

New Zealand moves out of National Transition Period and into Alert Level 1

On 8 June 2020 it was announced that New Zealand would move to Alert Level 1, and that the National Transition Period would come to an end. This news means that there will be no more of the restrictions that were introduced as part of the COVID-19 response and it signals a return to “normal life” for New Zealanders.

As at 8 June 2020, there were no active COVID-19 cases and no new cases had been discovered in 17 days, so the Prime Minister was confident that moving to Alert Level 1 had been the right decision.

The National Transition Period coming to an end has also signalled that the powers that were enacted from New Zealand moving into a State of Emergency are no longer required, with the Civil Defence Minister referring to the long-long term provisions under the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 as sufficient to support New Zealand now.

The borders will remain closed and mandatory isolation and quarantine is still the first line of defence against any kind of resurgence of community transmission and New Zealanders are encouraged to keep diaries of where they have been as a precaution.

Resources:

New Zealand moves to Alert Level 1 <<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/new-zealand-moves-alert-level-1>> 8 June 2020

National Transition Period ends <<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/national-transition-period-ends>> 8 June 2020