

16 November 2021 | File Ref: 1/19/1 |

Released by: Nick Leggett

Preparing for Covid-19 and the new framework

Purpose

The purpose of this Advisory is to update you on changes to Covid-19 management; give guidance on what to do if you have Covid-19 in your workplace; and preparation for the incoming Covid-19 Protection Framework (the traffic light system) announced by the Prime Minister on 22 October 2021.

Guidance for workplaces that have a case of Covid-19

Covid-19 Response Minister Chris Hipkins has sounded the warning that Covid-19 is on the move and could be coming to a town near you.

We suggest you prepare your business for this possibility, including business continuity, with a plan that all management and staff have a copy of. Such a plan could include:

- Critical information on how the business works and who can take charge
- Covid-19 in the workplace – a plan for the two to three weeks where staff/management may be sick and/or in isolation
- Information to assist the Medical Officer of Health, including information about who has been on the premises
- Personal wellbeing of staff who are unwell/isolating as well as those who may have to take the extra load

If an employee, customer or visitor becomes a confirmed or probable Covid-19 case, and has been at your workplace while potentially infectious, there are standard processes that will be followed by the local public health unit. Information about those processes, contact tracing, communication with employees and communication with customers can be found on the Ministry of Health website [here](#).

Please note: The content of this Advisory has been issued to inform members of RTANZ. It is for road freight transport industry circulation, not for media publication. It can be forwarded in its entirety to members of that association. It cannot be reproduced, or printed in parts, under any logo other than la Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand's logo, without written permission from Transporting New Zealand.

Changes to Covid-19 management

There have been two announcements this week that need to be noted in planning to manage Covid-19.

The Government has confirmed that booster vaccination shots will start from 29 November 2021, for anyone aged 18 and over who got vaccinated more than six months ago. You can read more about this in Covid-19 Response Minister Chris Hipkins' media release [here](#).

The Government has announced that vaccinated people who test positive for Covid-19 only need to isolate for 10 days (not 14 days as previously advised), while those who are unvaccinated still need to isolate for 14 days.

Vaccinated people who are identified as a close contact now only need to isolate for seven days, while unvaccinated close contacts need to isolate for 10 days. You can read more about that in Associate Health Minister Dr Ayesha Verrall's media release [here](#).

Covid-19 Protection Framework

The Government will shortly introduce a framework to replace the alert levels they have used to manage Covid-19. It is designed to give vaccinated New Zealanders more freedom and is based on traffic lights – with red, orange and green frameworks.

With the introduction of this framework, some places will require vaccination certificates for entry. We are expecting more guidance from the Government on how this applies for business-to-business transactions.

You can find information about the framework [here](#), including posters you can print off for your workplace.

You can read the Prime Minister's introduction of the framework [here](#).

Please note: The content of this Advisory has been issued to inform members of RTANZ. It is for road freight transport industry circulation, not for media publication. It can be forwarded in its entirety to members of that association. It cannot be reproduced, or printed in parts, under any logo other than Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand's logo, without written permission from Transporting New Zealand.