

## **Alert Level 2 is extended for the Wellington region for another 48 hours**

The Wellington region, including Wairarapa and the Kāpiti Coast to north of Ōtaki, is currently operating at Alert Level 2 and it has been announced that this will be extended by 48 hours to end at 11:59 pm on Tuesday 9 June 2021.

The move to Alert Level 2 at 6 pm 23 June was originally scheduled for review after four days (to be reviewed Sunday 27 June 2021) and this allowed for wide-scale contact tracing and testing to be carried out.

So far results have been positive – no community cases have been found in New Zealand and repeated wastewater testing hasn't revealed any signs of COVID-19 in Wellington. Despite these positive aspects, the extension is being enforced after a revelation that the partner of the positive case visiting from Sydney had also tested positive for COVID-19 once they left New Zealand. This gives an idea of how long the original case had been infected and reveals information about how long they would have been infectious.

Due to the extension of Alert Level 2, it has also been announced that the Resurgence Support Payment will be available to businesses and organisations that are experiencing a significant drop in revenue due to the alert change.

In order to qualify, a business must have experienced at least a 30 per cent drop in revenue or decline in capital-raising ability over a seven-day period. The payment is \$1,500 per business plus \$100 per FTE up to 50 FTE.

For more information see the IRD website's information: <https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment>

The Chief Justice has released a [statement](#) about how courts will be operating under Alert Level 2 protocols, which involves continuation of all scheduled matters before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal. All High Court proceedings and Jury trials in Wellington, Lower Hutt, Masterton and Porirua District Courts that can be safely accommodated within the the restrictions of the alert level will proceed as planned.

## **Operating at Alert Level 2**

At Alert Level 2, you can go to work and school, but you should follow public health measures and consider others around you.

Key things to remember:

- If you are sick, stay home. If you have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, call your doctor or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 and get advice about being tested.
- Gatherings are limited to 100 people or less.
- If you have been told to self-isolate you legally must do so immediately.
- Mask use is highly encouraged and mandatory on public transport.

More information on what precautions to take at Alert Level 2 can be found on the Unite Against COVID-19 website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/alert-level-2/>

**Resources:**

Alert Level 2 in Wellington extended by 2 days <<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/alert-level-2-wellington-extended-2-days>> 27 June 2021

Ministry of Health, COVID-19: Contact tracing locations of interest <<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public/contact-tracing-covid-19/covid-19-contact-tracing-locations-interest>>

Unite against COVID-19 < <https://covid19.govt.nz/> >

IRD, COVID-19 Resurgence Support Payment (RSP) < <https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment> >

Chief Justice of New Zealand – Media Statement < [https://www.courtsofnz.govt.nz/assets/media-releases/2021/21-06-27-Chief-Justice-statement\\_.pdf](https://www.courtsofnz.govt.nz/assets/media-releases/2021/21-06-27-Chief-Justice-statement_.pdf) > 27 June 2021