



Meeting of the COVID-19 Ministerial Group

Minute of Decision

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Ferry and Air Bottleneck

The group of Ministers with Power to Act on COVID-19 matters [CAB-20-MIN-0130] convened on 24 March 2020 at 4.30pm and, in accordance with their Power to Act:

- 1 **noted** that transport services across New Zealand are being inundated with passenger demand as people seek to return home or international travellers move to their final destinations across New Zealand;
- 2 **noted** that this demand is unlikely to be cleared before the country moves to level 4 at 2359 hours Wednesday, 24 March 2020;
- 3 **agreed** that international visitors to New Zealand who have completed 14 days isolation and declared Covid-free will be allowed to use all forms of permitted transport (e.g. domestic air travel, ferries, and public transport) to get to another location in New Zealand before 2359 hours Friday, 27 March 2020 (if that is their final destination, and they will then need to comply with the obligations to stay home like everyone else once there);
- 4 **agreed** that other people are able to use all forms of permitted transport (e.g. domestic air travel, ferries, and public transport) to return home before 2359 hours Friday 27, March 2020 (if that is their final destination and they will then need to comply with the obligations to stay home like everyone else);
- 5 **noted** that following this time, services will only be provided to essential services, including freight services;
- 6 **noted** that passenger services are expected to implement protective measures that are appropriate for their services, in particular KiwiRail has noted that it is reducing passenger numbers on the ferries to support social distancing and provide cabins to enable isolation for any passengers that required it;
- 7 **noted** that the Ministry of Transport will work with passenger services to support their implementation of the measures noted in paragraph 5;

IN CONFIDENCE

8 **agreed** that any further extensions for these domestic passengers services beyond this period be agreed by the National Controller.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet

Distribution:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair)
Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Phil Twyford
Hon Chris Hipkins
Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon James Shaw

Officials:

Office of the Prime Minister
Chief Executive, DPMC
Chief Executive, Ministry of Health
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