

# COVID-19 Safe Exit Framework: Level 3 Policy

**Publication date: 11 May 2020**

**Updated: 18 May 2020 to reflect permission for all retail to open**

**Updated 28 May 2020 to reflect end of Restricted Movement Order and new guidelines on funerals**

## **We are at Level 3 of the Safe Exit Framework**

Jersey will begin to move through the Level 3 measures of the Safe Exit Framework from 8am on Monday, 11 May 2020.

Analysis shows that Level 4: Lockdown measures have been effective in suppressing the spread of COVID-19 in Jersey and so we can begin to lift restrictions in a phased, measured and controlled way. Consequently, the Government will move through the measures shown in Level 3 of the Safe Exit Framework Table published on 1 May. Not all measures will be introduced at the same time.

Ministers are committed to removing restrictions as early as it is *safe* to do. Throughout Level 3, the impact of the relaxation measures on the spread of COVID-19 will be closely monitored and the pace at which new measures are introduced will be informed by medical assessment of the potential risks.

If at any time public health monitoring indicates a rapid increase in cases, especially cases requiring hospital care, relaxation of measures may be suspended – or if absolutely necessary Level 4: Lockdown could be re-imposed. No one wants to return to Level 4. Further lockdown will impact people's wellbeing, their livelihoods, and the culture of Jersey. A phased relaxation of such measures is better than a rapid return to stricter lockdown.

Everyone should follow this guidance, to help control the spread of COVID-19 and continue to protect lives. If people disregard this guidance, more restrictive measures may need to be re-introduced.

## **General public health measures**

Everyone is strongly encouraged to follow these simple steps:

- Wash your hands with soap and water or use a sanitiser gel throughout the day - especially when outside your home (e.g. when shopping or at work), and if your hands have touched any hard surface (eg door handles). Do not touch your face, eyes, nose or mouth unless you have washed hands or used sanitiser.
- Catch your cough or sneeze in a tissue, bin it and wash your hands. If you don't have a tissue, cough into your elbow and avoid touching your face.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces, especially toilet facilities. Assume all surfaces are potentially infectious unless you are certain they have just been disinfected.

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- Cloth masks are advised, especially in enclosed public spaces such as shops and on public transport (for staff and customers).
- If you have flu-like symptoms, stay or go home immediately and call the Helpline on 01534 445566.

You should also maintain a **physical distance of 2 metres** from anyone you don't live with. It's important everyone is able to enjoy social interaction – but while maintaining a 2-metre physical distance, to limit spread and to protect more vulnerable Islanders.

Anyone can catch COVID-19 and anyone can spread it.

### **Personal movement: reasons to be outside the home**

From 28 May, there is no longer a time limit on how long you can spend outside your home underpinned by law.

Islanders are encouraged to continue staying at home when possible, including working from home, to continue to suppress the spread of COVID-19 within Jersey.

### **People vulnerable to COVID-19**

For people with certain medical conditions, and for people of older ages, there are additional risks if you become infected with COVID-19.

While the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 is currently low, it has not been eliminated and as activity resumes across the island, there is likely to be an increase in transmission. During Level 3, if you are regarded as vulnerable to serious complications of COVID-19, you are encouraged to continue to limit contact with people you don't live with to reduce the likelihood of becoming infected.

Everyone's situation is different, and if you are regarded as vulnerable to serious complications of COVID-19, you need to make a personal choice about the extent to which you wish to continue to **shield** yourself from becoming infected, by staying at home and limiting physical contact. You should talk with your GP or consultant if you need help understanding your own levels of risk, in the context of your own personal situation.

The general advice continues to be:

- Those people who are in the 'severely vulnerable' group because of their much higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 (those with serious underlying medical conditions, see definition on gov.je) are strongly encouraged to continue to **shield** themselves at home.
- People vulnerable, but not 'severely vulnerable' to serious complications of COVID-19 (those with less severe medical conditions, see definition on gov.je) are advised to follow general public health measures but to be especially careful to do so, especially when outside the home. If you work, you may choose to attend your workplace if you agree with your employer that you can do so safely. You may also choose to take medical advice to inform this decision. As for the population generally, those able to work from home should continue to do so.

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## **Social events and gatherings**

Events remain prohibited, with the exception of funerals and emergency marriages. Updated guidelines on funerals, to allow them to proceed safely with appropriate physical distancing will shortly be available on gov.je. Emergency marriages can be considered on a case-by-case basis, such as where one of the parties is in an end-of-life situation.

You should continue to limit social contact to help restrict the spread of COVID-19. However, as an individual and or as a household, you can meet with *up to 5* other people a day (individuals or a household group containing a maximum of 5 people), as long as a physical distance of 2 metres is maintained between all those that do not live together.

If you do choose to see others socially during Level 3, think about including those who live on their own or may be struggling with isolation or loneliness.

Because the risk of transmission is higher indoors, you are strongly encouraged not meet people you don't live with inside your home, or go inside others' homes for social purposes. If you have a garden large enough, you are recommended to have up to five (5) people you don't live with visit you in your garden. If visitors need to use toilet facilities, ask them to do so quickly and not to stay indoors. You should also clean the toilet before and after the visit.

If needed, you can go into someone's home in order to care for them; if you need to do this, please follow the important public health advice on gov.je.

## **Education and childcare**

Wherever possible, children and young people should follow the measures set out in this policy. Where children and young people are attending nursery or school (e.g., as children of critical workers), they can travel to and from the nursery or school, accompanied by an adult they live with, as appropriate for their age.

While children should not normally be moving between households, we recognise that this may be necessary when children who are under 18 need to move between the care of separated parents.

Detailed guidance for parents and carers is available on gov.je.

## **Coping during the pandemic**

This is a concerning time and the pandemic, and the public health measures in place, may trigger or exacerbate emotional and practical issues.

There is a huge amount of support available, provided by volunteers, our Parishes, and specialist professionals. We warmly encourage you to access it. Please call the helpline on 01534 445566, or find more information on gov.je.

Day to day, the advice continues to be not to panic, to maintain good hygiene in your home, and if anyone you live with develops flu-like symptoms, call the helpdesk and follow the published household isolation advice.

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## **Travel**

All forms of on-island transport (buses and taxis) are permitted, with strict guidelines in place. Hand sanitiser should be available and prominent on public transport. You are discouraged from ride sharing in private vehicles with people you don't live with.

Travel on and off-island is currently limited to essential travel. Upon arrival into Jersey, people must isolate for 14 days unless government permission is granted. For details on the essential travel scheme and isolation requirements for arrivals into Jersey, please see [gov.je](http://gov.je).

Information leaflets detailing travel and isolation policy requirements should be provided to all new arrivals at all entry ports, and hand sanitiser should be available and prominent.

## **Work and business**

People should continue to work from home wherever possible.

Where a business or organisation is permitted to open in Level 3, you are asked to maintain the minimum viable staffing level needed on your premises, to mitigate spread.

As limited business activity resumes, in careful stages, employers are also strongly encouraged to be flexible in recognition of the risks and constraints the pandemic is imposing on workers and their families:

- Consider if any of your staff are vulnerable to serious complications of COVID-19, or live with someone who is extremely vulnerable to serious complications of COVID-19, and how you can help them to return to work with additional mitigation in place where needed and possible. An individual whose age or condition makes them vulnerable to serious complications of COVID-19, and who wishes to return to work, is encouraged to seek medical advice from their GP if there is uncertainty as to how to return to work safely
- If a member of staff has a condition that puts them in the 'extremely vulnerable' risk category, they should not return to work
- Try to enable staff who care for children to stay at home while schools and nurseries are closed.

Essential emergency home and building repair and maintenance works may be carried out by plumbers, electricians, roofers, scaffolders and other tradespeople. This work can be done inside people's homes where it is urgent or essential, provided that the tradesperson is well and has no symptoms. It is vital that public health guidelines, including maintaining a two-metre distance from any household occupants, are followed to ensure everyone's safety.

No work should be carried out in any household which is isolating or where an individual is extremely vulnerable to serious complications of COVID-19, unless it is to remedy a direct risk to the safety of the household, such as emergency plumbing or repairs, and where the tradesperson is willing to do so. The isolated person should occupy a different room whilst the work is being carried out, if at all possible.

For further information, please see the detailed guidance for business on [gov.je](http://gov.je).

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## Essential work

Essential work is designated as:

- Health and care services – covering emergency/necessary medical and dental work; pharmacies; opticians, audiologists; residential and nursing homes; mental health care; management of the deceased
- Paid and voluntary work to care for vulnerable and elderly people in their homes, for example home care providers, caretakers, the Community Taskforce and Parish volunteers
- Transportation, production and retail of food, beverages, household supplies, fuel, medicines and medical supplies
- Transportation and retail of construction supplies; hardware products necessary for home and business maintenance, sanitation; farm equipment and supplies, pet and livestock feed; gardening tools and supplies
- Transportation and retail of non-medical cloth face masks, and fabric and sewing supplies for the purpose of making them
- Maintenance of Jersey's ports, air and sea links
- Public transport and regulated taxis
- Food delivery and takeaway services
- Public sector staff and contractors, including Parish staff, who form part of the formal emergency response structure
- Public protection, emergency services and justice system (police, Honorary Police, ambulance, fire, coastguard, lifeboats, customs and immigration; courts, law officers, Viscount, probation, prison)
- Private security services
- Social work, and residential childcare work
- Teaching, school support, and youth work where engaged in schools, as well as nursery and child-minding provision, for critical workers (at minimum levels)
- Maintenance of critical Island infrastructure, utilities, postal and telecommunications networks, Met Office
- Waste management and recycling services
- Postal and parcel delivery services
- Cleaning services for working environments, where that can be undertaken while adhering to physical distancing guidelines
- Essential emergency home and building repair and maintenance services
- Essential vehicle, boat and bicycle repair and maintenance services
- Fishing, farming and farm work, while adhering to physical distancing guidelines
- Care of livestock and animals in captivity, necessary veterinary and pest control work
- Critical branch-based banking services to enable cash and other financial transactions, maintenance of ATMs, call referral systems, credit application systems and payment systems
- General financial services – critical firm management and maintenance of core on-site services such as IT systems, banking and mail collection and delivery
- Advocates essential to ongoing court matters, limited staff critical to legal firms' management and maintenance of core on-site services such as IT systems, banking and mail collection and delivery
- Removals and relocation services, where supporting essential home moves only
- Essential government regulatory roles, including those related to financial stability and banking supervision
- Public service broadcasters and other mainstream news media

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- Ministers, States Members, and staff enabling the functioning of the democratic system.

Workers engaged directly in these categories of work, and ancillary staff providing essential support on-site to these categories of work (e.g., minimal sorting office staff for postal services; school administration staff), are considered essential.

### **Non-essential work**

As in Level 4, some non-essential work can continue to operate where it does not pose a risk to public health.

#### ***Non-essential businesses and premises permitted to open in Level 3***

During Level 3, some categories of non-essential business and premises are permitted to open, within the general principles set out under 'work and business' above.

From 11 May 2020, the following non-essential businesses and organisations are permitted to open within published guidelines:

- Outdoor recreational sites, facilities and services
- Cafés and restaurants, for the purpose of offering safe outdoor seated food service
- Large shops (with a retail sales area of at least 700 square metres)

Property viewings are also permitted from this date within guidelines. Associated retail premises should remain closed to customers.

Detailed guidelines are provided to enable these businesses and organisations to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19 as they open and operate.

Other retail premises will be permitted to open on 18 May. If COVID-19 remains under control, other indoor workplaces will be permitted to open shortly after that.

#### ***Other non-essential businesses and premises***

Businesses and organisations engaged in any other non-essential work and which are not a type of establishment that must remain closed (see annex), may as of 20 May 2020 begin to allow employees to return to the workplace, where doing so is essential to maintain the business function and where this work cannot be otherwise be undertaken from home. Where organisations do begin to open workplaces, they should do so only up to the minimum viable staffing level needed on the premises.

Where a non-essential business operates outdoors or away from its own premises (e.g., gardening, external decorating, window cleaning, pool cleaning), you can continue to provide services as long as no more than you plus five (5) others (six (6) in total) are gathered at one time. You should also enforce strict physical distancing at all times – travelling to and from the place of work, and at all times during the course of the work.

Business activity that falls within the remit of the construction scheme must comply with the conditions of that scheme. The construction scheme is anticipated to continue throughout each level of the safe exit framework.

### **Enforcement**

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Islanders' actions to limit social contact have successfully prevented a spike in cases of COVID-19 and afforded time for crucial preparations across our health service. It is vital that everyone continues to limit person-to-person contact, and so continues to help suppress the spread of COVID-19.

The Government has put in place some additional legal powers that can be used – as a last resort – to enforce the measures set out in this public health policy, and protect our community. However, we will only succeed in limiting the harm of COVID-19 if everyone voluntarily plays their part.

### **Containing the spread of COVID-19**

As restrictions on personal movement and business activity are eased, social contact will increase and we need to actively contain the spread of COVID-19. As set out in the *Framework for a Safe Exit from the COVID-19 Pandemic*, our contain approach has three core elements:

**Testing:** increasing capacity to enable testing of all potential cases of COVID-19 (clinically judged to be displaying relevant symptoms) and a programme of pro-active testing. Stratified sample testing will also be carried out to inform our understanding of the prevalence of the virus in Jersey over time.

**Contact tracing:** enhanced contact tracing capacity, enabling tracing and testing of all confirmed cases and probable new cases of COVID-19.

**Isolating:** home isolation for confirmed cases; household/self-isolation for people who are symptomatic or who've been in contact with confirmed cases; and self-isolation for anyone arriving into Jersey (unless by very limited exception). Enforced isolation may be required for individuals with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 who do not have sufficient capacity to self-isolate effectively, or choose not to do so.

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### **Annex 1: Businesses and premises that can remain open and those that must remain closed**

Businesses and organisations engaged in essential or non-essential work, as set out above, may open and should strictly observe all public health guidance on physical distancing and hygiene.

The following businesses and premises must remain closed:

#### **Food and drink**

Must remain closed	Exceptions
Restaurants, public houses, wine bars and other drinking establishments, or other food and drink	Provision of physically-distanced outdoor seated food service only, within published guidelines; reservation-only service strongly encouraged. Alcoholic beverages may be sold with meals, but a drinks-only service not permitted. Strict physical distancing and hygiene measures

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establishments including within hotels and members' clubs	<p>required for staff (inside and outside) as well as customers (outside only). Venues to close by 10pm.</p> <p>Food delivery and takeaway (including from beach kiosks). This covers the provision of hot or cold food that has been prepared for consumers for collection or delivery to be consumed, reheated or cooked by consumers off the premises. Delivery is preferred, wherever possible.</p>
Workplace canteens	<p>Food services at the hospital, care homes or schools, prison and services providing food or drink to the homeless</p> <p>Measures should be taken to minimise the number of people in a canteen / break space at any one given time, for example by using a rota.</p> <p>Where possible, staff should be encouraged to bring their own food.</p>

**Businesses must follow the published hygiene and physical distancing guidance.**

Takeaway and delivery facilities may remain open and operational. This means people can continue to enter premises to access takeaway services, including delivery drivers, provided they observe strict physical distancing.

### Retail

Must remain closed	Exceptions
Hairdressers, barbers, beauty and nail salons, including piercing and tattoo parlours, laser and cosmetic clinics delivering non-essential cosmetic treatments	None
Community dentists	Since 23 March the Government's guidance to dentists has been that they should close, except for the purposes of providing telephone triage and issuing prescriptions to patients, in line with General Dental Council guidelines.

Update, 18 May 2020: all retail, outdoor and indoor markets, and auction houses are permitted to open but should follow the public health guidelines set out on gov.je.

### Hotels

Must remain closed	Exceptions
Hotels, hostels, B&Bs, campsites, boarding houses, lodging houses, self-catering vacation accommodation, for commercial use	<p>Where people live in these as interim abodes while their primary residence is unavailable, or they live in them in permanently, they may continue to do so.</p> <p>Key workers and non-UK residents who are unable to travel to their country of residence during this period can continue to stay in hotels or similar where required.</p>

	<p>People who are unable to move into a new home due to the current restrictions can also stay at hotels.</p> <p>Where hotels, hostels, and B&amp;Bs are providing rooms to support essential workers, or vulnerable people such as those who cannot safely stay in their home, through arrangements with the Government, they may remain open.</p>
Caravan parks and camping sites	None

### Non-residential institutions

Must remain closed	Exceptions
Libraries	Digital library services and no-contact Home Library Services should continue
Community centres, youth centres and similar	For the purpose of hosting essential voluntary or public services, such as food banks, homeless services, and blood donation sessions.
Places of worship	<p>A minister of religion, to go to their place of worship may broadcast an act of worship, whether over the internet or otherwise.</p> <p>For the purpose of hosting essential voluntary or public service, such as food banks, homeless services, and blood donation sessions.</p>

Parish halls can remain open for the purpose of coordinating and hosting essential voluntary or public services. For any other matter, please contact your Parish by telephone, and do not visit in person.

### Indoor assembly and leisure

Must remain closed	Exceptions
Museums and galleries	None
Nightclubs	None
Cinemas, theatres and concert venues	None
Spas and massage parlours	None
Fort Regent	For the purposes of work relating to the Government response to COVID-19
Fitness studios, gyms, swimming pools or other indoor leisure facilities, including changing rooms	None
Arcades, bowling alleys, soft play centres and similar	None

## Outdoor recreation

Must remain closed	Exceptions
Playgrounds, paddling pools, outdoor gyms or similar	Outdoor recreational facilities, or the outdoor areas of recreational facilities that have both indoor and outdoor areas (e.g. outdoor areas of heritage sites and the zoo, gardens associated with attractions, golf courses, outdoor mini-golf courses, tennis courts, lawn bowling greens, equestrian centres, shooting ranges) subject to detailed guidelines.

Where a premises is a mix of outdoor and indoor facilities, all indoor facilities and areas must remain closed (except for provision of toilet facilities cleaned regularly to strict hygiene standards, and for exit/entry where needed).

Outdoor recreation services – such as outdoor activity equipment hire services, land-based and boat tour services (where physical distancing and hygiene can be maintained), and training/tuition in outdoor activities – can be offered but associated indoor premises should remain closed to customers.

## Construction

Must remain closed	Exceptions
From 4 <sup>th</sup> April, all construction sites and services	<p>Construction site/services that have received a new permit to operate under the Construction Scheme can operate.</p> <p>Essential emergency home and building repair and maintenance works may be carried out by plumbers, electricians, roofers, scaffolders and other tradespeople.</p>

Providers of funeral services such as funeral directors and funeral homes conducting funerals should remain open, subject to published guidelines.

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