

Auckland moves to alert level 3, the rest of NZ moves to alert level 2

At a press conference on Sunday 14 February 2021, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced that Auckland will move to Alert Level 3 as of 11.59pm on 14 February, whilst the rest of the country will move to Alert Level 2.

This move follows an emergency cabinet meeting this afternoon to discuss the three latest community cases.

"We don't yet have a complete picture of the potential source of the infection and spread, if any, beyond one household," said Prime Minister Ardern.

"Regardless, Cabinet has chosen to respond with a cautious approach that has served us so well previously and with the working assumption just in case it could be one of the more transmissible strains of Covid that we need to act with a high degree of caution around."

She said three days "should give us enough time to gather further information, undertake large-scale testing and establish if there has been wider community transmission".

Under Alert Level 3, Aucklanders will be asked to stay home to avoid the risk of spreading Covid-19. People should also work from home unless it is not possible.

People have been asked to maintain physical distancing of two metres outside or one metre in controlled environments.

Children have also been asked to stay home from school. Schools from Year 1 to 10 and early childhood education centres can open for children whose parents must be at work.

Key information for Alert Level 3:

- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or are unwell, stay home and get in contact with your doctor or Healthline.
- Stay home and within your personal household bubble. If you can work or educate from home, please do.
- Maintain physical distancing of 2 metres when you are in public.
- Mask use is highly encouraged.
- Gatherings of up to 10 people can continue, but only for: wedding services and funerals and tangihanga.

Key information for other regions and Alert Level 2:

- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or are unwell, stay home and get in contact with your doctor or Healthline.
- Gatherings and events must be less than 100 people and physical distance should be maintained from others when in public – two metres in public and retail stores and one metre in workplaces, cafes, restaurants and gyms.
- Mask use is highly encouraged.

See the Government's Unite Against COVID-19 site for more information.

Alert Level 3: <https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/restrictions/alert-level-3/>

Alert Level 2: <https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/restrictions/alert-level-2/>

Resources:

Auckland to go to Alert Level 3 following three Covid-19 community cases <

<https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/auckland-go-alert-level-3-following-three-covid-19-community-cases>>