is a much higher level of individual responsibility required at Level 2 to prevent the spread of the virus. Even though the economy will be significantly opened up everyone needs to remain vigilant and continue to act like you and those around you have the virus.

On Monday, May 11, the Government will make a decision on whether to move to Alert Level 2, taking into consideration the best data and advice, recognising the impact of restrictions, and ensuring that we don't put at risk all of the gains we have made.

We need to balance the risk of the virus bouncing back against the strong desire to get the economy moving again.

The Prime Minister said. "We will continue to act with caution and not move before it is safe to do, so entry into Level 2 could be phased, with higher risk activity occurring when there is stronger evidence it is safe to do so".

Sport and Recreation

Professional sports will be able to resume domestically under Alert Level 2 with the necessary public health measures in place. Obviously, the paramount concern is that a return to competitive sport is done safely. This means ensuring there are systems in place to implement public health measures such as contact tracing and hygiene requirements to create a safe environment.

This will mean some modifications to training, play and competition will be necessary, and Sport NZ is working with the major sporting codes and WorkSafe on how these are put into practice. The rules around mass gatherings still apply, so sports will be played at empty stadiums.

Investec Super Rugby and the ANZ Premiership Netball League have already confirmed their intention to resume domestic competition at Alert Level 2 and are working through what a return to training and competition will look like.



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Some sports will be able to return to play more quickly than others while the necessary health requirements, modifications and restrictions on non-essential inter-regional travel are worked through. Sports bodies are putting in a lot of work to get the pro-sport leagues going. However, competitions will only start when all the public health guidelines are met.

Economic

Up to \$5,000 is available through the 2020 Drought Recovery Advice Fund to help farmers recover from the 2020 drought, and plan for future droughts. It will pay for professional advice to a maximum of \$5,000 (excluding GST). The fund is capped at \$500,000 (excluding GST).

Successful applicants can decide what type of drought-related advice they need. They can choose a supplier either from the pre-approved list or find their own.

To be eligible for this fund:

- the farm must be in a 2020 drought-affected region or district
- the farming business must have been negatively affected by the 2020 drought
- At least 50% of the farmer's income, in a normal year, must be earned from the farming business.

Types of drought recovery advice

The 2020 Drought Recovery Advice Fund can help farmers get a wide range of drought-related business and technical advice. The advice can include (but is not limited to):

- stock water best practice
- feed management systems
- strategic planning, including farm business and whole farm plans
- land management and sustainable management techniques
- analysis of farm systems
- risk and recovery management
- business continuity
- modelling farm systems change scenarios
- alternate land-use options
- technical advice on soil, pastures, or animal production
- financial planning and decision support
- farm accounts analysis.

How to apply

Eligible farmers can apply by completing an application form and emailing it to funding@mpi.govt.nz

Applicants do not need to know who their supplier will be when they submit their application. However, it is important to think about what sort of advice is needed and who would be best to provide it.

Applications will be accepted from 9am on 11 May 2020 until 5pm on 12 June 2020.



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Resources

- Call Healthline if you suspect you have COVID-19 symptoms: 0800 358 5453
- For any other COVID-19 related queries, contact the government helpline: 0800 779 997
- Need to talk? Call or text 1737
- Visit [allright.org.nz](https://www.allright.org.nz) for practical mental health and wellbeing advice
- Essential business enquiries essential@mbie.govt.nz or 0800 22 66 57
- Report breaches of self-isolation [105.police.govt.nz](https://www.105.police.govt.nz)

KIA MATAARA, KIA MANAWANUI

