



21 January 2022

[REDACTED]
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Ref: OIA-2021/22-0574

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request relating to Government response to the Delta outbreak

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 8 November 2021. You requested:

“ - information from August to the date of the request that gives a picture of what the Government’s plans for a delta outbreak were prior to the outbreak, and the subsequent decision-making, and planning coming out of it, including documents that help show the government has an eye on the long term.

-key documents that show what happened, such as situation reports/updates, perhaps at a weekly level.

-advice from groups led by Brian Roche/Skegg.”

On 6 December 2021, the time frame for responding to your request was extended under section 15A of the Act by 20 working days because it necessitated a search through a large quantity of information, and consultations to be undertaken before a decision could be made on the request. Following this extension, I am now in a position to respond.

Information being released

I have decided to release the following documents that give an overview of the Government’s plans for a Delta outbreak, prior to the outbreak, in full:

Item	Date	Document Description/Subject
1.	6 July 2021	COVID-19 Group: Update in Winter Resurgence Readiness Workshop
2.	6 July 2021	Initial Summary – Queenstown Winter Readiness Workshop
3.	12 August 2021	Report back on Delta variant readiness planning workshop
4.	August 2021	COVID-19 Response – Pathway to Readiness

I am partially releasing the following Daily Situation Reports from 19 August – 3 September 2021 to you. Some information is withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(a) – to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- section 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of individuals
- section 9(2)(i) - to protect the Crown’s commercial activity.

Item	Date	Document Description/Subject
1.	19 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

Item	Date	Document Description/Subject
2.	20 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
3.	21 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
4.	22 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
5.	23 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
6.	24 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
7.	25 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
8.	26 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
9.	27 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
10.	29 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
11.	30 August 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
12.	1 September 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report
13.	3 September 2021	COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

In making my decision, I have taken the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act into account.

Information publicly available

Cabinet advice and associated health advice, relating to the Delta outbreak have been proactively released on the Unite Against COVID-19 website:

1. <https://covid19.govt.nz/about-our-covid-19-response/proactive-releases/health-response/>
2. <https://covid19.govt.nz/about-our-covid-19-response/proactive-releases/alert-levels-and-restrictions/>

On 10 December 2021, the Quarterly National Response Plans were proactively released, which you can find at the following links:

1. <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/National-Response-Plan/National-Resurgence-Response-Plan-Q1.pdf>
2. <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/National-Response-Plan/National-Response-Plan-Quarter-2.pdf>
3. <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/National-Response-Plan/National-Response-Plan-Quarter-3.pdf>
4. <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/National-Response-Plan/national-Response-Plan-Quarter-4.pdf>

I note the above plans include the national structure for the COVID-19 response across government, referenced in your previous request (OIA-2021/22-0408), which was refused under section 18(d) of the Act as it would soon be publicly available.

You can find advice from the Independent Advisory Groups, including the COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group, the Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group and the Community panel at the following address:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/about-our-covid-19-response/independent-advisory-groups/>

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be considered for publication on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

s sincerely,



Katrina Casey
**Acting Deputy Chief Executive,
COVID-19 Group**

06 July 2021

To: Members, COVID-19 Chief Executives Board

COVID-19 Group: Update on Winter Resurgence Readiness Workshop

Purpose

1. To provide CCB members an update on the first DPMC COVID-19 readiness workshop in a series of workshops provided by the COVID-19 Readiness Team's 'Pathway to Readiness' work programme.

Background

2. On 22 June, CCB was provided a noting paper on the COVID-19 Group 'Readiness Pathway' work programme. The intent of this body of work is to stress-test the COVID-19 response system through a series of scenario-based, cross agency workshops. This is to enable continual improvement of the system as it adapts to the ever-changing nature of the virus and the global context.
3. The first workshop was held in Wellington on 15 June 2021, and discussion was focused on the strategic and key operational decisions. There was cross agency representation from across the system, with over 30 attendees.
4. The scenario was based on a winter resurgence in Queenstown. It sought to test a range of variables in the response including - a regional outbreak impacting multiple regions in the South Island, highly transient population, new variant (Delta), impact on QFT, access and transport to MIQFs, as well as surge capacity requirements. While the focus of the workshop was based on a regional outbreak, the exercise was a national stress test, with a regional workshop to come.

Key outcomes from the Queenstown Winter Resurgence workshop

5. The workshop highlighted the significant agency planning which has been completed in the region to date, including MoH led scenario workshops with DHB's in early June. Agencies' contingency plans are at varying stages of completion and it was identified that there is a need to enable system-wide, coordinated regional engagement.
6. A number of actions were identified in the workshop, to be completed in the next month. Progress and outcomes against these actions are being monitored. Some actions include:
 - 6.1 DPMC to complete Post Activity Report and support ongoing regional engagement
 - 6.2 MoH to connect local agencies to PHU, to support information flow and contingency planning in the region

6.3 MFAT to engage with QFT partners to understand impacts and triggers when NZ detects community transmission, to assist planning assumptions.

- 7 An A3 summarising the Winter Resurgence workshop, including key insights, assurance information and next steps has been attached.

Next steps:

- 8 Ongoing engagement with the region (virtually and in-person), empowering regional stakeholders to progress the outcomes from the national workshop, at the regional level. These DPMC engagements include the Communications and Public Engagement team, the Planning team for regional boundaries, and the Readiness team to facilitate cross system conversations (in close collaboration with MOH).
- 9 These are to enhance communications, ensure consistency across all levels of the system, clearly identify roles and responsibilities, understand gaps and mitigate potential risks. As a result, agencies will be more connected, and will have the opportunity to address any areas where further work is required, ahead of a response.

Recommendations

- 10 I recommend the COVID-19 Chief Executive Board members:

10.1 **Note** The outcomes from the COVID-19 Planning and Readiness team workshop on a Winter Resurgence, in Queenstown.

10.2 **Note** That a scenario summary will be included in the National Response Plan, Quarter 4 edition.

Graham MacLean

Head of Planning and System Readiness, COVID-19 Group
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Initial Summary - Queenstown Winter Readiness Workshop

AREA FACTS

Date: Jul – Sep 21
Region: Queenstown Lakes District
Area: 8,719 km₂
Population: 39,000 local (QT and Wanaka)
Townships: Queenstown, Wanaka, Wakatipu, Arrowtown
Governance: 5 local councils, 1 regional council
(NB: Small government footprint)

Key industry: Tourism
Winter Tourist #s: 2-3,000 people p/day (winter)
DHB: Southern DHB, 5 hospitals, services 345,000 people
Airport: Domestic and Int'l flights from Australia
International Flights: 14 flights p/day
MIQF access: Nil. Closest is Chch, 450+km (6hrs)
Mayor: Jim Bolt

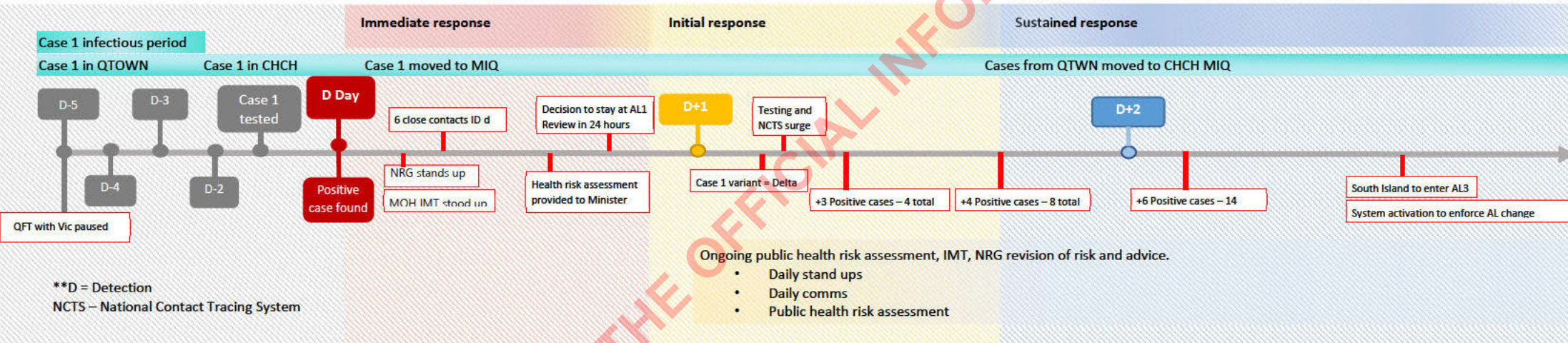
REGIONAL ASSURANCE INFORMATION

- 97% airport border staff vaccinated; general popn, largely unvaccinated
- MoH secured temporary isolation accommodation for 6 people from Jul-Sep
- MoH confirmed SDHB ability to rapid test in 4 locations with results ~2hrs
- Contractual arrangement between MBIE and Johnsons Bus to relocate people to an MIQ
- All bus, taxi and ride share drivers vaccinated

SCENARIO TESTED

- Regional outbreak
- Highly transient popn
- High event schedule
- New variant (Delta)
- Impact on QFT partners
- Outbreak across multiple regions in South Island
- MIQF transport requirements
- Surge capacity requirements

SCENARIO TIMELINE



KEY READINESS INSIGHTS

- Significant agency planning in the region completed to date, including MoH led local workshops. Agencies contingency plans are at varying stages of completion. Enabling system-wide, co-ordinated regional engagement is the future focus
- Lessons from past responses have identified key areas for development, including roles and responsibilities, welfare support and resource allocation
- Local businesses and tourist operators advocate COVID-19 health behaviours for people accessing their services
- Tourists bring a challenge with compliance and education, and the question of how to support foreign nationals caught in a regional response
- National Outbreak Response Team (NORT) will be on the ground within 24hrs to support DHB on-the-ground activities, including standing up regional IMT
- Due to the demographic and dispersed nature of the Southern District, agencies favoured approach is to “go wide” with establishing regional boundaries
- Need for time between decisions being made and decisions being operationalised. All agencies highlighted early communication enables co-ordinated, robust local responses, with enough lead-in time – with consideration of QFT travel impacts
- Clear, timely communication on decisions is essential for successful response outcomes

NEXT STEPS

- DPMC to complete Post Activity Report, and conduct regional follow up
- DPMC to co-ordinate and facilitate regional boundary considerations for Queenstown
- MoH to link government agencies to DHB in region
- DPMC / MFAT engage with QFT partners to understand impacts when NZ detects community transmission, including decision making timeframes, national response and QFT impact

Prepared 12 August 2021

To: Members, COVID-19 Chief Executives Board

Report back on Delta variant readiness planning workshop

Purpose

1. The COVID-19 Chief Executives Board (CCB) requested that the CCB remain apprised of significant progress across system readiness planning, as and when planning occurs.
2. The CCB requested that the System Readiness and Planning team report back to the CCB on the Delta variant readiness planning workshop.
3. The purpose of this paper and the appended A3 is to update the CCB on the Delta variant readiness planning workshop, key points discussed, and actions that agencies agreed to progress. Views are sought from CCB members on:
 - 3.1. If the Delta variant readiness planning workshop addressed the right areas.
 - 3.2. If the CCB need further information about readiness planning to respond to an incursion of the Delta variant of the virus.
 - 3.3. If the CCB want assurance that agencies' agreed actions to support system readiness are progressed.

Context

4. The Delta variant presents different challenges for the system to respond to. It has worse clinical outcomes, is significantly more transmissible, and has a shorter incubation time than previous variants. Evidence suggests those infected with the Delta variant are infectious for longer, are likely to be highly infectious, and possibly highly infectious before they are tested and isolated.
5. An AOG readiness workshop was held on 10 August. The objective was to align the system's readiness settings with the latest MOH insights and advice on the Delta variant, validate thinking around the Australian responses in NSW and Victoria, and identify system adjustments to optimise the response to a Delta outbreak.

Key focus areas and developments at the Delta readiness planning workshop

6. Workshop participants agreed that it is critical for our systems to be prepared for a rapid shift to Alert Level 3 or 4 in response to a positive case of Delta in the community.
7. Overall, the response needs to assume the worst-case scenario, and be faster, more stringent, and wider than previous responses.

8. To enable a rapid and bold response, the key focus areas of discussion included:
 - 8.1. Agencies and organisations prioritising adjusting BCPs for the Delta variant.
 - 8.2. Alert Level Framework review as a critical enabler to informing preparedness, especially for AL4.
9. Agencies agreed specific actions to enable a swift and effective response, these are reflected on the appended A3.
10. I seek feedback from CCB members that the workshop addressed the right areas and produced the right kinds of actions.

Assurance

11. Agencies will individually progress their own agreed actions. I suggest there is an assurance mechanism across agencies to ensure the right actions are occurring at the right time, so that our system is prepared to respond to Delta when required.
12. I seek confirmation from the CCB that members seek this assurance, and that CCB members discuss a preferred mechanism for them to receive that assurance, such as via an existing assurance mechanism (eg the SAF).

Next Steps

13. The Strategy and Policy team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group is leading a process to confirm Alert Level 4 settings. This is part of a wider process to confirm that all Alert Level settings are fit for purpose in light of more transmissible variants and consider how best the different Alert Levels would be used in a response. The process will not revisit policy settings unless there is an obvious need, however it will include "essential services" and "essential personal movement". This will result in advice to the Minister on 27 August, seeking confirmation of key policy settings.
14. The process will involve working with PCO to prepare a template Alert Level 4 Order (drafting of this has already begun). Workshops are being held to confirm previous Alert Level 4 settings on 16 and 17 August with key agencies (MPI, MBIE, PCO, CLO, DPMC, MOH) and the Unite Against COVID Communications team.
15. In the event we have to move to Alert Level 4 before 27 August, the current Alert Level 3 template Order would be used and quickly amended to reflect previous Alert Level 4 settings. This would be broadly effective but could be untidy as some arbitrary calls would be required without specific details. As the Alert Level review progresses from now until 27 August, our ability to respond would improve and be tidier.
16. To further the Delta readiness planning across the system, DPMC will lead a stress test exercise in sequence with Alert Level policy work and updated Ministry of Health IPC protocols and guidance. This will occur within two weeks, and an update will be reported back to the CCB.

Recommendations

17. I recommend the COVID-19 Chief Executive Board members:

- 17.1. **Note** the key focus areas of the workshop.
- 17.2. **Note** the agency actions to strengthen readiness planning to an incursion of Delta that arose out of the workshop.
- 17.3. **Inform** the Readiness Manager of further information sought on readiness planning to an incursion of Delta.
- 17.4. **Agree** assurance across readiness planning to Delta is important to strengthening our system response.
- 17.5. **Discuss** if the CCB would like assurance across readiness planning to Delta, and what the appropriate mechanism for this might be.
- 17.6. **Note** DPMC will lead a system wide stress test exercise within two weeks and will report back to the CCB.

Emma Broederlow

Readiness Manager, COVID-19 Readiness and Planning Group
Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

AOG Readiness Workshop – Recalibrating for Delta

What's Different About Delta?

“The virus has got fitter. The virus has got faster. The game plan still works, but we need to implement and execute our game plan much more efficiently and much more effectively than we’ve ever done before”

Michael Ryan, WHO Director of Emergencies

Delta is becoming the dominant global variant of COVID-19. It is more transmissible, has a shorter incubation period (from 6 days to 4), most cases are likely to be asymptomatic and infectious in the community before they are tested and isolated, cases will infect significantly more people, and are infectious for longer.

To maintain an elimination strategy, we will need to assume the worst-case scenario, that all cases are Delta. Health and economic outcomes are better served by short, sharp, lockdowns that are proportionate, appropriate and effective.

Learnings from Australia

- NSW approach of incremental shifts in AL, while conducting case investigation and contact tracing, has not worked with the Delta variant
- Victoria imposed significant restrictions on day three of their community cases (Sharp), across the whole state. Lockdowns have tended to be of shorter duration, with 16 days between two different lockdowns. An appropriate and effective duration for an NZ outbreak will need to be considered
- Essential for messaging to align with actions taken in order to maintain social licence
- Due to the likelihood of a significant increase in close contacts, contact tracing and testing systems will need to scale up effectively and at pace. Of note, if New Zealand was to test to the same scale as NSW’s current testing rates, it would require capacity for up to 60,000 tests per day – more than 4 times previous testing rates

Health System Readiness

MOH has been working across DHBs and Public Health Units using scenario based workshops to ensure readiness for a Delta outbreak. In order to optimise the health system settings for Delta, reviews have commenced on the following components: the role of the vaccination programme, policy settings, IPC protocols, response plans, testing and contact tracing capacity and isolation and quarantine options.

ACTIONS FOR AGENCIES

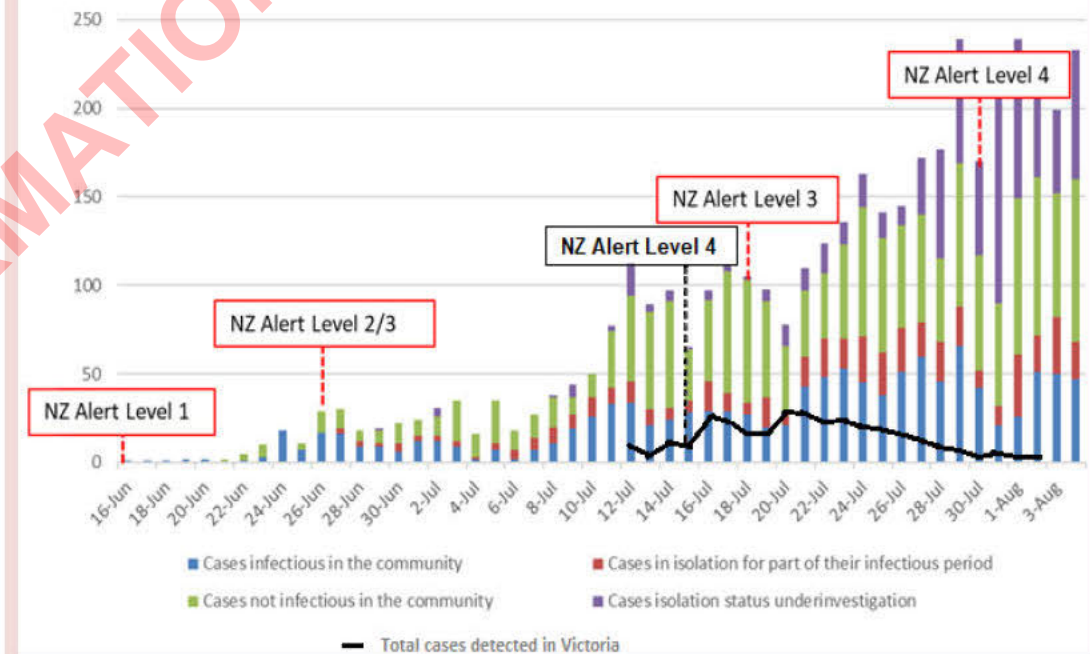
Pacific Islands QFT (DPMC, MOT, MFAT, MOH, BEB)	Understanding triggers and thresholds for QFT settings with Pacific nations
Decision Support Matrix (DPMC)	DPMC to create a Decision Support Matrix, intended to articulate critical, strategic decisions, by time, for decision makers
Regional Leaders engagement (MSD, NEMA, DIA and DPMC)	Work is underway to clarify the various regional leadership arrangements, and to provide assurance on regional response planning
Organisational planning updates (MOH and Organisations)	Formal advice from MOH to organisations on IPC protocols for Delta. All agencies are to review staff and facility plans, and agency COVID-19 Response plans. DPMC will update NRP for Q4 publication
Classification of contacts (MOH)	Review of the classification of contacts to ensure the appropriate steps are taken to isolate and test those contacts appropriate to the characteristics of the Delta variant
AL4 Policy Settings (DPMC)	Finalise Alert Level 4 settings under the COVID-19 Act 2020 including settings for essential/lifeline services.
Messaging for New Zealand on adjusting for Delta (UAC Comms, NEMA, DIA, TPK, MPP)	Agree on terminology and key messaging across the system. Develop a communications plan using a variety of channels to prepare individuals, whanau, households, community leaders, businesses and organisations for a delta outbreak
Organisational priorities (CCB and PSC)	All organisations are to revise their BCPs. CEs to support prioritisation of critical agency functions in order to meet Government’s priorities and determine the key workforce capacity needed to deliver priority work during AL3/4, PSC will work with agencies to gain visibility of any possible workforce capacity to support system requirements
Maritime Public Health controls (MOH, MNZ and BEB)	Review public health requirements to strengthen protections at the Maritime border, whilst maintaining the national supply chain

Key	Within 1 week	Requires 2-3 weeks	Longer term ~1 month	Trade-off / needs a decision by Government on priority
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NSW and Victoria response

The graph below illustrates the decisions made by NSW (bar graph) and Victoria (black line) over time and the impact on positive cases. The decisions highlighted in red and black boxes are an approximation of the equivalent NZ alert level, rather than exact replicas. NZ alert levels are objectively more stringent than those of Australia. This reinforces that a stepped approach (as taken by NSW) is not effective against the Delta variant.

Graph showing variation in case numbers and Alert Level response in both NSW and Victoria



Complexities and Interdependencies

The following complexities and interdependencies have been identified:

- Essential workers can become vectors of transmission
- Concurrent emergencies will complicate a national response, with recovery from the emergency impacted under Delta conditions
- Risk of waning social licence in a more stringent response (AL4), including potential for protests/demonstrations, without appropriate welfare mechanisms established
- The need to continue vaccinations at AL3 and AL4
- AL4 has not been implemented under the COVID-19 Act 2020
- Limited capacity in MIQ facilities creates an imperative to identify community isolation and quarantine options
- Maritime Border is currently the biggest risk to NZ, however it is critical to NZ’s supply chain
- AL4 exemptions are a high priority to articulate, especially in light of a swift response with less time to prepare (i.e. Animal welfare)
- The need to continually evaluate welfare and equity impacts of response decisions (including the ability to isolate at home, support to vulnerable or isolated people, and access to health and support resources)

Considerations for CCB

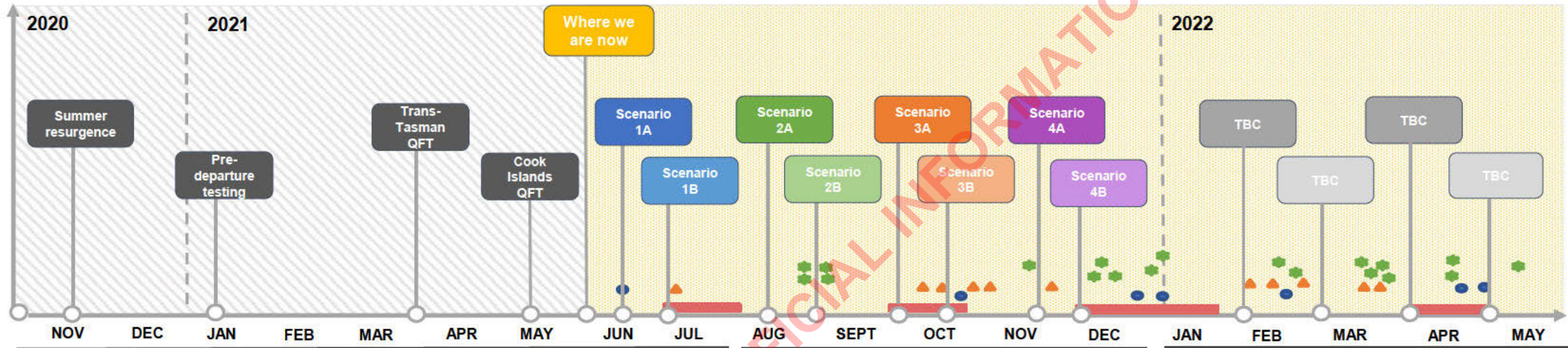
The following considerations are provided:

- Chief Executives communicate strategic priorities to own agencies, to enable clear prioritisation of critical agency functions at AL3 and 4
- Chief Executives feed back to the CCB the impacts and trade-offs of the above prioritisations
- Agencies report to the CCB, through their CEs, confirming a review of BCPs, work prioritisation, and workforce surge capacity at AL3 and 4

COVID-19 Response – Pathway to Readiness

Purpose of this document

To provide an overview of the workplan for scenario planning for the remainder of 2021. DPMC will facilitate a series of planning workshops, focusing on New Zealand's domestic preparedness for a potential COVID-19 response.



Workshop Principles

- DPMC and Ministers commit to an ongoing work programme which is carried out throughout 2021.
- An important function of the COVID-19 Group Planning and Readiness team is the maintenance of the National Response Plan, and to ensure readiness of the system to respond.
- The same team has been assessing readiness for QFT zones which to date include Australia and the Cook Islands.
- Workshops will run as two-part activities, one held at the National level (Level A), with the second held in the region (Level B) with local government, community and business leaders and key regional stakeholders.
- Workshops are to establish readiness and not to provide a performance rating. Identifying gaps is a positive outcome.

- Workshop scenarios will evolve based on Government and health priorities, informed by seasonal and event imperatives.
- Future workshops will continue to build on previous lessons identified.

Workshop Outputs

- The outcome from scenario testing creates tangible change and partners carry out these changes.
- The discussion in workshops will inform the build of the Readiness Framework, providing a consistent, robust framework for evaluating readiness criteria with current state.
- An update will be provided after each workshop series.

June / July - Scenario 1

Theme: Winter resurgence in Queenstown

Purpose: To test the NRP and ensure readiness in a popular holiday destination, prior to upcoming winter holidays and events.

Key considerations to work through:

- National outbreak
- Multiple regions impacted
- No pre-existing MIQF
- QFT
- Schools about to reconvene
- Largely unvaccinated popn
- Migrant and tourist populations (domestic and int'l)
- Overlapping activities (winter games, winter festival)
- Surge capacity for key elements (i.e. contact tracing, testing)

Outcome: to ensure a remote location is prepared for a winter response, with high visitor traffic and possibly Australian tourists.

Future focus – Scenario 2, 3, 4 and beyond

Purpose: to continue to explore new scenarios, or where appropriate review previous real time outbreaks (both domestic and international) to ensure lessons identified have been integrated into response plans.

Key considerations to work through:

- High density events
- High density living complex
- Spread of outbreak – local, regional, national
- Outbreaks at community event (i.e. – church, public holiday)
- Communication channels
- Outbreaks in ethnically diverse communities

Outcome: Developing preparedness across New Zealand in accordance with the National Response Plan by testing a wide range of locations, demographics, scale and complexity. This is in order to determine current state against readiness criteria.

AOG Coordination

Communications

The communications focus is on Alert Level 4 compliance updates, reinforcing health measures, and encouraging vaccination. Moving forward, integrating the response with the vaccination programme will be a key focus. Messaging updates are being provided twice daily.

DPMC: 19 August 2023 16:23 PM

Policy

The policy focus is on drafting the Alert Level Cabinet paper for Friday morning and following up on a range of issues arising from the Order, including providing further guidance related to essential goods. Work is also underway with the Ministry of Transport regarding demand levels for return from Queenstown.

DPMC: 19 August 2023 14:32 PM

Regional Coordination

Fire and Emergency

There is good availability of personnel across all regions. There are currently 92 personnel in self-isolation. The Service Delivery Preventative Protection Protocols have been stood up to ensure all operations are in line with requirements for raised alert levels.

Fire and Emergency Response 19 August 2021 15:20PM

Caring for Communities

Priorities for welfare agencies are ensuring equitable access to food and household goods and ensuring that communications around support available is reaching a wide range of communities.

Caring for Communities: 19 August 2021 15:34PM

Leading Communities

Update not received in time for reporting.

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 21 active cases that have been identified in the community. Of these, 12 are new cases.

Ministry of Health: 19 August 2021 11:08 AM

Contact Tracing

327 close contacts have been identified. 263 (80%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 70 have returned a test result: 69 contacts have tested negative, and 1 has tested positive.

Ministry of Health: 19 August 2021 11:08 AM AND Ministry of Health 19 August 2021 11:36 AM

Testing and Surveillance

There were 12,885 laboratory test carried out in the last 24 hours. There is testing stock on hand for 208,124 further tests.

Ministry of Health: 19 August 2021 09:00 AM

IPC & PPE Requirements and Advice

The Ministry holds supply for 12 weeks consumption at the estimated pandemic level. These supplies should be sufficient to meet immediate requirements. The sector has indicated they hold sufficient contingency supply of PPE for 1-2 weeks and are placing shipment orders as needed.

Demand for N95/P2 particulate respirators and associated protective eyewear has increased as a result of updates to Infection Prevention and Control guidance. Supply can absorb this increase and the Ministry will place further orders for supplies accordingly.

Ministry of Health: 18 August 2021 18:23PM

MIQ Capacity

MIQ is nearing capacity with inclusion of returnees from Afghanistan and RSE workers, as well as community cases.

MBIE 19 August 2021 14:59PM

Public Health & Border

COVID APP Usage

Currently 555,441 or 21% of the 2.6 million registered users of the app are active users (approx. 11% of the NZ population) and 1,525,306 are using Bluetooth functionality (approx. 31% of the NZ population). Average scanning numbers in August 2021 are approximately a third of those in September 2020, which was the height of the last outbreak.

Ministry of Health: 18 August 2021 10:00 AM,

Sea/Air Borders Orders

Update not received in time for reporting.

Health & Disability

Health System

There are four hospitalised cases. Two from the current cluster, both in North Shore Hospital, and two from MIQs prior to the outbreak.

Ministry of Health: 19 August 2021 11:08am.
Information as at 9am.

Mental Health

Yesterday, demand on '1737 Need to talk?' and other mental health services was 619 contacts, below the same day last year but above forecast.

Ministry of Health: 19 August 2021 11:08am

There has been an increase of reports of attempts suicide from at least one region in the last 24 hours. All calls were received after the AL4 lockdown.

New Zealand Police: 18 August 2021 4:49pm

Compliance

Protests

There have been two further lock-down protests today, one in New Plymouth and the other in Christchurch.

New Zealand Police: 19 August 2021 3:36pm

Non-Compliance

There have been instances of disorder and conflict at essential service providers related to non-compliance.

New Zealand Police: 19 August 2021 3:36pm

Public Sentiment

Comments on social media have been critical of the lack of fully vaccinated front-line and essential workers.

New Zealand Police: 19 August 2021 3:36pm

Police Resourcing

A number of Police have been stood down following visiting locations of interest. Deployable resources will likely be impacted as further locations are added.

New Zealand Police: 19 August 2021 3:36pm

Online Breach Notifications

There have been 684 compliance breaches reported to Police online by the public. Of the breach notifications over the past seven days, 47% (320) related to businesses, 47% (322) related to gatherings, and 6% (42) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 19 August 2021 6:31am

Social & Community

Housing and Social Support

A growing set of welfare needs is being reported and some early examples of people delaying access to care (locations of interest, test sites).

The Healthline website was accessed over 2,000 times yesterday.

Ministry of Health; 19 August 2021 10.30AM.

Enabling Isolation

Inhabitants of Great Barrier Island require urgent assistance to facilitate movement between Auckland and the Island. CDEM Director Auckland requests flights to be arranged and a time extension to enable return travel in compliance with COVID-19 rules.

National Emergency Management Agency, 19 August 2021 2.30pm.

Communications

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples has launched a communications campaign (through video/radio/online interfaces, Regional Partnerships, and in English and nine Pacific languages) to ensure Pacific communities are aware of lockdown measures and available support. MPP is also setting up a dashboard to monitor real-time interactions with communities and analysis of key themes, needs, and opportunities.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 18 August 2021 5.00pm

A Multilingual Information Network will be mobilized to share AL4 information throughout communities.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities
18 August 2021 5.00pm

Food Access/Banks

Residents of Great Barrier Island are experiencing local supply issues of food and other necessities and require assistance in opening pathways to transport essential goods to the Island.

National Emergency Management Agency, 19 August 2021 2.30pm.

Travel & Transport

Flight Demand

There is considerable demand for flights across the country, and in particular for flights out of Queenstown.

Ministry of Transport 19 August 2021 1.14PM

Ferry Demand

There is considerable demand for the ferry service for transporting people as well as freight between islands.

Ministry of Transport 19 August 2021 1.14PM

Train Demand

Many trains are operating as normal.

Ministry of Transport 19 August 2021 1.14PM

Bus Demand

Many bus companies are operating a weekend timetable.

Ministry of Transport 19 August 2021 1.14PM

Traffic

Excess vehicle speed given low traffic volumes; and increased pedestrians and cyclists; is an emerging risk.

Regulatory Matters

Work is being undertaken on what potential regulatory or legislative changes may be needed given driver licences, warrants of fitness and certificates of fitness will be expiring and cannot be renewed under Alert Level 4.

Ministry of Transport 19 August 2021 1.14PM

Preparations

Regional Journey Managers inside the Northland/Auckland/Coromandel region are working with their local teams, Police and Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) groups in terms of readiness post the 3-day National Lockdown if border implementation is needed.

Ministry of Transport 19 August 2021 1.14PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Telecommunications

Traffic on broadband, mobile and voice networks remains high, however, the networks are holding up well.

Chorus and Spark recorded its highest ever peak in traffic between 8pm and 9pm on 18 August. The peak was within network capacity and no congestion issues reported.

MBIE 18 August 2021 3.05PM

Energy and Gas

MBIE ERM have a separate Security of Supply response running following power outages on 9 August 2021.

COVID and Security of Supply response managers are working together to share information. The response teams are separate to ensure resourcing is appropriate for the time required.

MBIE 18 August 2021 3.05PM

Waste

Waste and recycling are essential services under Alert Level 4. MfE proposes to seek advice from MoH as to whether messaging to households with a potential infection should be updated to include: double bagging; and wearing of PPE to prepare, store and move waste for collection.

MBIE 18 August 2021 1:00PM

Water

The water sector was able to maintain normal operations.

DIA 18 August 2021 2:30PM

Supermarkets

Supermarket custom increased substantially in the last 24 hours compared to normal. Birkenhead Countdown and a Pak'n'Save in Wairau Valley have been named as locations of interest for latest outbreak.

Staff who were at these sites during the exposure time are now isolating. A concurrent event at neighbouring stores would stretch staffing levels significantly.

Toilet paper supply may become an issue for Countdown if current demand continues, given the recent shutdown of a domestic supplier. A response is being considered. Significant numbers of supermarket workers are staying at home for reasons such as immunity issues.

MBIE 19 August 2021 12.09PM

Food Service

Food service is mostly closed under Level 4. Some are pivoting to home delivery of pre-prepared uncooked meals.

MBIE 19 August 2021 12.09PM

Farming

MPI received concerns over finding replacement staff if farmers get sick, large number of farms are heading into calving raising potential animal welfare concerns. Other teams have received reports of staff walking off farms.

MBIE 19 August 2021 3.11PM

AOG Coordination

Communications

The communications focus is on Alert Level 4 compliance update and the extension to the alert level. Vaccination is also a key focus. Messaging updates are being provided twice daily.

DPMC: 20 August 2021 15:56 PM

Policy

The policy focus is turning to the next Alert Level Review Cabinet paper. We are also working through potential issues that could arise from a 4:3 regional boundary, including what movement will be permitted over any boundary.

DPMC: 20 August 2021 14:32 PM

Regional Coordination

Fire and Emergency

There are currently 103 personnel in self-isolation and 1 non-brigade person with a possible COVID-19 contact who is getting a test.

Fire and Emergency Response 20 August 2021 14:28 PM

Caring for Communities

The Ministry of Education is focussing on school access and ministerial advice on purchasing devices and learning materials. A paper on a childcare scheme for workers is going to Cabinet today for establishment by Monday.

Caring for Communities: 20 August 2021 14:11 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 31 active cases that have been identified in the community. Of these, 12 are new cases. The cases are primarily located in Auckland and Coromandel regions, with three in Wellington. Within the 31 cases there are three clusters.

Ministry of Health: 20 August 2021 10:52 AM

Contact Tracing

1140 close contacts have been identified. 774 (68%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 399 have returned a test result: 396 contacts have tested negative, and 3 have tested positive.

Ministry of Health: 20 August 2021 12:58 PM

Testing and Surveillance

There were 27,899 laboratory tests carried out in the last 24 hours. Approximately 30% of these tests were in the Māori, Pacific and Asian communities.

Ministry of Health: 20 August 2021 10:52 AM

PPE Requirements

The Ministry of Health has supply for 12 weeks of PPE at the estimated pandemic level. This should be sufficient to meet immediate requirements. The sector has indicated they hold sufficient contingency supply of PPE for 1-2 weeks and are placing shipment orders as needed.

Demand for N95/P2 particulate respirators and associated protective eyewear has increased as a result of updates to Infection Prevention and Control guidance. This demand can be met from existing supply and the Ministry will place further orders for supplies accordingly.

Ministry of Health: 20 August 2021 10:30 AM

MIQ Capacity

There are currently 4,337 people in Managed isolation. Managed Isolation is over capacity at 4,607 rooms (102%) with Managed Quarantine at 24% of capacity with 60 rooms in use.

MBIE 19 August 2021 15:56 PM

Public Health & Border

MIQ Capacity

MIQ capacity for positive cases in Wellington is being investigated.

MBIE 20 August 2021 3:08 PM

COVID APP Usage

Currently 387,697 or 15% of the 2.6 million registered users of the app are active users (approx. 8% of the NZ population) and 1,638,387 are using Bluetooth functionality (approx. 33% of the NZ population).

Ministry of Health: 20 August 2021 12:58 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

Auckland's North Shore Hospital Emergency Department has been closed today and affected staff stood down following a confirmed COVID-19 case in the hospital. This is temporarily impacting operational capacity within the area as facilities are cleaned and staff are tested.

Ministry of Health: media release 20 August 2021

One further case from the Auckland Community Outbreak has been taken to hospital, taking the total hospitalised cases to 5. Ministry of Health: 20 August 2021 10:52am. Information as at 9 AM.

Mental Health

Yesterday, there were 584 contacts to '1737 Need to talk?' and other mental health services, a slight decrease from the previous day.

Ministry of Health: 20 August 2021 10:52 AM

Compliance

Protests

Police are monitoring three protests planned for tomorrow in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

New Zealand Police: 20 August 2021 3:48 PM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

In the period 17 August 2021 to 19 August 2021, there have been 12 prosecutions and 20 warnings for COVID-19 related offences.

New Zealand Police: 20 August 2021 6:31 AM

Police Resourcing

Some Police have been stood down following visiting locations of interest. Deployable resources will likely be impacted as further locations are added.

New Zealand Police: 20 August 2021 3:48 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 1,185 compliance breaches reported to Police online by the public yesterday, this is up 173% on the previous day's breach notifications. Of those breaches, 36% (422) related to businesses, 56% (662) related to gatherings, and 9% (101) related to individuals. They include matters such as people holding parties, going to beaches, and people who are not using appropriate PPE.

New Zealand Police: 20 August 2021 6:31 AM

Social and Community

Public Sentiment

In a COVID-19 sentiment survey on 19 - 20 August, the majority of people surveyed (89%) are ok/happy or at least think that the move to AL4 was the right thing to do. Very few of the people surveyed say they won't comply with key COVID-19 Alert Level 4 guidelines and restrictions (0 - 4% for each key guideline/restriction).

DPMC: 20 August 2021 3:09 PM

Communications

Five language videos facilitating awareness of AL4 are now live, including those in Cantonese, Mandarin, Punjabi, Hindi and Arabic). Three further videos should be available shortly.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 19 August 2021 5:00 PM

Social & Community

Communications

Communities generally understand AL4 rules, and support organisations have largely moved online. However, there is growing anxiety about the mental health and economic impacts in the case of a lockdown extension.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 19 August 2021 5.00 PM

A national Pacifica pono with 590 virtual attendees last night, covered key issues of testing, Healthline bottlenecks, access to essential devices for education, financial assistance, and food and shelter support. A zoom hui is scheduled for tomorrow to discuss vaccination messaging and cultural responsiveness.

Ministry for Social Development, 20 August 2021, 2:00 PM

Social Support

Wage subsidies went live today, with 450-750 staff diverted from other operations to facilitate access to support. MSD is operating call-centres throughout the weekend to manage requests.

Ministry for Social Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

Applications for main benefits are rising.

Ministry for Social Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

A proposal to establish a childcare scheme for essential workers is being discussed in Cabinet today and would be launched on Monday if approved.

Ministry for Social Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

Auckland Emergency Management (AEM) has activated their emergency coordination centre to support those in need during lockdown.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 19 August 2021 5.00 PM

Social & Community

Youthline is reporting increased calls compared to usual.

Ministry for Social Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

A growing set of welfare needs is being reported with some early examples of people delaying access to care.

Ministry of Health, 20 August 2021 10.30 AM

Caring for Communities has produced a COVID-19 welfare contact factsheet which contains information on health, wellbeing, family or sexual violence, youth, rural, financial and other available support.

Ministry for Social Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

Diversity Counselling NZ is expanding its services nationally and providing free online counselling for migrants and former refugees in response to lockdown concerns, and with a particular focus on those with limited English.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 19 August 2021 5.00 PM

Housing Support

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is currently addressing issues of homelessness and supporting MIQ exits.

Kainga Ora are working with Housing First providers to open access to vacant properties.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

A proposal is being delivered to Cabinet to enact rent freezes and restrict evictions during lockdown

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

Food Banks

Foodbanks are reporting increasing demand, and special needs grants for food have doubled since August 17.

Ministry for Social Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

Travel & Transport

Auckland Airport

Auckland Airport contacted the Ministry of Health requesting a prioritisation of day five testing of its staff to help ensure Auckland Airport can maintain minimum staffing levels. However, at present, the Ministry of Health is prioritising testing of symptomatic people. There is currently no impact on Airport operations.

Ministry of Transport 20 August 2021 3.00 PM

Drive-Through Vaccination

Drive through vaccination sites are being considered and thoroughly assessed by ATOC and partners. If implemented the first drive through sites will be set up in Auckland.

Ministry of Transport 20 August 2021 3.00 PM

Supply Chain

There are potential impacts for the supply chain from non AL4 exports being unable to be packed and shipped. Not all containers are being re-circulated into the system and with exporters missing their bookings a backlog of cargo may be created which would add to congestion pressures.

Businesses have also provided feedback that an inter-regional land boundary with Auckland at AL4 will present challenges for manufacturers based in the rest of New Zealand.

Ministry of Transport 20 August 2021 3.00 PM

Public Transport

Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) continue to express concern at the lack of enforcement against people who are not wearing face coverings on public transport.

Ministry of Transport 20 August 2021 3.00 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Energy and Gas

No further updates were received at time of reporting.

MBIE 20 August 2021 3.08 PM

Waste

No further updates were received at time of reporting.

MBIE 20 August 2021 3.00 PM

Telecommunications

Telecommunications traffic remains high, although Chorus recorded a decrease in daily data usage compared to yesterday. The networks continue to hold up well

MBIE 20 August 2021 3.08 PM

Water

The overall status of water service provision is stable. However, Auckland operators are impacted by staff unavailability due to COVID-19 contact isolation requirements.

MBIE 20 August 2021 3.08 PM

Digital Infrastructure

The Ministry for Ethnic Communities notes if the alert level is prolonged then issues with access to online services will get more pronounced. This includes rural communities and those with no internet connection.

DIA 20 August 2021 2.47 PM

Supermarkets

Countdown and Foodstuffs continue to experience substantial increase in demand. Both chains have sufficient stocks, providing people shop normally. Purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling and ensure there is enough for everyone.

Work is underway on distribution centre operational contingency plans for supplies such as toilet paper (due to the recent shutdown of two domestic suppliers).

MBIE 20 August 2021 3.08 PM

Key contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from elected officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To report a breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/apply for wage subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence payment support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment

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AOG Coordination

Communications

The communications focus is on the Alert Level 4 extension and providing clarity on current settings with assistance from key agencies. There are also communications regarding the relaunch of the wage subsidy scheme.

DPMC 20 August 2021 7:54 PM

Policy

The policy focus is on the Alert Level Cabinet paper for Monday. Policy is also looking into consistency issues across business and individual compassionate exemptions and on issues arising from the implementation of the Order.

DPMC 21 August 2021 3:10 PM

Regional Coordination

Caring for Communities

No further updates at time of reporting.

Fire and Emergency

No further updates at time of reporting.

Police Resourcing

Some Police are isolating following visiting locations of interest.

New Zealand Police: 21 August 2021 3.12 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 51 active cases that have been identified in the community. The new cases are primarily located in Manukau, Waitemata and Auckland regions, with three in Wellington.

Ministry of Health 21 August 2021 2:36 PM

Public Health & Border

Contact Tracing

4,823 close contacts have been identified. 2197 (46%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 1,240 have returned a negative test result. Additional close contacts are expected to be identified today.

Ministry of Health 21 August 2021 2:36 PM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer has 2,989,329 registered users, and there have been 431,545 scans in the 24 hours to 4.47pm today.

There have been 7,673 new registrations on the app today and 690 new posters created. There are 1.7m users with Bluetooth active.

Ministry of Health, 21 August 2021 3.00 PM

Testing and Surveillance

There were 41,464 laboratory tests processed in the last 24 hours. The total capacity based on stocks at hand stands at 200,158 tests.

Ministry of Health 21 August 2021 11:40 AM

MIQ Capacity

There are currently 4,156 people in Managed isolation. Managed Isolation is over capacity at 105% of capacity with 4,712 rooms in use; and Managed Quarantine is at 27% of capacity with 66 rooms in use. Grand Mercure, Wellington is changing to a quarantine facility bringing on capacity for an extra 42 beds.

MBIE 21 August 2021 2:49 PM

PPE

No further updates received at time of reporting.

Air Border

To mitigate the risk at the Air Border, Auckland District Health Board will retest all Airport staff within a 48 hour period.

NZ Customs Service: 21 August 2021 2:56 PM

Public Health & Border

Maritime Border

Crew are isolating on the vessel Southern Trader in Auckland while waiting for test results. Contractors from the engineering company, AIMECS, who have been on the ship, are self isolating at home prior to having PCR tests. All other stakeholders have been informed.

NZ Customs Service 21 August 2021 2:56 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

No further cases have been admitted to hospital. The total hospitalised cases remains at 5.

Ministry of Health: 21 August 2021 10.55 AM.
Information as at 9 AM

There is currently ICU and ventilator capacity at each DHB. Capacity at Auckland DHB is at more than 50 ICU beds and ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 21 August 2021 10.55 AM.
Information as at 9 AM

Auckland's North Shore Hospital Emergency Department remains closed until further notice. Affected staff and patients are still being tested, but all returned results so far have been negative.

Ministry of Health: media release 21 August 2021

Mental Health

Yesterday, there were 545 contacts to '1737 Need to talk?' and other mental health services, a slight decrease from the previous day. Calls spiked at 9.30 AM and 3.00 PM after the 1 PM news update.

Ministry of Health: 21 August 2021 10.55 AM

In the last 24 hours Police have observed a 6% increase in calls for attempts/ threatens suicide.

New Zealand Police: 21 August 2021 3.12 PM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

In the period 17 August 2021 to 20 August 2021, there were 17 people prosecuted and 53 people warned for COVID-19 related offences.

New Zealand Police: 21 August 2021 6.27 AM

From 19 August 2021, Police began issuing infringements for COVID-19 Related breaches. To date, 70 infringements have been issued, the majority of which were for failing to remain at home.

New Zealand Police: 21 August 2021 3.12 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 1,449 compliance breaches reported to Police online by the public yesterday, this is an increase of 122% on yesterday's breach notifications. Of those breaches, 36% (517) related to businesses, 55% (792) related to gatherings, and 10% (140) related to individuals. They include matters such as gatherings, water sports, and people who are not using appropriate PPE.

New Zealand Police: 21 August 2021 6.27 AM

Protests

Police were monitoring three anti-vaccination protests planned for today across the country. Only the Auckland protest went ahead, resulting in 30 warning notices and 2 arrests. The linked protests in Wellington and Christchurch had no attendance.

Some protest leaders have stated that they will not be attending protests, following arrests made at other protests.

New Zealand Police: 21 August 2021 3.12 PM

Social & Community

Public Sentiment

No further updates at time of reporting.

Communications with Diverse Communities

Efforts are ongoing to ensure clarity of communications with community groups, providers and iwi. Focus is on the AL4 limitations and options surrounding food bank services, community funding, and broadening awareness of available services through the Food Secure Communities Programme.

Ministry for Social Development, 21 August 2021 1.00 PM

Diverse Communities and Vaccination

A zoom hui today discussed vaccination messaging and cultural responsiveness. Communities welcome the resumption of the vaccination rollout, and that whole families can now be vaccinated together.

Ministry for Social Development, 21 August 2021 1.00 PM

Social Support

Since the activation of wage subsidies yesterday, 93,000 applications have been received and 60,000 had been processed as of this morning. The Ministry for Social Development is operating dedicated call centres with 450-750 staff until 5.00 PM today and until 1.00 PM tomorrow.

Ministry for Social Development, 21 August 2021 1.00 PM

Delaying Access to Care

A growing set of welfare needs is being reported with some early examples of people delaying access to health care.

Ministry of Health; 21 August 2021 10.30 AM

Social & Community

Rent Freezes

A proposal is being prepared for Cabinet consideration to enact rent freezes and restrict evictions during lockdown.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

Food Banks

Caring for Communities has invested \$30 million into the foodbank network, and is facilitating contactless drop-offs. Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups have been activated to support food deliveries if alternative community arrangements are not available.

Centre for Communities, 21 August 2021 2.00 PM

Communications with Diverse Communities

Seven language videos are now live and have been widely disseminated. Three further videos are in development, following approaches from communities expressing an interest in supporting this work.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 20 August 2021 5.00 PM

Community Organisations

The Pakistani community has activated emergency management to support those in need. They are reaching out nationwide via Facebook and Zoom. Translated materials on the vaccination rollout are being sent to the Pakistani community.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 20 August 2021 5.00 PM

Housing Support

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is currently addressing issues of homelessness and supporting MIQ exits. Kainga Ora are working with Housing First providers to open access to vacant properties.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 20 August 2021 2.00 PM

Travel & Transport

Gaps in the Inter-regional Travel Network

There are some gaps in the inter-regional transport network that mean some people without access to private transport may be unable to travel, even if they are permitted to travel under the Health Notice.

Ministry of Transport 21 August 2021 3.00 PM

Inter-regional Flights

Air New Zealand has put in place a reduced schedule until midnight Tuesday. Invercargill airport is closed.

Ministry of Transport 21 August 2021 3.00 PM

Inter-regional Buses

Inter-regional bus services are impacted and may not be operating because of low demand.

Ministry of Transport 21 August 2021 3.00 PM

Public Transport

There is a lack of public transport access for people with disabilities in some areas of Wellington following decisions to not allow front-door boarding. Alternative transport options for those disadvantaged will be provided.

Ministry of Transport 21 August 2021 3.00 PM

Supply Chain

There are reports of confusion from freight operators on how Alert Level 4 impacts operations, as well as concerns on any future inter-regional boundaries. Road freight is moving more smoothly than last Alert Level 4 although turnaround times at ports have increased. Exporters who cannot ship are holding onto containers which are not being recirculated; this may cause a backlog.

Ministry of Transport 21 August 2021 3.00 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Energy and Gas

There are no issues with supply in the fuel, electricity, gas or resources sectors.

MBIE 21 August 2021 2.49 PM

Waste

No new concerns have been signalled by the waste sector.

MBIE 21 August 2021 2.49 PM

Telecommunications

There are no new telecommunications issues. Traffic on broadband, mobile and voice networks remains high.

MBIE 21 August 2021 2.49 PM

Water

No new water concerns have been signalled by the sector.

MBIE 21 August 2021 2.49 PM

Digital Infrastructure

No update received at time of reporting.

DIA 20 August 2021 2.47 PM

Supermarkets

Countdown and Foodstuffs continue to experience substantial increases in demand. While both chains have sufficient stocks if people shop normally, purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling and ensure there is enough for everyone.

MBIE 21 August 2021 2.49 PM

Key contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from elected officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To report a breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/apply for wage subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence payment support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment

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AOG Coordination

Communications

Key topics for communications today include schools and childcare for essential workers, mandatory record keeping, police compliance, new cases and vaccination.

A location of interest interactive map is now available on the Ministry of Health website. Locations of interest will be updated on a 2-hourly basis.

DPMC: 22 August 2021 2.05 PM

Policy

The policy focus is on the Cabinet paper for the review of Alert Levels on Monday. This will be circulated for consultation today. DPMC policy is also working to prepare for any future decisions regarding Alert Level changes which may require boundaries between regions at different Alert Levels to be established. They are continuing to work through issues arising from the current Order.

DPMC: 22 August 2021 1.12 PM

Regional Coordination

Caring for Communities

No further updates at the time of reporting.

Fire and Emergency

There are currently 142 Fire and Emergency personnel in self-isolation, up from 131 yesterday. However, personnel availability remains good across all regions.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 22 August 2021 2.25 PM

Police Resourcing

Some Police staff are isolating following visiting locations of interest.

New Zealand Police: 22 August 2021 3.57 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 72 active cases that have been identified in the community. Of these 21 are new cases in the last 24 hours. There are 66 cases in Auckland and 6 in Wellington.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 11.01 AM

Contact Tracing

257 close plus contacts have been identified. 190 (74%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 17 have returned a positive result. 74 have returned a negative result.

8,304 close contacts have been identified. 3,923 (47%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 6 have returned a positive result. 2,734 have returned a negative test result.

There are 106 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 11.01 AM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 2,996,451 registered users and there have been 252,385 scans in the 24 hours to 2.13pm today.

There have been 2,260 new registrations on the app today and 3,788 new posters created. There are 1.7m users with Bluetooth active.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 11.01 AM

Testing

There were 37,336 tests yesterday, 94% of surge testing capacity. The number of tests processed in the last seven days was 132,352. There is a test processing backlog with approximately 36,000 samples yet to be processed and/or reported. There are sufficient supplies for 200,158 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 1.05 PM

Public Health & Border

PPE

PPE stocks are sufficient and there is a system for ordering PPE for health providers who need them.

DG of Health: 22 August 2021 1:00 PM (to media)

MIQ Capacity

There are currently 4,020 people in Managed Isolation. Managed Isolation is at capacity with 4,466 rooms in use (99.2%). There are currently 114 people in quarantine facilities (28% of capacity).

MBIE: 22 August 2021 7:30 AM and 11.50 AM

Air Border

Auckland District Health Board has stood up additional testing to ensure all Airport staff are retested within a 48 hour period which finishes tonight. Flights continue to arrive as scheduled.

NZ Customs Service: 22 August 2021 12.03 PM

Maritime Border

The result of yesterday's Covid-19 test of one crew member from the container vessel Southern Trader (Ports of Auckland) has come back negative. Normal service on board has resumed.

NZ Customs Service: 22 August 2021 2.37 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

One further COVID-19 case has been admitted to hospital. There are currently 6 cases in hospital.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 11.01 AM.
Information as at 9 AM

There is currently ICU and ventilator capacity at each DHB. Capacity at Auckland DHB is at more than 50 ICU beds and ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 11.01 AM.
Information as of 21 August 11.59 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

North Shore Hospital Emergency Department has reopened. However, there is an ambulance diversion for paediatric patients to Waitakere Hospital.

<https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/>: 21 August 2021

Mental Health

Yesterday, there were 605 contacts to '1737 Need to talk?' and other mental health services. This is up 11% compared to the previous day's contacts.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 11.01 AM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

Yesterday there were 7 people prosecuted and 12 people warned for COVID-19 related offences.

New Zealand Police: 22 August 2021 6.30 AM. Information as of 21 August 5.00 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 1,169 compliance breaches reported to Police online by the public yesterday. This is 81% of the number of the previous day's breach notifications. Of those breaches, 24% (283) related to businesses, 66% (774) related to gatherings, and 10% (112) related to individuals. They include matters such as gatherings, people doing water sports, and people not using appropriate PPE.

New Zealand Police: 22 August 2021 6.30 AM. Information as of 21 August 5.00 PM

Protests

Several protest leaders have stated that they will not be attending protests, following arrests made at other protests. Some protest leaders have bail conditions to not use social media, reducing their ability to share information online.

New Zealand Police: 22 August 2021 3.59 PM

Social & Community

Public Sentiment

Analysis of social conversation online showed the total volume of conversation on Friday decreased by 1% on the previous day. The topics of the virus, #NZPOL Decisions, and timeframe had the highest volumes of conversation.

All categories saw a decrease in negative sentiment with conversation shifting to neutral.

DPMC: 21 August 2021 4.32 PM

Social Support

No further updates were received at the time of reporting.

Food Banks

No further updates received at the time of reporting.

Housing Support

No further updates received at the time of reporting.

Communications with Diverse Communities

No further updates received at the time of reporting.

Travel & Transport

Inter-regional Flights

The announcement today that the domestic terminal of Auckland Airport and Wellington Airport are locations of interest caused concern about the ability of these to continue operating (given the potential numbers of staff affected), and the impact this could have on cargo and passenger connectivity.

This appears to be resolving with the Ministry of Health issuing clearer instructions about what is (and is not required).

Ministry of Transport: 22 August 2021 3.05 PM

Air New Zealand has put in place a reduced schedule until midnight Tuesday. Jetstar and Sounds Air have cancelled all services until midnight Tuesday.

Ministry of Transport: 22 August 2021 3.05 PM

Gaps in the Inter-regional Travel Network

There are some gaps in the inter regional transport network that mean some people without access to private transport may be unable to travel, even if they are permitted to travel under the Health Notice, due to some buses, trains, and planes not operating.

Ministry of Transport: 22 August 2021 3.05 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Energy

No issues have been signalled regarding supply in the fuel, electricity, gas, or resources sectors.

MBIE: 22 August 2021 2.45 PM

Waste

No new concerns have been signalled in the waste sector.

MBIE: 22 August 2021 2.45 PM

Telecommunications

No telecommunications issues have been signalled. Traffic on broadband, mobile and voice networks remains high.

MBIE: 22 August 2021 2.45 PM

Water

No water service provision concerns have been signalled. However, Auckland operators continue to be impacted by staff unavailability due to COVID-19 contact isolation requirements.

MBIE: 22 August 2021 2.45 PM

Digital Infrastructure

No further updates were received at the time of reporting.

Workplace & Infrastructure

Supermarkets

There is an operational impact as more supermarket stores are identified as locations of interest. This has become an issue, particularly in Auckland. Supermarkets require clarification of what constitutes a casual or close contact in a location of interest. Discussions regarding this are underway with the Ministry of Health.

Countdown have announced three Auckland stores are closed, with an additional two closing by the end of today. 400 Countdown staff are isolating after exposures at 13 stores in Auckland and Wellington.

Countdown and Foodstuffs continue to experience substantial increases in demand. Both supermarket chains have sufficient stocks if people shop normally. However, purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling and ensure there is enough for everyone.

MBIE: 22 August 2021 2.45 PM

Key contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from elected officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To report a breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/apply for wage subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence payment support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment

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AOG Coordination

Communications

Key topics for Communications include Cabinet's COVID-19 Alert Level decision, exemptions to rules, encouraging businesses to support the response, a focus on young people, and plans to include a range of experts in the response.

DPMC: 23 August 2021 7.55 PM

Policy

Key topics for Policy include working on the next Alert Level decision Cabinet paper, and further advice on travel and boundaries. Policy are also triaging Order related issues including immediate issues; evolving issues with the current alert level; and issues that will arise with a change of alert levels. Policy are also encouraging all agencies to look at their Alert Level guidance to ensure that it considers the Delta variant.

DPMC: 23 August 2021 1.58 PM

Regional Coordination

Caring for Communities

No updates received at the time of reporting.

Fire and Emergency

142 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 23 August 2021 3.00 PM

Police Resourcing

Some police staff are isolating after visiting locations of interest. Enquiries are underway with the Ministry of Health to ascertain if frontline staff can be prioritised at testing stations.

New Zealand Police: 23 August 2021 3.26 PM

Corrections Resourcing

265 Corrections staff are isolating, and 138 are awaiting test results. There are no confirmed cases among Corrections staff or persons in their care.

Department of Corrections: 23 August 2021 3.11 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 107 active cases that have been identified in the community. There are 99 cases in Auckland and 8 in Wellington. Of these 35 are new cases in the last 24 hours, with 33 in Auckland, and 2 in Wellington.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 11.06 AM

Contact Tracing

318 close plus contacts have been identified. 267 (84%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 31 have returned a positive result. 104 have returned a negative result.

12,602 close contacts have been identified. 6,459 (51%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 9 have returned a positive result. 5,156 have returned a negative test result.

There are 310 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 11.06 AM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,040,435 registered users. 16,040 people registered today.

There have been 435,819 scans in the period from midday yesterday to 9:50am today.

There are 1.8m users with Bluetooth active.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 4.13AM; and 4.25PM.

Testing

There were 35,766 tests yesterday, 78% of surge testing capacity. There is a test processing backlog with approximately 23,000 samples yet to be processed and/or reported. There are sufficient supplies for 189,236 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 22 August 2021 10.02 AM

Public Health & Border

PPE

The National PPE and Critical Medical Supply Chain has good stocks of PPE, with at least a month's reserves to meet pandemic demand. Current usage of PPE is within 'medium pandemic' range, and similar demand is expected next week. Eight delays are being reported and the Government is working to minimise their impact.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 3:10 PM

MIQ Capacity

There are currently 4,097 people in Managed Isolation. Managed Isolation is at capacity with 4,372 rooms in use (98.8%).

There are currently 158 people in Quarantine facilities (37% of capacity).

MBIE: 23 August 2021 7.30 AM and 11.50 AM

Air Border

There is sufficient staff to manage the first arrivals from Afghanistan. The flight is being treated as a standard Red flight. Red flights continue to arrive as scheduled.

Two Green flights arrived today from Rarotonga.

NZ Customs Service: 23 August 2021 2.54 PM

The charter flight of Vanuatu RSE workers scheduled for 24 August has been deferred until late September, reflecting pressure on MIQ. Compensation issues may arise for industry / affected workers.

MFAT: 23 August 2021 1.58 PM

Of the travellers who went to the Cook Islands since 7 August, half have returned to NZ. No positive tests have been returned.

MFAT: 23 August 2021 1.58 PM

Maritime Border

Maritime NZ is engaging marine stevedores and pilots regarding the safe use of PPE when boarding vessels.

NZ Customs Service: 23 August 2021 2.54 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

Two further Community COVID-19 cases have been admitted to hospital. There are currently 6 community cases in hospital and a total of 8 hospitalised cases.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 11.06 AM.

There is currently ICU and ventilator capacity at each DHB. Capacity at Auckland DHB is more than 50 ICU beds and ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 11.06 AM.

Mental Health

On Sunday 22 August, there were 606 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?" and other mental health services. This is roughly the same number as Saturday and is an 11% increase from Friday.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 11.06 AM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

Yesterday there were 5 people prosecuted and 20 people warned for COVID-19 related offences.

New Zealand Police: 23 August 2021 6.35 AM. Information as of 22 August 5.00 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 1,361 compliance breaches reported to Police online by the public yesterday. This is an increase of 192 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 72% (976) related to gatherings, 18% (246) related to businesses, and 10% (139) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 23 August 2021 6.35 AM. Information as of 22 August 5.00 PM

Protests

Since the initial anti-lockdown protests, the number of protests and attendance has reduced. Several protest leaders have cancelled events or advised followers not to protest during Alert Level 4 following the Police response.

New Zealand Police: 23 August 2021 3.26 PM

Social & Community

Public Sentiment

Analysis of public social conversation online over the weekend showed the total volume of conversation fell by 22%, which can be typical on a weekend due to less news media published. The topics of 'the virus', '#NZPOL Decisions', and 'Business & Consumers' had the highest volumes of conversation.

Overall sentiment became slightly more negative, however the 'Vaccine Rollout' and 'Contact Tracing' categories remained stable.
DPMC: 22 August 2021 4.39 PM

Food Banks

No further updates received at the time of reporting.

Housing Support

No further updates received at the time of reporting.

Communications with Diverse Communities

No further updates received at the time of reporting.

Travel & Transport

Traffic Volumes

Traffic volumes have decreased by over 75% in all five major cities over the past week, with the largest decrease in Wellington (86%). This indicates the lockdown is largely being adhered to.
Ministry of Transport: 23 August 2021 9:38 AM

Inter-regional Flights

Auckland Airport has raised a risk regarding critical staffing levels due to staff isolation requirements and requested the possibility of a day 5 test for its staff to maintain business continuity.
Ministry of Transport: 23 August 2021 3:29 PM

Air New Zealand has a skeleton service until midnight Tuesday, given the limited movements allowed under Alert Level 4. Jetstar and Sounds Air have cancelled all services until midnight Tuesday.
Ministry of Transport: 23 August 2021 3.29 PM

Gaps in the Inter-regional Travel Network

Gaps in the inter-regional transport network mean some people without access to private transport may be unable to travel, even if they are permitted to travel under the Health Notice.
Ministry of Transport: 23 August 2021 3.29 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Energy

No supply issues have been signaled in the fuel, electricity, gas, or resources sectors. There is a request for truck drivers to be prioritised for COVID-19 vaccination, which has been forwarded to the Ministry of Health.
Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2.25 PM

Waste

The waste sector is stable, but concerns have been raised regarding the clarity of rules for essential workers in inter-regional travel for critical operations or maintenance. Operators have expressed concern about the lack of access to vaccines for essential frontline staff.
Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2 25 PM

Telecommunications

No telecommunications issues have been signaled. Traffic on broadband, mobile and voice networks remains high. Vodafone, Spark and 2Degrees fixed data networks had record increases in volume over the weekend.
Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2.25 PM

Water

The water sector is stable, but concerns have been raised regarding the clarity of rules for essential worker inter-regional travel in the case of critical operations or maintenance.
Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2.25 PM

Digital Infrastructure

No digital infrastructure critical issues have been signalled.

The Ministry of Education is working with suppliers to fill a shortfall of 7,000 devices for students.

DIA: 23 August 2021 3.00 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Supermarket Stocks

Countdown and Foodstuffs continue to experience substantial increases in demand, which has tripled for Foodstuffs North Island compared to normal. Both have sufficient stocks if people shop normally but purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling and ensure there is enough for everyone.
Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2.25 PM

Supermarket Online Deliveries

There is insufficient access to online food deliveries for vulnerable customers due to capacity constraints.

Supermarket Compliance

There is a desire for clarification regarding face coverings in supermarkets and new mandatory record-keeping arrangements from both supermarkets and service stations.
Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2.25 PM

Supermarket Staff

As more supermarkets are identified as locations of interest and employees required to self-isolate, availability of essential workers is becoming an issue.
Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2.25 PM

Countdown currently have 1,300 staff not working due to being vulnerable, and a further 450 isolating. Six stores are closed due to there not being a team in place.

Foodstuffs North Island have 350 staff isolating. No stores are closed.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 23 August 2021 2.25 PM

Key contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from elected officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To report a breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/apply for wage subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence payment support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment

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COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

24 August 2021

AOG Coordination

Communications

Key topics for communications include; youth focused content/campaign material, further business support messaging, initiating research into Pacific/ethnic communities, and a review of behavioural messaging.

DPMC: 24 August 2021 8.04 PM

Policy

A key focus for Policy is preparing the Cabinet paper for the Alert Level review on Friday. Policy are also providing advice regarding possible boundaries for discussion by Ministers tomorrow and working on a government-wide process for considering travel exemptions.

DPMC: 24 August 2021 4:25 PM

Regional Coordination

Caring for Communities

Caring for Communities are working to ensure information is available across the network. Information collection is currently underway.

MSD: 23 August 2021 5.10 PM

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

145 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 4 less than yesterday.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 24 August 2021 3.53 PM

Police Resourcing

Some police staff are isolating after visiting locations of interest. Enquiries are underway with the Ministry of Health to ascertain if frontline staff can be prioritised at testing stations.

New Zealand Police: 24 August 2021 3.39 PM

Corrections Resourcing

318 Corrections staff are isolating, and 142 are awaiting test results. There are no confirmed cases among Corrections staff or persons in their care.

Department of Corrections: 24 August 2021 3.11 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 148 active cases that have been identified in the community. There are 137 cases in Auckland and 11 in Wellington. Of these 41 are new cases in the last 24 hours, with 38 in Auckland, and 3 in Wellington.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 1.46 PM

Contact Tracing

369 close plus contacts have been identified. 332 (90%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 37 have returned a positive result. 143 have returned a negative result.

14,967 close contacts have been identified. 9,238 (62%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 21 have returned a positive result. 7,615 have returned a negative test result.

There are 405 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 10.30 AM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,050,066 registered users. 31 525 people registered in the 24 hours prior to midday on the 23rd.

There have been 548,977 scans in the period from midday yesterday to 9.50am today.

There are 1 8m users with Bluetooth active.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 10.00 AM

Testing

There were 35,376 tests yesterday, 77% of su ge testing capacity. There is a test processing backlog with approximately 32,000 samples yet to be processed and/or reported. There are sufficient supplies for 175,444 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 10..35 AM

Public Health & Border

PPE

No updates received at the time of reporting.

Ministry of Health: 23 August 2021 3:10 PM

MIQ Capacity

There are currently 4,083 people in Managed Isolation. There are currently 193 people in Quarantine facilities (47% of capacity)

MBIE: 24 August 2021 7.30 AM and 11.26 AM

Air Border

Re-testing of Auckland Airport staff that were isolating following the community case has been completed. Staff levels are being monitored to maintain a good spread across the day, given the increasing likelihood of staff having to go into isolation.

NZ Custom Service: 24 August 2021 2.04 PM

Maritime Border

A symptomatic crew member tested positive for COVID-19 on the vessel Capitaine Wallis on 19 August and has been transferred to Auckland MIQ. The vessel was in Tauranga on 11-13 August, and arrived in Auckland on 14 August before departing on 20 August.

NZ Customs Service: 24 August 2021 2.04 PM

25 small craft wish to return to NZ from Fiji. MIQ have been notified.

NZ Customs Service: 24 August 2021 2.04 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

There are currently 7 community cases in hospital and a total of 9 hospitalised cases.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 1.02 PM.

There is currently ICU and ventilator capacity at each DHB. Capacity at Auckland DHB is less than 20 ICU beds and approx. 60 ventilators.

The reason for the change in number in Auckland DHB is due to a change in reporting from 'beds' to 'capacity' including staffing.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 1.02 PM

Health & Disability

Healthline

Healthline had 9,868 contacts. 8,111 were to the COVID-19 Info line, with the majority (48%) seeking information, and 39% sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 11.02 PM

People have been calling Healthline wanting their NHI number, with some people stating they have been turned away from testing and vaccination sites for not having it.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 11.02 PM

There are reports of text scams, with texts of fake positive COVID-19 test results, causing distress.

Ministry of Health: 24 August 2021 11.02 PM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

Yesterday there were 15 people prosecuted, three times more than the previous day. 23 people were warned for COVID-19 related offences.

New Zealand Police: 24 August 2021 6.28 AM. Information as of 23 August 5.00 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 1,251 compliance breaches reported to Police online by the public yesterday. This is a decrease of 110 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 60% (754) related to gatherings, 30% (374) related to businesses, and 10% (123) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 24 August 2021 6.28 AM. Information as of 23 August 5.00 PM

Protests

Online scanning has highlighted a direction change and regrouping of 'freedom' groups, who are aiming to continue their campaign with minimal Police engagement.

New Zealand Police: 24 August 2021 3.39 PM

Social & Community

Public Sentiment

Analysis of public social conversation online on Sunday showed overall sentiment became more negative, with the categories, 'Team of 5 Million' and 'Contact Tracing' increasing most in negativity. However, there were New Zealanders expressing gratitude towards the Police for keeping communities safe.

DPMC: 23 August 2021 5.01 PM

Access to Food

Food supply issues raised in the far North and in remote communities are being addressed.

MSD: 24 August 2021 2.56 PM

Work is occurring on future funding for foodbanks and food providers to support them in responding to surge demand. This includes an additional \$1m in funding which has been approved by MSD to boost the NZ Food Network and provider capacity.

MSD: 24 August 2021 2.56 PM

Tailoring of food packages to meet particular communities or family needs is underway.

MSD: 24 August 2021 2.56 PM

Access to Accommodation

Support is being provided to those who need to self-isolate where it is difficult in crowded households. This is being led by MBIE and the Ministry of Health. Housing agencies are working together to respond to emerging needs.

MSD: 23 August 2021 2.56 PM

Mental Health

There has been a 300% increase in calls to Youthline in the first 24 hours of lockdown.

MSD: 23 August 2021 2.56 PM

Given the impacts of sustained isolation and impacts for remote communities, activities such as outbound calling are being considered for reactivation.

MSD: 23 August 2021 2.56 PM

Social & Community

Mental Health

Yesterday there were 618 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". A slight increase from 606 contacts the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 24 August 2021 3.39 PM

Communications with Diverse Communities

NZ Red Cross is translating key Alert Level 4 information into 13 languages for former refugees but need support with resourcing. MEC is considering what they can do to support them.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 23 August 2021 5.00 PM

Travel & Transport

Traffic

Light and heavy traffic volumes have decreased by over 61% in all five major cities over the past week.

Ministry of Transport: 24 August 2021 9:53 AM

Public Transport

Public transport patronage has decreased by over 91% in Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin over the past week.

Ministry of Transport: 24 August 2021 9:25 AM

The Asylum Seekers Support Trust said some people are unable to travel to vaccination centres because of the restricted public transport during lockdown.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 23 August 2021 5.00 PM

Gaps in the inter-regional transport network mean some people without access to private transport may be unable to travel, even if they are permitted to travel under the Health Notice.

Ministry of Transport: 24 August 2021 3.14 PM

Travel & Transport

Flights

AirNZ will be operating a reduced schedule while Alert Level 4 is in place. Other airlines have cancelled domestic passenger services for the duration of Alert Level 4.

Ministry of Transport: 24 August 2021 3.14 PM

Auckland Airport has raised a risk regarding critical staffing levels due to staff isolation requirements and requested the possibility of a day 5 test release from isolation for its staff to maintain business continuity.

Ministry of Transport: 24 August 2021 3:14 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Worker Unavailability

There is risk of essential worker unavailability due to COVID-19 isolation requirements. Additionally, rules for essential worker inter-regional travel need to be clarified.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 24 August 2021 3.00 PM

Waste

No waste issues have been signalled. Rubbish and (some) recycling services are still operating.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 24 August 2021 3.00 PM

Telecommunications

No telecommunications issues were signalled. Traffic on networks remains high.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 24 August 2021 3.00 PM

Energy

No significant issues have been signalled regarding supply in the fuel, electricity, gas or resources sectors.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 24 August 2021 3.00 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Water

No significant issues have been signalled in the water sector.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 24 August 2021 3.00 PM

Supermarkets

There continue to be increases in demand at supermarkets. While both major chains have sufficient stocks if people shop normally, purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling and ensure there is enough for everyone.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 24 August 2021 3.00 PM

There is insufficient access to online food deliveries for vulnerable customers due to capacity constraints.

Ministry of Business, Industry and Employment: 24 August 2021 3.00 PM

Digital Infrastructure

There have been issues of slow internet reported. Follow-up is underway to determine if System support is needed.

DIA: 24 August 2021 2.52 PM

Spark has removed data caps during Alert Level 4 for Broadband customers.

DIA: 24 August 2021 2.52 PM

Agriculture

There is time-dependent horticulture work that needs to occur on a government funded project as well as critical timing issues that have arisen for Manuka planting at multiple sites.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 24 August 2021 9.21 AM

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug season is due to begin Wednesday 1st of September which may have an impact on resourcing within primary industries.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 24 August 2021 9.21 AM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

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Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment
This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.		COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz

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AOG Coordination

Communications

Key communications messages have focused on clarity of current settings, including permitted travel, close contacts, information to businesses, and tailored information for the Pacific community.

Policy

The policy team is working on the Cabinet paper to support the alert level decision on Friday, including work on potential boundaries should they be required.

DPMC: 24 August 2021 3:56 PM

Regional Coordination

Boundary settings

Uncertainty of future boundary settings in the event of AL changes raises concerns with CDEM Groups and local authorities. Local authorities are advocating for those boundaries previously agreed or whole-of-island based settings, and/or to be involved in the determination of any new settings.

NEMA, 25 August 2.04 PM

Caring for Communities

No updates received at the time of reporting.

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

165 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 20 more than yesterday.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 25 August 2021 3.08 PM.

Information as of 25 August 1.00 PM

Police Resourcing

Some police staff are isolating after visiting locations of interest. Enquiries are underway with the Ministry of Health to ascertain if frontline staff can be prioritised at testing stations.

New Zealand Police: 25 August 2021 3.18 PM

Corrections Resourcing

351 Corrections staff are isolating, and 144 are awaiting test results. There are no confirmed cases among Corrections staff or persons in their care.

Department of Corrections: 25 August 2021 3.05 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 210 active cases that have been identified in the community. There are 198 cases in Auckland and 12 in Wellington. Of these 62 are new cases in the last 24 hours, with 61 in Auckland, and 1 in Wellington.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 1.16 PM

Vaccination

As of 24 August, there have been 2,932,455 doses of vaccine given and 1,050,348 people that have been fully vaccinated.

To date the National Immunisation Booking System (NIBS) holds 1,774,348 active future bookings at 433 vaccination sites.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 11.12 AM

Contact Tracing

460 close plus contacts have been identified. 397 (86%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 59 have returned a positive result. 201 have returned a negative result.

19,265 close contacts have been identified. 11,301 (59%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 33 have returned a positive result. 11,268 have returned a negative test result.

There are 658 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 11.06 AM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,065,491 registered users. 23,943 people registered in the 24 hours prior to midday on the 24th.

There have been 587,793 scans in the period from midday yesterday to 9.50 am today.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 10.00 AM

MIQ Capacity

There are currently 4,083 people in Managed Isolation. There are currently 218 people in Quarantine facilities (53% of capacity).

MBIE: 25 August 2.58 PM. Information as of 24 August 2021 7.30 AM

Public Health & Border

Testing

There were 49,745 tests yesterday, 108% of surge testing capacity. This is the highest number laboratories have achieved since testing started. There are sufficient supplies for 244,626 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 10.09 AM

Air Border

Rostering continues to ensure sufficient staff are available to cover all shifts at the border. However, pressures arising as staff are identified as close or casual plus contacts.

NZ Customs Service: 25 August 2021 2.28 PM

A reparation flight bringing approximately 70 Afghan refugees to NZ from Brisbane originally scheduled for today is now due to arrive tomorrow.

NZ Customs Service: 25 August 2021 2.28 PM

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MFAT, 24 August 2021 1.36 PM

Maritime Border

Test results of the Customs Officer linked to the positive COVID-19 case on the vessel Capitaine Wallis remain outstanding.

However, the risk associated with the staff member has been assessed as low.

NZ Customs Service: 25 August 2021 2.28 PM

Health & Disability

ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is currently ICU and ventilator capacity at each DHB. Capacity at Auckland DHB is more than 20 ICU beds and approx. 60 ventilators.

The reason for the change in number in Auckland DHB is due to a change in reporting from 'beds' to 'capacity' including staffing. The reduction in reported capacity is approx. 5% as of today's report.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 11.06 AM

Health & Disability

Health System

There are currently 10 community cases in hospital and a total of 12 hospitalised cases (2 being border related).

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 11.06 AM.

Healthline

Healthline had 11,847 contacts yesterday. 10,061 were to the COVID-19 Info line, with 49% seeking information, and 29% sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 11.06 PM

An online registration tool was released yesterday afternoon. Additional staff from Vax, Screening and other services are being diverted to the Registration and Welfare lines to support the growing volume and higher clinical risk

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 11.06 PM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

Yesterday there were 6 people prosecuted, 9 less than the day before. 46 people were warned for COVID-19 related offences.

New Zealand Police: 25 August 2021 6.36 AM. Information as of 24 August 5.00 PM

Cease and Desist notices are an increasing trend being used by activists against medical practices, MPs and Police at Alert Level 4.

Online Breach Notifications

There were 1,129 compliance breaches reported to Police online by the public yesterday. This is a decrease of 122 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 59% (671) related to gatherings, 31% (355) related to businesses, and 9% (103) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 25 August 2021 6.36 AM. Information as of 24 August 5.00 PM

Protests

Since 18 August 2021, 37 people have been charged with COVID-19 Pandemic Offence Codes. In total, ten people were charged in relation to protest activity.

New Zealand Police: 25 August 2021 3.18 PM

Social & Community

Public Sentiment

Conversation in the 'Timeframe' category increased 103% with the 4PM Alert Level announcement on Monday. There is high neutral and negative sentiment with lots of conjecture, frustration or concern. South Island was a major theme, including suggestions of locking down just the North Island. Some were seeking clarification on wage subsidy.

DPMC: 25 August 2021 5.21 PM

Access to Food

No updates received at the time of reporting.

Access to Accommodation

No updates received at the time of reporting.

Mental Health

Yesterday there were 714 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". An increase from 618 contacts the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 25 August 2021 3.18 PM

Communications with Diverse Communities

Ethnic youth stakeholder hui scheduled for 26 August to provide information on wellbeing support, vaccination and receive feedback on unique needs. Requests from Cambodian and Myanmar communities for information to be translated into Khmer and Burmese passed onto MoH.

Ministry for Ethnic Communities, 24 August 2021 5.16 PM

Pacific peoples

Pacific peoples account for over 50% of the current Covid-19 cases. The Ministry of Pacific Peoples is engaging with key support agencies to mitigate risks and issues for Pacific peoples, such as self-isolation challenges, access to food parcels and access to support.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 24 August 2021 5.24 PM

Travel & Transport

Traffic

Traffic volumes have decreased by 70% on average in the five major cities over the past week (noting Wellington traffic information for Tuesday was not available).

Ministry of Transport: 25 August 2021 9.59 AM

Public Transport

Auckland Transport (AT) have had more buses identified as locations of interest. This means that up to 35 further drivers have had to isolate. Operators are still able to provide all services on the limited timetable currently

Ministry of Transport: 25 August 2021 2.39 PM

Flights

Korean Air has expressed concern that the closure of MIQ bookings and COVID-19 spread in the community could make its services commercially unviable unless MIAC is extended. COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Ministry of Transport: 25 August 2021 2.39 PM

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Workplace & Infrastructure

Worker Unavailability due to isolation

Work is underway to understand extent of risks due to worker isolation requirements/place of interest, and what could be done to mitigate this. Additionally, rules for essential worker inter-regional travel need to be clarified.

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

There are a number of supermarket workers unavailable due to self-isolation requirements:

- Countdown - 600
- Foodstuffs - 715

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

Waste

No waste issues have been signalled. Rubbish and (some) recycling services are still operating

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

Telecommunications

No telecommunications issues were signalled. Traffic on networks remains high.

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

Water

No significant issues have been signalled in the water sector.

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

Energy

No significant issues have been signalled regarding supply in the fuel, electricity, gas or resources sectors.

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

Digital Infrastructure

Internet connectivity issues, raised yesterday, have improved today.

DIA: 25 August 2021 2.42 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Supermarket stocks

There continue to be increases in demand at supermarkets. While both major chains have sufficient stocks if people shop normally, purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling and ensure there is enough for everyone.

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

Supermarket online deliveries

There is insufficient access to online food deliveries for vulnerable customers due to capacity constraints. Supermarkets have added additional capacity, supported by the nationwide rollout of the Student Volunteer Army shopping and delivery service. Food access information has been published on the COVID-19 website. This work is being led by MSD and supported by NEMA.

MBIE: 25 August 2021 2.58 PM

Agriculture

MPI have been notified of delays for flower bulb producers exports due to current Alert Level restrictions. NZ companies risk missing export opportunities, incurring significant costs and reputational damage.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 25 August 2021 3.37 PM

There are anecdotal reports of log supply constraints due to the harvesting and processing restrictions at Alert Level 4.

Three ships have cancelled planned visits in New Zealand as cargo was not available.

Ministry of Transport: 25 August 2021 2.39 PM

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Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment
This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.		COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz

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AOG Coordination

Communications

Key topics for communications include; refining and clarifying AL 4 messaging, including increased focus on mental health, prep for a potential AL 3 change including boundary planning and an exemptions process, and ongoing stakeholder engagement across the country.

DPMC: 26 August 2021 8:03 AM

Policy

A Cabinet paper is being prepared to support Alert Level decisions tomorrow, including advice on boundaries. Issues related to the current Alert Level remain a focus, but further amendments will not be proposed until after the Alert Level decision.

DPMC: 26 August 2021 1.27 PM

Regional Coordination

Boundary settings

Uncertainty of future boundary settings in the event of AL changes has created concerns for CDEM Groups and local authorities. Local authorities are advocating for those boundaries previously agreed or whole-of-island based settings, and/or to be involved in the determination of any new settings.

National Emergency Management Agency, 26 August 2.50 PM

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

172 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, seven more than yesterday. Personnel availability remains adequate across all regions.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 26 August 2021 3.00 PM.

Police Resourcing

No update at time of reporting.

Corrections Resourcing

370 Corrections staff are isolating (up 19), and 145 are awaiting test results. There are no confirmed cases among Corrections staff or persons in their care.

Department of Corrections: 26 August 2021 3.27 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 277 active cases that have been identified in the community. There are 263 cases in Auckland and 14 in Wellington. Of these, 68 are new cases in the last 24 hours, with 66 in Auckland, and 2 in Wellington.

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 1.08 PM

Vaccination

As of 11:59 25 August, there have been 3,022,357 doses of vaccine given and 1,076,761 people that have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,848,532 active future bookings at 453 vaccination sites

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 3.47 PM

Contact Tracing

569 close plus contacts have been identified. 490 (86%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 67 have returned a positive result while 253 have tested negative.

22,878 close contacts have been identified. 14,754 (64%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 59 have returned a positive result. 15,259 have returned a negative test result.

There are 955 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 11.23 AM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,077,439 registered users. 3,381 people registered in the 24 hours to 4.24pm today.

There have been 600,831 scans in the period from midday yesterday to 9.50 am today.

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 10.00 AM

MIQ Capacity

There are currently 3,672 people in Managed Isolation. There are currently 245 people in Quarantine facilities (59% of capacity).

Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment: 26 August 12.03 PM

Public Health & Border

Testing

There were 41,739 tests yesterday, 91% of surge testing capacity. This is lower than the level of testing the day before. There are sufficient supplies for 230,604 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 9.40 AM

Air Border

Sufficient staff are available across all airports to manage the border, with shifts continuing to be monitored.

NZ Customs Service: 26 August 2021 2.35 PM

A reparation flight bringing approximately 46 Afghan refugees is due to arrive at 9.30PM this evening. Although not required, all passengers have returned a negative COVID-19 test.

NZ Customs Service: 26 August 2021 2.35 PM

A security contractor at Auckland Airport has tested positive for COVID-19. The contractor last worked on 17 August at the security gate, and has not been linked to a location of interest. There was no contact with Government agency staff within the international terminal.

NZ Customs Service: 26 August 2021 2.35 PM

Maritime Border

The Customs Officer linked to the positive COVID-19 case on the vessel Capitaine Wallis has returned a negative test result and returned to duty.

NZ Customs Service: 26 August 2021 2.35 PM

Health & Disability

ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is currently ICU and ventilator capacity at each DHB, except at the Lakes DHB where there is no available ICU capacity. Capacity at Auckland DHB is about 30 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 11.23 AM

Health System

There are currently 11 community cases in hospital and a total of 13 hospitalised cases (2 being border related).

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 11.23 AM.

Health & Disability

Healthline

Healthline had 10,581 contacts yesterday. 8,780 were to the COVID-19 Info line, with 49% seeking information, and 19% sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 11.23 AM

Multiple calls received from people wanting their NHI, with some people stating they have been turned away from testing and vaccination sites if they didn't have their number.

Ministry of Health: 25 August 2021 11.23 AM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

Yesterday there were 19 people prosecuted, 13 more than the day before. 34 people were warned for COVID-19 related offences.

New Zealand Police: 26 August 2021 6.30 AM. Information as of 25 August 5.00 PM

Overall, there has been a decrease in most crime types during the current lockdown period except for family harm and vehicle pursuits. Vehicle pursuits have increased during each day of the period.

New Zealand Police: 26 August 2021 3.34 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 1,031 compliance breaches reported to police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 98 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 64% (657) related to gatherings, 26% (266) related to businesses, and 10% (108) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 26 August 2021 6.30 AM. Information as of 25 August 5.00 PM

Protests

There is a plan to protest at Parliament and the Governor General's residence on 31 August 2021, but it is expected this will follow a similar trend of popularity online with a negligible showing in-person.

New Zealand Police: 26 August 2021 3.34 PM

Social & Community

Public Sentiment

Conversation in the 'Economy' category increased 14% with high neutral and negative sentiment. The Mental Health category increased by 4% with language such as "anxiety" or "mental health".

DPMC: 25 August 2021 5.59 PM

Refugee Needs

Several refugee communities in Porirua and Hamilton have signalled a need for food support, and mental well-being is a concern among the Afghan community nationwide.

Ministry for Ethnic Communities, 25 August 2021 4.40

Mental Health Contacts

Yesterday there were 643 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". A fall from 714 contacts the previous day.

Ministry of Health: 26 August 2021 11.23 AM

Discrimination of Diverse Communities

The HRC has been asked to reactivate its 'Racism is No Joke' campaign, after increase in reports of discrimination.

Ministry for Ethnic Communities, 25 August 2021 5.39 PM

Discrimination of Pacific Communities

Pacific communities seeing increases in online discrimination after church cluster in Auckland. MPP is addressing this through its "We Got Your Back" campaign and other outreach efforts.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 25 August 2021 4.40 PM

Housing for Homeless and Isolating Groups

Nine homeless people in Wellington and 12 in Nelson remain unhoused. Limited extra capacity. MSD has signalled that they have accommodation options available to those that contact them.

Ministry for Housing and Urban Development, 25 August 2021 4.15 PM

Social Support

Growing pressure on access to welfare support, food, household goods vaccines and PPE, and youth services.

National Emergency Management Agency: 26 August 2021 2.50 PM

Social & Community

Rent Negotiation

There has been a 165% increase in views of HUD's rent negotiation page, compared to the nine days prior to lockdown.

Ministry for Housing and Urban Development, 26 August 2021 3.45 PM

Rental Support

Christchurch TPA has raised concerns that tenants signing new agreements but being unable to move,. HUD has outlined potential amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act, delivered to P. Williams MP.

Ministry for Housing and Urban Development, 25 August 2021 4.15 PM

Emergency Housing Access

Concerns over 100 families in emergency housing in Hamilton. Hamilton Multicultural Services Trust is working to support these families

Ministry for Ethnic Communities, 25 August 2021 4.40 PM

Psychosocial and Mental Wellbeing

C4C reporting increase in mental health issues, and exploring pathways for support with MOH.

Caring for Communities, 25 August 2021 5.00 PM

Pacific Cluster

Pacific peoples account for over 50% of the current Covid-19 cases. and have lower and vaccination rates and more crowded homes.

Ministry for Pacific People , 25 August 2021 4.15 PM

Self-Isolation for Crowded Households

MSD is working with HUD and NEMA to identify options and provide support for self-isolation where difficult in crowded households.

Caring for Communities, 25 August 2021 5.00 PM

Food Access for Rural Communities

Increasing issues are emerging in delivering food to rural and remote communities.

Caring for Communities, 25 August 2021 5.00 PM

Travel & Transport

Traffic

Heavy Traffic volumes across the country continue to drop between 5% to 10%. Light Traffic has decreased in Auckland and Dunedin, increased slightly in Hamilton and increased by 23% in Christchurch.

Ministry of Transport: 26 August 2021 9.56 AM

Public Transport

Auckland public transport was down 13.5% from the previous week.

Wellington and Christchurch bus patronage were up 20.2% and 38.3% respectively from the previous week.

Ministry of Transport 26 August 2021 2.59 PM

Flights

The Ministry is preparing an initial draft contract for barrier to review. Ministry of Transport: 26 August 2021 3.05 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Worker Unavailability due to isolation

Work is underway to understand the extent of risks due to worker isolation requirements, and what could be done to mitigate this.

Number of workers unavailable:

- Countdown – 700 (+ 100 from yesterday) (*note the 2,100 number reported in media includes staff unable to work due to health vulnerability, childcare requirements and other reasons*)
- Foodstuffs – 721 (+6 from yesterday)
- Eight countdown stores are closed (-1 from yesterday).
- Watercare and Citycare - 24

The rules for essential worker inter-regional travel needs to be clarified, and there are currently discussions underway with DPMC.

MBIE: 26 August 2021 3.00 PM

Water, waste, telecommunications and energy sectors

No significant issues have been signalled in the water, waste, telecommunications or energy sectors.

MBIE: 26 August 2021 3.00 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Digital Infrastructure

No digital service or critical supply issues have been signalled.

DIA are reaching out to determine the needs for digital inclusion that are heightened in a response.

DIA: 26 August 2021 2.38 PM

Supermarket stocks and online deliveries

There continue to be increases in demand at supermarkets, and insufficient access to online delivery slots for vulnerable customers due to capacity constraints. A range of mechanisms are in place to manage these risks (e.g. purchase limits, additional capacity being added, an MSD/NEMA led rollout on shopping and delivery services with support of the Student Volunteer Army).

MBIE: 26 August 2021 3.00 PM

Agriculture

Food businesses new to home delivery

There are over 20,000 registered food service businesses many of whom do not normally do home delivery. MPI is anticipating a significant number of business will start home delivery before being compliant with requirements and may potentially fail to manage food safety properly. MPI is creating messaging, guidance and templates to assist correct implementation of these changes in food delivery services.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 25 August 2021 3.37 PM

Logging

Many businesses in the forestry/wood processing supply chain are closed during AL 4 causing compounded shortages as a result of the last years lockdown. This has caused unprecedented demand for timber products exhausting buffers.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 26 August 2021 11.02 AM

Log harvesting has been required to close during AL 4. This has caused a strong likelihood that ports will run out of logs in the next few days to load for export which could disrupt shipping. Ships coming to NZ with imported goods need to have a load to return with to make the travel here financially viable.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 26 August 2021 11.02 AM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

26 August 2021

Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment

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AOG Coordination

Communications

Key topics for communications include; preparations for a potential alert level change including boundary planning and a domestic travel exemptions process. The Ministry of Health will manage the domestic travel exemptions process going forward.

DPMC: 27 August 2021 7:37 AM

Policy

Policy is preparing for any changes to the alert levels order, following Cabinet's review this afternoon. The focus now is preparing the paper for the next Cabinet review on Monday.

DPMC: 27 August 2021 11.38 PM

Regional Coordination

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

162 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, ten fewer than yesterday. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 27 August 2021 2.00 PM.

Police Resourcing

No updates received at the time of reporting.

Corrections Resourcing

134 members of staff are currently waiting for test results. This is the first time the Department has recorded a decrease in numbers of staff isolating compared with the previous day.

Department of Corrections: 27 August 2021 3.07 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 347 active cases that have been identified in the community. There are 333 cases in Auckland and 14 in Wellington. Of these, 70 are new cases in the last 24 hours, all in Auckland.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 11.03 AM

Vaccination

As of 11.59PM on 26 August, there have been 3,114,925 doses of vaccine given and 1,102,158 people that have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,915,601 future bookings across 450 vaccination sites

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 3.29 PM

Contact Tracing

647 close plus contacts have been identified. 573 (89%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 93 have returned a positive result while 313 have tested negative.

27,422 close contacts have been identified. 18,053 (66%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 76 have returned a positive result. 18,616 have returned a negative test result.

There are 1,782 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 11.03 AM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,087,114 registered users.

11,948 people registered in the 24 hours to 12 00pm yesterday.

There have been 577,005 scans in the period from midday yesterday to 9.50 am today.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 10.00 AM

MIQ Capacity

There are 3,709 people in managed isolation, (82% of capacity). There are 258 people in quarantine facilities (63% of capacity), an increase of 13 since yesterday.

MBIE: 27 August 8.00 AM

Public Health & Border

PPE

The National PPE Supply Chain has at least a month's reserves to meet pandemic demand. This includes approximately 17 million N95/P2 particulate respirators, 275 million medical masks, 17 million isolation gowns, 1.6m million face shields, 271 million nitrile gloves, and good volumes of hand sanitiser, and disinfectant wipes.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 11.54 AM

Testing

There were 37,020 tests yesterday, 80% of surge testing capacity. This is lower than the level of testing the day before.

There are sufficient supplies for 214,333 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 9.48 AM

Air Border

Sufficient staff are available across all airports to manage flights.

NZ Customs Service: 27 August 2021 2.30 PM

A repatriation flight bringing approximately 102-146 Afghan refugees is due to arrive at 4.45AM tomorrow. A precise count of arrivals will not be available prior to its departure from Sydney.

NZ Customs Service: 27 August 2021 2.30 PM

Maritime Border

No further updates received at the time of reporting.

Health & Disability

ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is currently ICU and ventilator capacity at each DHB. Capacity at Auckland DHB is approximately 30 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 11.03 AM

Health & Disability

Health System

There are 17 hospitalised cases, of which 15 are community cases and two are border-related.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 11.03 AM.

Healthline

Healthline had 8,653 contacts yesterday. 7,053 were to the COVID-19 Info line, with 59% seeking information, and 20% were sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 11.03 AM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

There have been 269 proactive compliance monitoring visits by police to essential services to date.

There have been 1,213 infringements for non-compliance with: isolation, mask-wearing, QR code display, distancing, and for operating non-essential businesses.

New Zealand Police: 27 August 2021 3.30 PM

Protests

The use of 'cease and desist' notices are increasingly being used by activists, with two served on medical practices and another on police, suggesting they should stop participating in the COVID-19 response.

New Zealand Police: 27 August 2021 11.27 AM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 980 compliance breaches reported to police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 51 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 60% (588) related to gatherings, 30% (292) related to businesses, and 10% (100) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 27 August 2021 6.27 AM. Information as of 26 August 5.00 PM

Social & Community

Discrimination against Diverse Communities

Samoan and Pacific communities continue to report racial bullying and criticism related to COVID-19.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 26 August 2021 5.00 PM

Self-Isolation in Pacific Communities

The ability for members of large Pacific families to isolate is a concern. MPP is working with MoH and Pacific providers to identify safe options. NEMA is seeking clear public guidance on this.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 26 August 2021 5.00 PM, National Emergency Management Agency, 27 August 2.30 PM

Food Access for Pacific Communities

Pasifika Futures is supporting families in self-isolation.

Pacific providers report that requests for food and isolation support are exceeding their capacity. As a result, MPP is working to identify further funding opportunities and coordinated approaches to meet demand.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 26 August 2021 5.00 PM

Vaccine Access for Pacific Communities

Pacific health providers are expressing concerns at the vaccination roll-out to their communities, regarding the lack of advanced planning and timely responses to community-led initiatives from Government.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 26 August 2021 5.00 PM

Community-Centred Vaccination

In an online hui on COVID-19 vaccinations organised by MEC, stakeholders requested community-centred vaccination programmes, vaccination centres based at places of faith, the provision of interpretation services at these centres, and vaccination for those aged 12-15.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 26 August 2021 5.00 PM

Social & Community

Diverse Business Groups Concerns

Some Ethnic and Pacific businesses have conveyed their distress regarding the impact of prolonged restrictions on operational continuity, particularly in the construction and hospitality sectors.

The need for practical guidance and support in navigating the system, as well as alternative financial support pathways for businesses ineligible for the wage subsidy and resurgence funding, were identified as critical.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, Ministry for Pacific Peoples, 26 August 2021 5.00 PM

Public Sentiment

There has been an increase in online public sentiment regarding vaccinations including people expressing excitement about booking a vaccine and also people seeking to 'skip ahead' in the queue.

DPMC: 26 August 2021 1.41 PM

Mental Health Contacts

Yesterday there were 608 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". This is 35 less than the previous day.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 2021 11.03 AM

Temporary and Emergency Accommodation

The mental wellbeing of some people in intensive living situations is being negatively affected as lockdown persists. MSD is supporting providers to find places for those with complex needs, who are finding it difficult to maintain their current emergency housing accommodation.

Ministry for Housing and Urban Development, 27 August 2021 2.39 PM

Social & Community

Housing for the Homeless

Regional agencies across the country are reporting difficulties in finding accommodation for homeless populations, particularly those with complex needs.

Ministry for Housing and Urban Development, 27 August 2021 2.40 PM

Food Access for Vulnerable Groups

There is severe strain on food banks and the food security network.

Ministry for Housing and Urban Development, 27 August 2021 2.39 PM

Youth

Youth have identified a series of challenges in accessing clear and relatable information, navigating the impact of lockdown on studies, managing mental wellbeing and social engagement. Those in the Rainbow community identified particular challenges as a result of isolation.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities, 26 August 2021 5.00 PM

Travel & Transport

Traffic

No concerns raised.

Ministry of Transport: 27 August 2021 9.57 AM

Public Transport

Auckland public transport facilities have indicated an increase in non-essential worker movement on public transport. The behaviour of some of these individuals is antisocial, including intoxication, abuse, and vandalism, and there have been some reports of people spitting at staff.

Ministry of Transport: 27 August 2021 2.48 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Worker Unavailability due to Isolation

Work is underway to understand the extent of the risks due to worker isolation requirements, and what could be done to mitigate this.

Supermarket workers unavailable:

- Countdown – 750 (+ 50 from yesterday)
- Foodstuffs – 721 (+0 from yesterday)
- Seven countdown stores are closed (-1 from yesterday).

Infrastructure workers unavailable:

Watercare and Citycare - 28

There are requests for the rules for essential worker inter-regional travel to be clarified. It is understood that Cabinet has considered this today.

MBIE: 27 August 2021 3.07PM

Water, Waste, Telecommunications and Energy

No significant issues have been signalled in the water, waste, telecommunications or energy sectors.

MBIE: 27 August 2021 3.07PM

Digital Infrastructure

No digital service or critical supply issues have been signalled.

Chorus has raised concerns regarding their inability to install fibre connections for households that need it due to lockdown restrictions.

DIA: 27 August 2021 2.58 PM

Supermarket stocks and online deliveries

A range of mechanisms are in place at supermarkets to manage demand such as purchase limits, and additional capacity being added.

MBIE: 27 August 2021 3.07PM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

27 August 2021

Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
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COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment

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AOG Coordination

Communications

Key topics for communications include; reiteration of Alert Level 4 messaging and preparation for a likely Alert Level Split next week, including developing messaging on key differences between Alert Levels 3 and 4.

DPMC: 27 August 2021 10.:33 PM

Policy

Policy is focused on preparing the Cabinet paper to support the Alert Level review on Monday, including confirming the announcements made on Friday signalling that all of New Zealand south of Auckland, will move to Alert Level 3 at 11.59PM on Tuesday. Policy are also preparing for changes to the Order that will follow these decisions.

DPMC: 28 August 2021 10.47 PM

Regional Coordination

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

160 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, two fewer than Friday. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 29 August 2021 4.01 PM

Police Resourcing

No updates on Police resourcing received at the time of reporting.

Corrections Resourcing

128 Corrections staff are waiting for test results, 2 less than yesterday. There continues to be no positive COVID-19 cases among Corrections staff or persons in their care.

Department of Corrections: 29 August 2021 2.08 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 511 active cases that have been identified in the community. There are 496 cases in Auckland and 15 in Wellington. Of these, 83 are new cases; 82 in Auckland and 1 in Wellington.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 1.01 PM

Vaccination

As of 11.59PM on 28 August, there have been 3,287,571 doses of vaccine administered and 1,149,184 people have been fully vaccinated. There are 1,924,569 future bookings.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 10.55 AM

Contact Tracing

784 close plus contacts have been identified. 690 (88%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 166 have returned a positive result while 364 have tested negative.

29,560 close contacts have been identified. 21,375 (72%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 86 have returned a positive result. 21,289 have returned a negative test result.

There are 2,427 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 1.01 PM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,103,367 registered users.

2,235 people registered today.

There have been 349,036 scans today

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 3.17 PM

Testing

There were 23,139 tests yesterday, 50% of surge testing capacity. This is lower than the level of testing the day before.

There are sufficient supplies for 225,994 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 10.28 AM

Public Health & Border

MIQ Capacity

There are 3,685 people in managed isolation (82% of MIQ operational capacity).

There are 434 people in quarantine facilities (46% of capacity).

Since 26 August, there has been an increase to quarantine capacity of approximately 300 rooms, with less of a focus on border cases, and the Novatel Ellerslie being repurposed to a quarantine facility

MBIE: 28 August 2021 1.00 PM and 29 August 2021 7.30 AM

PPE

The Ministry of Health has at least eight weeks of stock based on forecast usage at high pandemic volumes.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 4.39 PM

Air Border

Sufficient staff are available across all airports to manage flights.

NZ Customs Service: 29 August 2021 2.14 PM

Customs have indicated that 100% of passengers requiring pre-departure tests are being screened and there have been no breaches identified.

NZ Customs Service: 29 August 2021 2.14 PM

Maritime Border

There is nothing of significant to note regarding the marine border.

NZ Customs Service: 29 August 2021 2.14 PM

Health & Disability

ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is currently ventilator capacity at each DHB. There is ICU capacity available at each DHB except for Hawkes Bay where all ICU beds are in use.

Capacity at Auckland DHB is approximately 30 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Capacity at Capital and Coast DHB is approximately 15 ICU beds and 35 ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 1.01 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

There are 35 hospitalised cases, all of which are associated with the current outbreak. 3 cases are in ICU and 2 of those require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 1.01 PM.

Healthline

Healthline had 5,712 contacts yesterday. 3,867 were to the COVID-19 Info line with all answered within 10 minutes. 69% of enquiries were seeking information and 21% of those calling were sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 1.01 PM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

10 people were prosecuted and 37 people were warned on Saturday for COVID-19 related offences.

There were 235 infringements issued on Saturday for COVID-19 related breaches, 146 less than the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 29 August 2021 7.25 AM. Information as of 28 August 5.00 PM

Protests

There are indications of a strike being planned amongst port border workers against mandatory vaccination requirements. The date of this protest is yet to be confirmed.

Online posts have been made to protest and activist groups with a call to "bombard" several Members of Parliament, including the Prime Minister, and health officials with an open letter titled 'Our Freedom is Essential'.

New Zealand Police: 29 August 2021 3.18 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 713 compliance breaches reported to Police online on Saturday. This is a decrease of 151 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 67% (480) related to gatherings, 23% (166) related to businesses, and 9% (67) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 29 August 2021 7.25 AM. Information as of 28 August 5.00 PM

Social & Community

Resources for Pacific Communities

Many Pacific providers are indicating they have exhausted their resources and funding. Pasifika Futures are working with other providers on a strategy to continue support to families in self isolation. MPP is supporting providers in their approach to access additional funding to provide resources to the areas of need.
Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 27 August 2021 5.01 PM

Education Resources in Pacific Communities

Access to education resources is an ongoing issue for Pacific students. Requests for educational resources are expected to increase as lockdown is extended. MoE is mobilising to meet the demand. MPP is continuing to take a coordination role in ensuring MoE is aware of the needs of the community to mitigate the risk of Pacific learners falling behind due to lockdown conditions.
Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 27 August 2021 5.00 PM

Vaccination for Pacific Communities

Pacific peoples have the highest national vaccination rate, among people aged 40 and above. Current MoH data shows 57 percent of Pasifika over 60 are fully vaccinated and 31 percent of those aged 40 to 59. MPP is continuing to support providers to deliver community-led vaccination clinics and facilitate improved collaboration between agencies.
Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 27 August 2021 5.00 PM
Note, however, there are relatively high numbers of Pacific people in younger age groups, and vaccination bookings for these age groups have only recently opened.

Social & Community

Language Barriers in MIQ

There are cultural and language barriers in MIQ between staff and the Māngere Assembly of God (AoG) Church of Samoa cluster. MIQ staff do not have sufficient cultural competency and there is no language translation assistance available in MIQ. There is a risk that families are not receiving adequate support and care because of this. In response to this risk, MPP have connected with South Seas (a Pacific health provider) who have offered to act as a connector and facilitator between people in MIQ, and staff.
Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 27 August 2021 5.00 PM

Information for Pacific Community

On 27 August, a Pacific Fono was held with Auckland Council's Pacific leaders and Auckland Emergency Management (which is part of the Auckland CDEM Group) to ensure the correct information and support is reaching Auckland's Pacific community.
NEMA: 29 August 2021 2.32 PM

Public Sentiment

Analysis of public social media channels following the Alert Level continuation announcement on Friday showed that conversation regarding Alert Level timeframes increased by 85%. There are a lot of people giving their thoughts on which areas they believe should remain in, or move to, which Alert Level.
DPMC: 27 August 2021 5.19 PM

Mental Health

Yesterday there were 629 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". This is 21 more than Friday.
Ministry of Health: 29 August 2021 1.01 PM

Social & Community

Ethnic Youth

An Ethnic youth zoom meeting was held by the Ministry for Ethnic Communities. There was a significant amount of positive feedback from participants, such as participants noting feeling like they have a voice and hearing information from agencies in a way that works for them.
Ministry for Ethnic Communities: 27 August 2021

Ministry for Ethnic Communities

The Ministry for Ethnic Communities have begun re-posting the 'Racism is No Joke' content through social media platforms. People are continuing to engage through WeChat and Facebook.
Ministry for Ethnic Communities: 27 August 2021

Travel & Transport

Traffic

No significant traffic issues have been signalled. Waka Kotahi continue to monitor mass vaccination sites for impact on traffic.
Ministry of Transport: 29 August 2021 2.39 PM

Boundary Travel

Boundary travel guidance and support for transport sector is being prepared for applications to the Boundary Travel Register.
Ministry of Transport: 29 August 2021 2.39 PM

Public Transport

Public transport authorities are considering how they will provide service at lower alert levels, including school bus services once schools reopen.
Ministry of Transport: 29 August 2021 2.39 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Worker Unavailability due to Isolation

supermarket workers unavailable:

- Countdown: 2500 staff not currently working including 1,500 staff self-isolating (this is an increase of 400 today).
- Foodstuffs North Island: 464 staff self-isolating (this is a decrease of 263 today)
- Seven Countdown stores are still closed (no change).

Infrastructure workers unavailable:

- Watercare and Citycare: 28 staff are self-isolating.

MBIE: 29 August 2021 3.06PM

Water, Waste, Telecommunications, and Energy

No significant issues have been signalled in the water, waste, telecommunications or energy sectors.

MBIE: 29 August 2021 3.06PM

Digital Infrastructure

No digital service or critical supply issues have been signalled.

DIA: 27 August 2021 7.16 PM

Supermarkets

Countdown and Foodstuffs continue to experience high demand. Both chains continue to have sufficient stocks. Purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling.

MBIE: 29 August 2021 3.06PM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

29 August 2021

Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz

This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.	COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz
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COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

30 August 2021

AOG Coordination

Communications

Key topics for communications include; preparation for Alert Level announcements, including the differences between AL3/4. There is also a focus on clarification on permitted business and personal travel reasons, and fishing and whitebaiting rules at AL4 and AL3.

DPMC: 30 August 2021 9.29 AM

Policy

Policy is considering issues arising from the current Order and looking ahead to issues that may arise from any decision to establish an Alert Level boundary. They are preparing further advice regarding future boundary decisions. They are also beginning to scope the Cabinet paper required to support the next discussion scheduled for 6 September.

DPMC: 30 August 2021 11.13 AM

Regional Coordination

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

155 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 5 less than previously reported. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 30 August 2021 3.13 PM

Police Resourcing

There will be increased pressure on Police to manage COVID-19 demand alongside normal functions with the move down Alert Levels. Security staff and Police patrolling of supermarkets has largely been successful in minimising abuse/disorder during AL4; however, this same level of oversight is unlikely to be maintained due to the number of services re-opening.

New Zealand Police: 30 August 2021 3.32 PM

Corrections Resourcing

122 Corrections staff are waiting for test results, 6 less than yesterday. There continues to be no positive COVID-19 cases among Corrections staff or persons in their care.

Department of Corrections: 30 August 2021 2.58 PM

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 562 active cases that have been identified in the community. There are 547 cases in Auckland and 15 in Wellington. Of these, 51 are new cases, and they are all in Auckland.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 12.59 PM

Vaccination

As of 11.59PM on 29 August, there have been 3,337,076 doses of vaccine administered and 1,160,700 people have been fully vaccinated. There are 1,922,064 future bookings.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 10.54 AM

Contact Tracing

888 close plus contacts have been identified. 787 (88%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 167 have returned a positive result, while 403 have tested negative.

30,716 close contacts have been identified. 26,120 (85%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 92 have returned a positive result. 22,297 have returned a negative test result.

There are 2,516 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 12.59 PM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,108,935 registered users.

2,815 people registered today.

There have been 577,048 scans today.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 5.15 PM

Testing

There were 16,370 tests yesterday, 35% of surge testing capacity. This is lower than the level of testing the day before.

There are sufficient supplies for 217,951 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 8.42 AM

Public Health & Border

MIQ Capacity

There are 3,875 people in managed isolation (86% of MIQ operational capacity). This is 190 more people than yesterday.

There are 551 people in quarantine facilities (62% of capacity).

MBIE: 30 August 2021 11.41 AM and 30 August 2021 7.30 AM

PPE

The Ministry of Health has at least eight weeks of PPE stock based on forecast usage at high pandemic volumes.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 4.15 PM

Air Border

Sufficient staff are available across all airports to manage flights.

NZ Customs Service: 30 August 2021 2.31 PM

Customs are checking all pre-departure tests, of passengers that are required to provide them. There are no passenger breaches to report.

NZ Customs Service: 30 August 2021 2.31 PM

Maritime Border

The NZ flagged ship Horizon arrived into Opuia on Saturday 28 August. Two NZ crew are isolating on board.

NZ Customs Service: 30 August 2021 2.31 PM

Health & Disability

Health System

There are 37 hospitalised cases, all of which are associated with the current outbreak. 5 cases are in ICU and 3 of those require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 12.59 PM.

ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity at each DHB. Capacity at Auckland DHB is approximately 35 ICU beds and over 65 ventilators.

Capacity at Capital and Coast DHB is approximately 15 ICU beds and 35 ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 12.59 PM

Healthline

Healthline had 4,921 contacts yesterday. 3,187 were to the COVID-19 Info Line. 68% of enquiries were seeking information and 22% of those calling were sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 12.59 PM

Compliance

Non-Compliance

4 people were prosecuted and 0 people were warned yesterday for COVID-19 related offences. These are the lowest numbers since reporting on prosecutions and warnings began.

There were 350 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches, 115 more than the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 30 August 2021 6.12 AM. Information as of 29 August 5.00 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 858 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is an increase of 145 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 75% (640) related to gatherings, 15% (132) related to businesses, and 10% (86) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 30 August 2021 6.12 AM. Information as of 29 August 5.00 PM

Compliance

Protests

31 August has been proposed for strike action by port workers in response to mandatory vaccines to coincide with the 'Enough is Enough' anti-government protest on the same day, but this would give organisers little time to prepare. The organiser noted support from Northland and Tauranga Ports, but it is currently unknown to what extent workers support the proposed strike and how much impact this will have on port operations.

The 'Enough is Enough' protest is stated to be at Parliament, the Governor General's residences, and regional and district councils, as a silent protest, leading to occupying Parliament if parliamentarians have not stood down.

A 'Lockdown Protest Drive' was planned to take place on Queen St, Auckland, on 1 September, but has been cancelled after Police engaged with the organiser.
New Zealand Police: 30 August 2021 3.32 PM

Social & Community

Public Sentiment

Analysis of public social media channels showed that conversation regarding COVID-19 in New Zealand decreased by 29% compared to the previous day. Most topics of conversation shifted towards a more negative sentiment.
DPMC: 29 August 2021 4.40 PM

Access to Food

Additional funding from government for food organisations has been agreed to.

There is discussion regarding the role of CDEM in Auckland (with regards to supporting access to food) between NEMA and C4C.

Caring for Communities: 30 August 2021 9.31 AM

Social & Community

Pacifica Vaccinations

A presentation on Pacific Vaccination in the Auckland Metro Region has been created. This was developed by Auckland DHB to communicate a framework for policies and interventions to achieve equity for Pacific Peoples, and share progress made to date. MSD are working to share this, in collaboration with MoH.
Caring for Communities: 30 August 2021 9.31 AM

Vaccinating Rough Sleepers

Vaccination and testing of rough sleepers is underway, with varying approaches to meet cohort and locational needs. HUD is sharing information with MoH and DHBs on the scale and density of demand in specific locations and will be identifying any gaps in services, which will mean additional vaccination and testing services can be arranged.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development: 30 August 2021 3.04 PM

Housing Rough Sleepers

HUD continues to work with accommodation providers as they assess the level of need and have responded quickly to these changing circumstances. Accommodation has been added in Auckland, Whangārei, Wellington, Nelson, and Christchurch (nearly 60 in total to date), primarily in 2020 COVID-19 response motels that had previously been exited. HUD are working with MSD and providers in other areas to support work to house rough sleepers.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development: 30 August 2021 3.04 PM

Mental Health

Yesterday there were 218 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". This is 401 less than the Sunday.

Ministry of Health: 30 August 2021 12.59 PM

Travel & Transport

Traffic

The number of people seen moving around the Auckland/Wellington/Christchurch traffic networks was higher than expected over the weekend. A significant increase in speeding, fleeing drivers, disorderly behaviour & vandalism has been observed compared to the previous AL4 in March/April 2020.

Ministry of Transport, 30 August 2021 2.46 PM

Regional Boundaries

Two checkpoints led by local Iwi have been erected on SH35. Police are sending staff to remove these checkpoints. There has been an ongoing issue about Iwi wanting these checkpoints and Police/CDEM not supporting them.

Ministry of Transport: 30 August 2021 2.46 PM

Public Transport

The Passenger Service industry has raised concerns that drivers have expressed a greater unwillingness to work due to concerns about the Delta variant.

Ministry of Transport, 30 August 2021 2.46 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Worker Unavailability due to Isolation

Supermarket workers unavailable:

- Countdown: 2570 staff not currently working due to COVID-19 risks, including 1,570 staff self-isolating (this is an increase of 70 today).
- Foodstuffs North Island: 285 staff self-isolating (this is a decrease of 179 today)
- Seven Countdown stores are still closed (no change).

Infrastructure workers unavailable:

- Watercare, VISY and Citycare: 34 staff are self-isolating (this is an increase of 1 today).

MBIE: 30 August 2021 2.50PM

Water, Waste, Telecommunications, and Energy

No significant issues have been signalled in the water, waste, telecommunications or energy sectors.

MBIE: 30 August 2021 2.50PM

Digital Infrastructure

No digital service or critical supply issues have been signalled.

DIA: 30 August 2021 2.47 PM

Supermarkets

Countdown and Foodstuffs continue to experience high demand. Both chains continue to have sufficient stocks. Purchase limits have been placed on certain goods to prevent stockpiling. The key risk for both supermarkets is essential worker unavailability due to COVID-19 contact isolation requirements.

MBIE: 30 August 2021 2.50PM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

30 August 2021

Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz

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COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

1 September 2021

Daily Updates

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 682 active cases that have been identified in the community. Today, 75 new cases were confirmed, all but one in Auckland.

1 case in Midcentral has been determined to be a historical case already reported overseas.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 1.05 PM

Contact Tracing

979 close plus contacts have been identified. 902 (92%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 276 have returned a positive result, while 455 have tested negative.

31,140 close contacts have been identified. 27,531 (88%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 126 have returned a positive result. 23,058 have returned a negative test result.

There are 2,713 casual plus contacts.
Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 1.05 PM

Vaccination

As of 11.59PM on 31 August, there have been 3,502,005 doses of vaccine administered and 1,211,861 people have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,891,471 future bookings.
Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 10.45 AM

Testing

There were 22,158 tests yesterday, 43% of surge testing capacity. This is higher than the level of testing the day before.

There are sufficient supplies for 256,573 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 10 04 AM

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,128,738 registered users. 9,339 people registered today. There have been 825,722 scans today, up 21% on the previous day.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 3.12 PM

Public Health & Border

PPE

On 31 August, MOH distributed 75,234 N95/P2 particulate respirators, 559,750 procedure masks, 140,680 isolation gowns, 30,360 disposable aprons, 16,020 face shields, 294,000 nitrile gloves, 1,034 hand sanitisers and 143,800 disinfectant wipes for use in the health and disability sector. Current usage rate remains within medium pandemic range.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 3.44 PM

Air Border

Customs are checking all pre-departure tests, of passengers that are required to provide them. There are no passenger breaches to report.

NZ Customs Service: 1 September 2021 2.30 PM

Maritime Border

22 merchant vessels are NZ currently isolating in port, with an estimated 451 crew in total.

Six merchant vessels scheduled to arrive into NZ today, with an estimated 130 crew in total.

NZ Customs Service: 1 September 2021 2 00 PM

MIQ Capacity

There are 3,731 people in managed isolation (83% of MIQ operational capacity and 45 fewer people than yesterday).

There are 658 people in quarantine facilities (49% of capacity). This is 30 more than yesterday.

MBIE: 1 September 2021 1.13 PM and 1 September 2021 7 30 AM

Health & Disability

Health System

There are 33 hospitalised cases, all of which are associated with the current outbreak. 7 cases are in ICU and 4 of those require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 1.05 PM.

Health & Disability

Healthline

Healthline had 5,772 contacts yesterday. 4,283 were to the COVID-19 Info Line. 78% of enquiries were seeking information and 14% of those calling were sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 1.05 PM

ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity at each DHB, except Hawkes Bay which has no available ICU beds. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is approximately 25 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Capacity at Capital and Coast DHB is approximately 15 ICU beds and 35 ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 1.05 PM

Compliance

Checkpoints have been established at the southern border of Tāmaki Makaurau following the split of Alert Levels. Approximately 920 vehicles were recorded going through all six southern checkpoints from 0000hrs until 0600hrs on 01 September 2021, and 16 vehicles turned around due to not having an exemption.

New Zealand Police: 1 September 2021 3.46 PM

Non-Compliance

21 people were prosecuted (up 10 from previously reported) and 36 people were warned yesterday (previously reported there was 0 warnings) for COVID-19 related offences. There were 224 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches, 80 less than the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 1 September 2021 6 36 AM. Information as of 30 August 5.00 PM

Online Breach Notifications

There were 472 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 385 breach notifications compared to the previous day. This is the lowest amount reported in the last 13 days.

Of the breaches, 53% (248) related to gatherings, 37% (173) related to businesses, and 11% (51) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 1 September 2021 6 36 AM. Information as of 30 August 5.00 PM

AOG Coordination

Communications

The key topics for communications today include refining messaging on differences between AL3 and AL4, updating the public on requirements for travel within and across boundaries, and conveying educational requirements for ECE, schools, and tertiary (including limiting school bubbles to 10 pupils, and mandating masks for tertiary).

DPMC: 31 August 2021 10.02 AM

Policy

DPMC is preparing advice for Ministers for Thursday on how multiple alert levels could be managed e.g. 4/2 or 4/3/2. They are also coordinating a number of workstreams to inform the Cabinet paper supporting the alert level decision on Monday 6 September. These include looking at workplace infection control protocols, alert level 4 settings in general, and identifying any economic barriers that may be limiting businesses unnecessarily at the higher alert levels. The team are continuing to work through issues arising from the Order and reviewing guidance from across government to ensure alignment with the Order.

DPMC: 1 September 2021 11.41 AM

Regional Coordination

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

88 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 40 less than previously reported. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 1 September 2021 3 09 PM

Police Resourcing

Approximately 200 staff are assigned to work the regional boundary checkpoints south of Auckland on a roster basis, alongside New Zealand Defence Force staff

MIQ Resourcing

Of the MIQ staff (both NZDF and other), 132 are currently self-isolating (1 more than yesterday), and there are 3 positive cases.

MBIE: 1 September 2021 7.30 AM

Daily Updates

Regional Coordination

Corrections Resourcing

114 Corrections staff are waiting for test results, five more than yesterday. A staff member at the Spring Hill Corrections Facility in Te Kauwhata tested positive for COVID-19 on 30 August. He is fully vaccinated, was tested on 29 August and has been isolating since that date. All 123 staff in the SHCF unit where he was working have been quarantined, and were tested for COVID-19 on 31 August. Department of Corrections: 1 September 2021 3.10 PM

Social & Community

Enough is Enough Protest

The 'Enough is Enough' anti-government/lockdown protests took place at approximately 14 locations around the country on Tuesday. There were few attendees and limited action.

Thirteen individuals were arrested, and numerous individuals warned because of these protests. The lead activist attended the Far North District Council headquarters in Kaikohe and was subsequently arrested for breaching AL4 restrictions.

New Zealand Police: 31 August 2021 3.44 PM

Mental Health

Yesterday there were 724 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". This is 506 more than on Monday.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021 1 04 PM

Social & Community

Access to Food

MSD has received \$7.2 million in funding to support foodbanks, with funding prioritised for Auckland, Northland, and the NZFN. C4C is focussed on ensuring visibility of the recipients of funding across agencies to identify any gaps or unmet needs.

Caring for Communities: 31 August 2021 6.59 PM

Public Sentiment

Analysis of public social media channels showed that the total volume of conversation on Monday increased by 30%, across all categories. The largest increase was financial stability (81%) followed by timeframe (74%).

The timeframe category increase is likely due to the alert level change announcement with some pushing for an earlier move and others happy to stay the course.

DPMC: 31 August 2021 5.33 PM

Pacific Providers PPE Shortage

Pacific providers nationwide are reporting PPE shortages. MPP is connecting local providers, churches, and communities to larger distributors and agencies.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 31 August 2021 5.19 PM

Community reach with Pacific peoples

MPP has contacted 2,450 of 3,260 known community groups to understand their concerns, with a focus on Auckland.

MPP report fear and low levels of trust, particularly from seasonal workers and Pacific visa overstayers. Community leaders are requesting continuous messaging and reassurance about vaccine eligibility, and ethnicity-specific vaccination data to inform community initiatives.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 31 August 2021 5.19 PM

Travel & Transport

Traffic

There have been small (single digit) increases in Light and Heavy traffic across the country. These increases are likely due to business owners preparing to open under Alert Level 3. Ministry of Transport, 1 September 2021 2.4 PM

Interislander

The Kaiarahi has been taken out of service for diagnostics which may require urgent, on-site specialist technical assistance from the vendor who is based in the Netherlands. There has been a return to service to avoid supply chain disruptions.

Ministry of Transport, 1 September 2021 2.44 PM

Regional Boundaries

The Ministry of Transport is receiving fewer queries about essential transport relative to previous lockdowns, which may suggest greater awareness.

Ministry of Transport, 1 September 2021, 2.44 PM

Supply Chain Continuity

Alert Level 4 guidance has been distributed to freight operators. Freight is reportedly flowing well.

Ministry of Transport, 1 September 2021, 2.44 PM

Interregional Travel

Sector coordinating entities have provided the key utility sectors with advice on the process for seeking approvals to cross the 4/3 border. MBIE is continuously monitoring how the system functions now that it is operational.

MBIE, 1 September 2021 2.55 PM

Public Transport

Wellington bus patronage has increased by 25% today, while Auckland had a minor decrease (6%) and Christchurch had a small (8%) increase. Concerns about students not wearing masks on school buses has been raised.

Ministry of Transport, 1 September 2021 2.44 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Infrastructure Resourcing

Watercare, VISY and Citycare: 31 staff are self-isolating (this is a decrease of three since yesterday). MBIE: 1 September 2021 2 55 PM

Educational Devices

Funding has been granted to the Ministry of Education for 7000 devices to meet demand for online education in Years 9-13. Should devices need to be supplied to students in Years 1-8 (currently a lesser priority), this could require an additional 72,000 devices.

Department for Internal Affairs, 1 September 2021 2.58 PM

Digital Infrastructure – Internet Connectivity

The Ministry of Education is connecting 50 households to the internet per day, but funding is limited to the end of 2021. The Ministry is working with schools to identify houses without internet access and pursue options to connect.

Department for Internal Affairs, 1 September 2021 2.58 PM

Vaccinating Essential Workers

Vaccinations for supermarket workers are underway. MBIE has provided MoH with estimated numbers of essential workers and key contact points in utilities sectors (telco, energy, water, waste) requiring vaccination.

MBIE: 1 September 2021 2 55 PM

Supermarket Resourcing

Countdown: 2,000 staff not currently working due to COVID-19 risks, including 1,000 staff self-isolating (this is a decrease of 570 since 29 August). Foodstuffs North Island: 112 staff self-isolating (this is a decrease of 159 since yesterday)

4 Countdown stores are closed, a reduction from 7 on August 29. No Foodstuffs stores are closed.

MBIE: 1 September 2021 2 55 PM

Supermarkets as Locations of Interest

40 Countdown stores have been identified as locations of interest, doubling from 20 on August 29. This raises concerns for business continuity if affected staff numbers are high.

MBIE, 1 September 2021 2 55 PM

The Bigger Picture

Public Health & Border

Managed Quarantine Nearing Capacity

Over the last 6 days, while the number of people in managed isolation has fluctuated, the number of people in quarantine facilities has more than doubled.

Over the same period, the addition of more quarantine rooms has meant the utilised quarantine capacity has appeared largely stable.

The ability to add further capacity is limited due to workforce limitations and limited available appropriate facilities. It is possible that the available quarantine capacity will be exhausted in the short-to-medium term, depending on case numbers in the coming days. Discussions are occurring with Officials and Ministers to understand the range of options available to meet future demand.

MBIE: 27-31 August 2021, and 1 September

Admission to Quarantine Facilities

Whilst there has been some suggestion that there is a backlog of cases awaiting processing for transport and admission at quarantine facilities, this is untrue. The standard process from the time a case is reported to ARPHS to the time the person is admitted in a quarantine facility takes 24 hours to complete.

There is no backlog of cases awaiting processing for admission.

MBIE: 31 August 2021 2:57 PM

Policy to have all community cases in Quarantine Facilities

The decision to have all community cases come into MIQ continues to put the significant strain on a system that was not set up to manage this number of positive cases (existing ventilation concerns, configuration, exercise areas, separation from public areas or residents etc).

MBIE: 1 September 2021 2:56 PM

With the quarantine system stretched as it is, and not necessarily fit for purpose there is a possibility that the risks of infection to staff may increase.

Responding to Language and Cultural Barriers in MIQ

MIQ has responded to cultural and language concerns by adding three in-house Pacific interpreters and expanding menus to suit dietary needs.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 31 August 2021 5:19 PM

Health & Disability

Welfare Referrals from Healthline Declining

For the last few days, welfare referrals from Healthline calls have been less than expected levels. Discussions are underway to understand why.

Ministry of Health: 31 August 2021

Testing Levels Declining

Testing levels have declined every day between 25 August and 30 August from 49,745 tests, to 16,370 tests. Testing has since increased to 22,158 yesterday.

Ministry of Health: 1 September 2021

COVID-19 App Usage Declining

Sign-ups to the COVID-19 app declined every day between 22 August and 30 August, from 31,525, to 5,295.

Ministry of Health: 31 August 2021

Discrimination and mental health

Members of the Assembly of God Church of Samoa and the wider Samoan community are continuing to be targeted by racist comments fueled by the current COVID-19 outbreak. There is concern this will cause increased levels of stress and anxiety amongst a community which is already struggling with the physical and financial impact of the outbreak. It is possible the racist commentary will exacerbate any existing mental health issues which are already in the community.

New Zealand Police: 1 September 2021 3:46 PM

AOG & Regional Coordination

Shortage of Resources among Pacific Providers

Pacific providers continue to report that they are overwhelmed and are exhausting resources. Demand for these resources (food parcels, financial aid, support for self-isolation, educational devices, etc.) is expected to increase as lockdown continues.

RSE workers and visa overstayers remain hesitant to ask for government support, further increasing demand on community providers. MPP are seeking to provide further funding and resources to Pacific providers and are referring enquiries to Pasifika Futures, who are working on a strategy for community providers.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 31 August 2021 5:19 PM

Boundary Tensions

The boundary settings between AL4 in Auckland and AL3 south of Auckland region are likely to create issues and tensions particularly in the northern Waikato and southern Auckland areas. The Unite Against COVID-19 website enquiries inbox has already received several disgruntled emails from people who feel they are 'cut off' from other areas or unfairly affected. The Ministry for Primary Industries has already stood up its boundary exemption team and has begun processing exemptions to move across the boundaries.

DPMC: 31 August 2021 and MPI: 31 August 2021.

The Bigger Picture

Compliance

Boundary Decisions Considered Unfair By Some

The decision that Northland is to remain at AL4, while the rest of the country south of Auckland moves to AL3 on 2359hrs on 31 August has some Northland business owners and the public feeling as though they are being treated unfairly. It is likely the perceived unfairness of Northland remaining at AL4 will result in increased non-compliance with the AL4 restrictions.

New Zealand Police: 31 August 2021 3.44 PM

Protests and Disinformation

Protest activity continues at low levels with small numbers turning out and some arrests made. However, online content continues to proliferate with a noted anti-government tone in some messages. This theme mirrors content seen in the United States.

Disinformation regarding the vaccine continues, now including the use of medicines such as Ivermectin (which is used to treat parasite infections) as an alternative.

A wider acknowledgment of alternative medicine such as Ivermectin could possibly lead to an increase in harm from misusing medication incorrectly.

New Zealand Police : 1 August 2021 3.46 PM

Family Harm

Reporting from Police districts suggests there has been a spike in family harm occurrences since lockdown began (up 3.9% in the first week of Alert Level 4, and up 6.9% in week 2). It is likely there are several conditions specific to the 2021 AL4 lockdown which have contributed and include:

- The short timeframe the public was given to establish their lockdown bubbles,
- The toll of previous AL3/4 lockdowns,
- A lack of alternative housing options or overcrowding in some households,
- First time family harm callers more aware of what constitutes victimisation and being more willing to engage with Police, and
- Disagreement within families regarding both the effectiveness of lockdown measures and vaccinations.

New Zealand Police : 1 August 2021 3.46 PM

Compliance

Breaches to AL4 through students flying domestically

Two students have breached AL4 restrictions, flying out of Auckland to Wellington and Dunedin without an exemption (on 29 and 30 August). Police have issued an infringement notice to one and Police are considering additional penalties against the second student. It is possible this incident could cause frustration regarding the lack of enforcement of exemptions to fly and more people may attempt to travel without an exemption in the future.

New Zealand Police: 1 September 2021 3.46 PM

Avsec is providing door security support at the main airports. This includes checking the reason for entering the airport, and evidence for the reason to travel. Updated guidance on reasons to travel has been provided to them.

Ministry of Transport: 1 September 2021, 2.44 PM

If the security and enforcement is not seen as adequate, it is possible the public licence to follow the lockdown will reduce and we will see an increase in the sort of non-compliance.

Workplace & Infrastructure

Updates to Vaccination Strategy for Essential Workers

A number of key workers have been added to Vaccination Group 2, to ensure the continuity of supply chains and improve employee safety. This grants early vaccine access to those working in supermarkets and convenience stores, petrol stations, pharmacies, food banks, laundries, hardware stores, licensing trusts, accommodation services where residents share facilities, passenger services, halls of residence and boarding schools, and social and community-based services. District health boards nationwide are working directly with employers to organise vaccinations for these groups, with some doses being delivered directly on-site.

MBIE: 1 September 2021 2.55 PM

The Bigger Picture

Social & Community

Food Package Demand Decreasing

MSD has announced a funding increase facilitating distribution of an additional 60,000 food parcels and 10,000 wellbeing packs. It is likely demand for food parcels and other goods (including masks) will continue in particular in Tāmaki Makaurau and Northland while they remain in Alert level 4.

NEMA SitRep 10 COVID-19 DELTA VARIANT: 27 August 2021 and New Zealand Police: 30 August 2021 3.32 PM

Digital Inclusion a Concern

The Alert Level 4 lockdown has highlighted some of the difficulties faced by New Zealanders who do not have a connection, device or the skills needed to access internet and online services at home.

This particularly affects families with young children attending school, who cannot afford for each child/family member to have their own device. Many community organisations are receiving more frequent requests from families asking for support to access digital devices. DIA is looking at ways to remedy this issue, including working with MBIE to discuss recycling device recycling initiatives using old government devices.

Department of Internal Affairs: 26-31 August 2021.

Elderly Peoples' Wellbeing a Concern

Ministry of Pacific Peoples have raised concerns regarding the wellbeing of elderly people including ensuring they have access to relevant support and online resources.

MPP is engaging with Pacific providers to target impacted groups within the Pacific Community and monitor emerging issues, including any risks of increases in family harm.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 30 August 2021 5 00 PM

Difficulties to self-isolate in over-crowded houses

The living arrangements of Pacific populations are frequently characterised by over-crowding (38.5%, compared to 10.8% of the overall population). "We all know that Pacific communities are more likely to live in over-crowded housing. This makes calls to self-isolate unrealistic in many cases" according to Dr Api Talemaitoga. This is likely to increase the risk of household transmission if one individual in an overcrowded house tests positive.

Community Panel COVID-19 Insights Presentation: 31 August 2 30 PM

Social & Community

Temporary visa holders experiencing hardship

Temporary visa holders and people with expired visas in Queenstown are experiencing high levels of anxiety associated with MSD emergency support ending, amid financial hardship and lack of repatriation flights. Immigration New Zealand is coordinating a local response with MEC, MSD, and Queenstown Lakes District Council.

Ministry of Ethnic Communities: 31 August 2021 5.49 PM

Concurrent Event Planning Underway

NEMA has developed a National Action Plan and concurrent events response plan and are coordinating response activities with CDEM Groups. The importance of this was highlighted again recently due to the West Auckland Flooding on Tuesday.

NEMA: 31 August 2021 4.21 PM

Public Sentiment on Alert Level changes

Analysis of public social media channels identified that with Northland to move to Alert Level 3 at midnight on Thursday pending cases / wastewater testing results, public sentiment is split, with some pushing for an earlier move while others are happy to stay the course.

There are a few people sharing they are struggling with the lockdown but many of these have acknowledged that Auckland remaining at Level 4 is the right decision.

Many people are sharing their plans for Alert Level 3 e.g., takeaways, surfing and online shopping.

DPMC: 31 August 2021 5.33 PM

There is still a strong degree of justification, support and stoicism about lockdown conditions and high compliance to health measures. Sentiments such as "it is what it is", "Delta is different" are common. There is a strong sense that life will not return to normal any time soon.

DPMC: COVID-19 Sentiment Qualitative Pulse Check AL4, 28 – 29 Aug

It appears that the public confidence and social licence remains strong. If this changes, then it is likely that the high compliance rates experienced to date could decrease.

Travel & Transport

Some Public Transport Drivers Unwilling to Work Due to Delta

The passenger service industry has raised concerns to Waka Kotahi that, especially for larger passenger services, there is a greater unwillingness for drivers to work due to the risks of the Delta variant. However, officials have been engaging with Public Transport Authorities (PTAs), operators and unions and these bodies have not raised the same level of concern over driver willingness to work.

At this time, driver willingness has not affected service levels, though this will continue to be monitored.

Ministry of Transport: 31 August 2021 3.11 PM

Emerging Impacts to Supply Chains

The Ministry of Transport report potential supply chain issues from non-AL4 businesses, particularly exporters and manufacturers due to limited shipping export capacity.

The inability to ship non-AL4 exports may create a backlog of cargo once restrictions are removed. The inability to ship non-AL4 goods has led to a fall in exports for international ships to bring out of New Zealand. With import demand still very strong, shipping lines are not expected to pull out services to New Zealand, but they might omit more smaller ports to reduce the impact of schedule delays following continued supply chain disruption.

Container yards are already operating at or over capacity in Auckland and there are anecdotal reports of warehouses and storage filling up with goods unable to be sold or moved during AL4.

Businesses have advised that the inter-regional 4/3 boundary will present challenges for manufacturers based elsewhere, given a significant proportion of raw materials, componentry, and packaging are manufactured in Auckland.

Ministry of Transport: 31 August 2021 3.11 PM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

1 September 2021

Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz
This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.		COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz

Daily Updates

Public Health & Border

Community Cases

There are 731 active cases that have been identified in the community. Today, 28 new cases were confirmed, 27 in Auckland, 1 in Wellington.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 1.01 PM

Contact Tracing

1,076 close plus contacts have been identified.

1,024 (95%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 294 have returned a positive result, while 431 have tested negative.

33,568 close contacts have been identified. 29,267 (87%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 134 have returned a positive result. 23,807 have returned a negative test result.

There are 2,976 casual plus contacts.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 1.01 PM

Vaccination

To date, there have been 2,419,970 first doses of vaccine administered and 1,264,629 people have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,974,619 future bookings.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 11.06 AM

Information as of 2 September 2021 11.59 PM

Testing

There were 12,796 tests yesterday, 25% of surge testing capacity. This is higher than the level of testing the day before.

There are sufficient supplies for 246,331 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 8.52 AM

Public Health & Border

COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,142,520 registered users. 3,424 people registered today. There have been 957,101 scans today.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 4.00 PM

Air Border

There have been no pre-departure test passenger breaches based on Customs checks in the reporting period.

NZ Customs Service: 2 September 2021 2.30 PM

Maritime Border

There are 27 merchant vessels in ports with six vessels scheduled to arrive. Two crew were signed off vessels to a MIF ahead of departing NZ on 6 September.

NZ Customs Service: 2 September 2021 2.30 PM

MIQ Capacity

There are 3,742 people in managed isolation (85% of MIQ operational capacity, which is 11 more people than yesterday).

There are 744 people in quarantine facilities (67% of capacity, which is 86 more than yesterday).

MBIE: 3 September 2021 10.00 AM

Health & Disability

Health System

There are 43 hospitalised cases, all of which are associated with the current outbreak. 9 cases are in ICU and 3 of those require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 1.01 PM.

Healthline

Healthline had 5,265 contacts yesterday. 3,547 were to the COVID-19 Info Line. 77% of enquiries were seeking information and 16% of those calling were sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 1.01 PM

ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity at each DHB. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is over 20 ICU beds and over 55 ventilators. Capacity at Capital and Coast DHB is over 10 ICU beds and over 30 ventilators.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 1.01 PM

Compliance

Travel Compliance

Checkpoints have been established at the southern border of Tāmaki Makaurau following the split of Alert Levels. Approximately 7,663 vehicles were recorded going through the six southern checkpoints from 2359hrs 31 August 2021 to 1530hrs 2 September 2021.

267 vehicles (3.5%) were turned around for not having an exemption or permitted travel.

New Zealand Police: 3 September 2021 6.15 AM

Non-Compliance

8 people were prosecuted for COVID-19 related offences, 8 less than the previous day. 27 people were warned yesterday, 28 less than the previous day. There were 155 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches, 65 less than the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 3 September 2021 6.15 AM. Information as of 2 September 5.00 PM

Compliance

Online Breach Notifications

There were 593 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 80 breach notifications compared to the previous day.

Of the breaches, 57% (337) related to gatherings, 32% (189) related to businesses, and 11% (67) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 3 September 2021 6.15 AM. Information as of 2 September August 5.00 PM

AOG Coordination

Communications

The key topics for communications include planning for the next Alert Level review, updating the public on requirements for travel within and across boundaries (particularly Northland/Auckland), clarification around funerals, tangihanga, and burials, and responding to media queries around mandatory face coverings, rules on travel and recreation in Alert Level 3, and the future of large events.

A large stakeholder hui was held with approximately 74 people from central and local government, CDEM, iwi, and DHBs to engage regarding key messages.

DPMC: 2 September 2021 8.59PM

Policy

DPMC is co-ordinating several workstreams to inform the Cabinet paper supporting the Alert Level review on Monday. These include workplace infection control protocols, Alert Level 4 settings, and identifying any economic barriers unnecessarily limiting businesses at higher alert levels. The team are working through issues arising from the Order and reviewing guidance from across government to ensure alignment with the Order.

DPMC: 3 September 2021 4.02PM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

3 September 2021

Daily Updates

Regional Coordination

Fire and Emergency Resourcing

85 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest. This is 1 less than yesterday. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 3 September 2021 2.00 PM

Corrections Resourcing

106 Corrections staff are awaiting test results. The staff member at the Spring Hill Corrections Facility in Te Kauwhata who tested positive for COVID-19 on 30 August is no longer considered a positive case; he has returned a negative second test result. All staff in the unit where he was working were quarantined and tested for COVID-19 on 31 August.

Department of Corrections: 3 September 2021 3.05 PM

Social & Community

Mental Health

On Thursday there were 607 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". This is 74 less than the previous day.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 1.01 PM

Mental Health Related Calls to Police

Mental health-related calls to Police have increased to approximately 65 calls per day since the start of Alert Level 4, compared to approximately 53 calls per day under Alert Level 1.

Police: 1 September 2021 2.48 PM

Community Outreach to Pacific Peoples

In the Pacific community, Zoom fono are being held connecting Government with Youth and ethnic communities.

MPP has contacted 3,294 of the 3,553 known community groups to understand their needs and concerns, focusing on Auckland. 293 new community groups have been identified since 1 September.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 3 September 2021 4.11 PM

Travel & Transport

Interregional Travel

Key utility sectors have received advice from sector entities on seeking approvals to cross the 4/3 alert level boundary.

MBIE, 3 September 2021 2.54 PM

Traffic

Light and Heavy traffic in all major cities except Auckland has increased by 130% to 180% when compared with the same period last week, following these cities moving to Alert Level 3. Auckland has had only a slight increase in both types of traffic.

Ministry of Transport, 3 September 2021 2.32 PM

Workplace & Infrastructure

Infrastructure Resourcing

Watercare and Citycare: 27 staff are self-isolating (compared to yesterday there are 2 more from Watercare, 2 less from Citycare).

MBIE: 3 September 2021 2.54 PM

Supermarket Resourcing

Countdown has 2,100 staff not currently working due to COVID-19 risks, including 1,100 staff self-isolating (an increase of 100 today). Foodstuffs North Island has 81 staff self-isolating (no change today).

3 Countdown stores are closed, one less than yesterday.

No Foodstuffs stores are closed.

MBIE: 3 September 2021 2.54 PM

Digital Infrastructure

No critical digital infrastructure issues have been reported. However, after DIA issued their report a Vocus outage caused an internet service disruption impacting the essential public services. The incident is under investigation.

Department for Internal Affairs, 3 September 2021 12.00 PM; and 2.57 PM

Telecommunications, Energy, Water, Waste

No issues reported.

Department for Internal Affairs, 3 September 2021 12.00 PM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

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The Bigger Picture

There are several protest, disinformation and non-compliance activities occurring during the current response. Some of the most high-profile ones are highlighted below.

Protests and Disinformation

The 'NZ Liberty Movement' Telegram group have encouraged followers to practice civil disobedience by playing on playgrounds. They have advised people should move if Police arrive, but that people should 'push those boundaries[sic].' The group also promoted a misinformation campaign, encouraging supporters to dislike posts by 'alarmists' or those in support of the Government, lockdown, and vaccines. The group's aim is to increase the perception that opposition to the Government's position is widespread.

'Enough is Enough' lead activist **s9(2)(a)** remains active on social media and Police continue to receive allegations she is breaching her bail conditions by inciting protests. Brewer shared a post with all the contact details and locations of every Police station in Victoria Australia, and instructions for contacting every officer in the state. It is unknown whether she intends to collect similar information on New Zealand Police or what she expects her followers to do with the information.

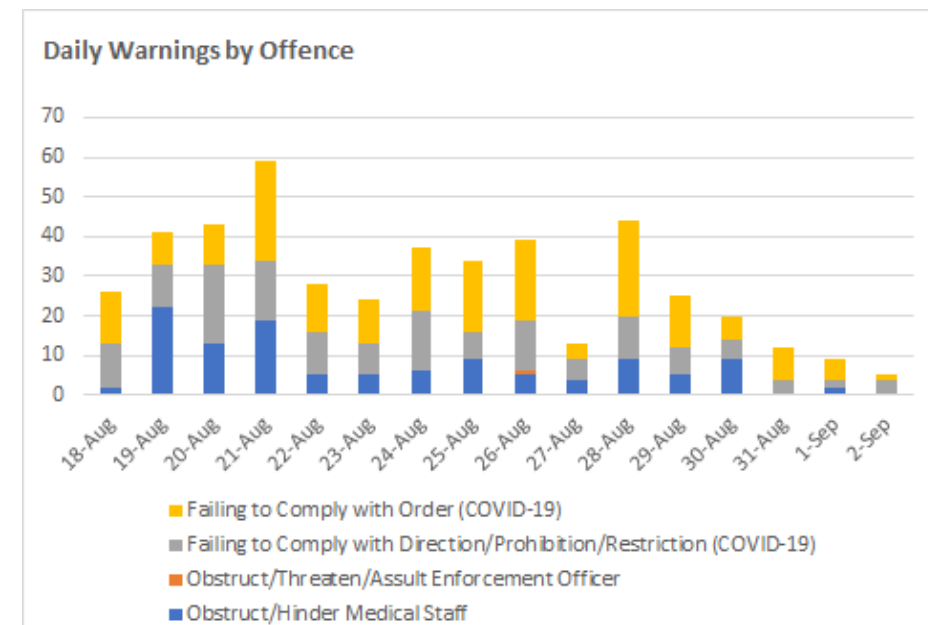
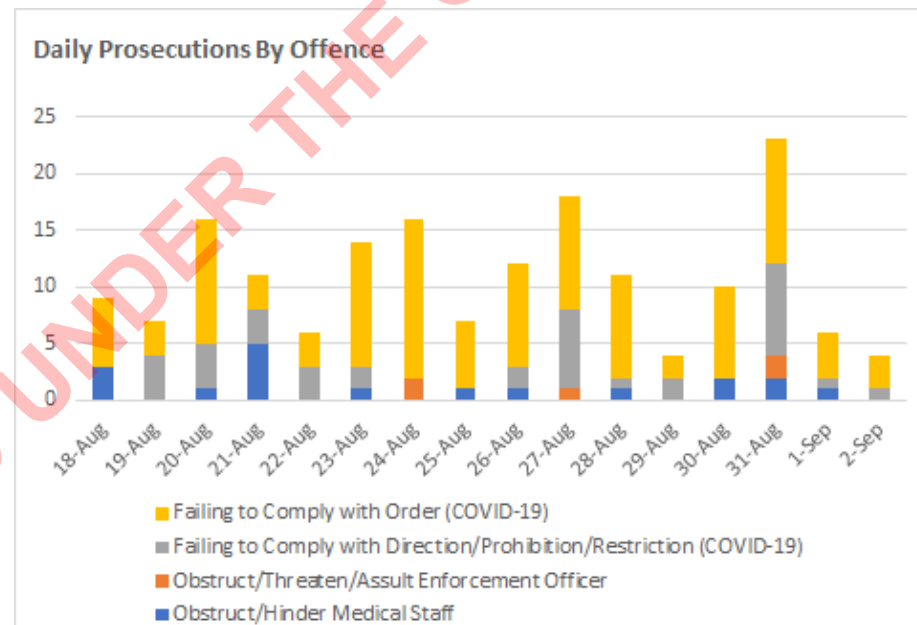
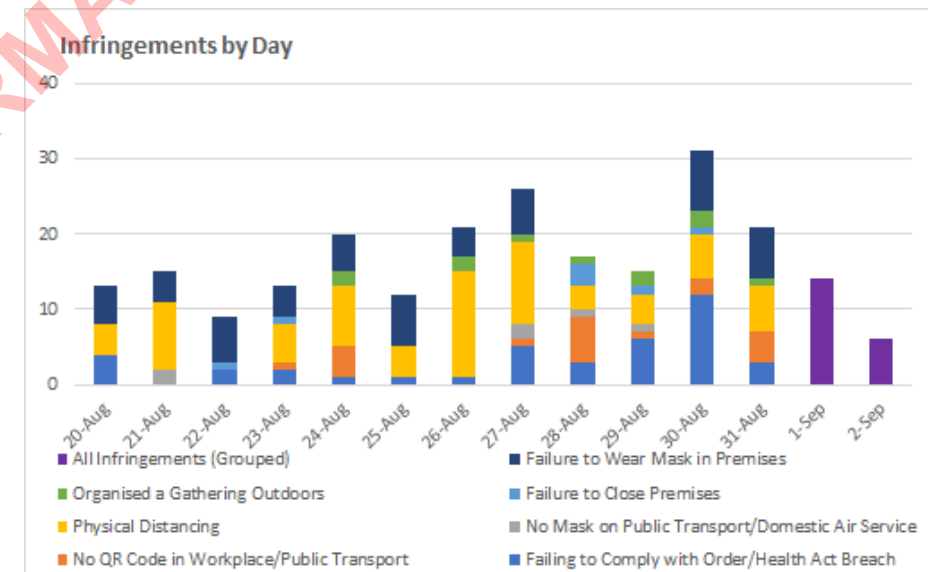
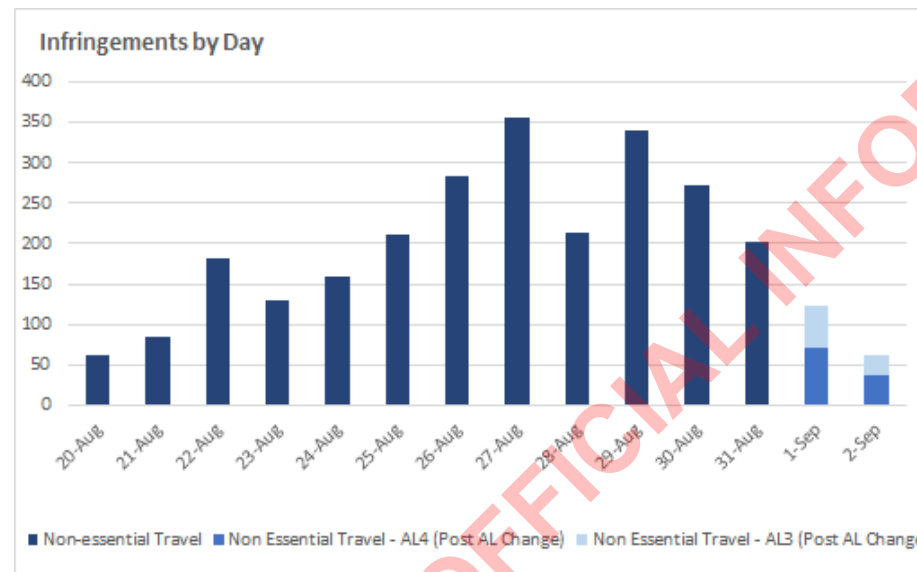
High profile activist, **s9(2)(a)** has uploaded two videos to the Rumble social media platform since 31 August 2021. In both videos, Police are given 72 hours to stand down and to "cease and desist from all criminal behaviour". He is encouraging Police staff to protest against Police leadership by midday 3 September 2021. He states that cease and desist notices will be served to Police District and Area Commanders, and accuses Police of intimidating, harassing, and arresting innocent community members. Police continue to monitor his activity.

New Zealand Police: 3 August 2021 3.15 PM

Compliance

Infringements, prosecutions, and warnings related to COVID-19 have declined over the last couple of days, particularly since areas south of Auckland have moved to Alert Level 3 at 11.59pm on 31 August.

New Zealand Police : 3 September 2021 6.26 AM



The Bigger Picture

Interregional Travel

There have been reports of people travelling to the Waikato from Auckland for vaccinations. The essential service rules allow for exemptions on medical grounds. The Waikato community have indicated they are worried about the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Ministry for Ethnic Communities: 2 September 2021 5.00PM

Social Providers' Access to Food

Foodbanks, community, and iwi providers nationally report receiving unprecedented demand for food, particularly in Auckland. Demand is rising and providers report high risk of running out of food and anticipate difficulty acquiring supply.

Emergency Management are developing a process to alleviate pressure on foodbanks.

Caring for Communities: 3 September 2021 11.14AM

Health and Wellbeing under AL4

The COVID-19 Health and Wellbeing Survey, conducted between the 19th and 31st of August while NZ was under Alert Level 4, shows similar results to research conducted under Alert Level 4 in 2020.

76% of New Zealanders report being somewhat or completely satisfied with their life, and rate their family wellbeing as 7.8 out of 10 on average.

15% experienced symptoms of anxiety or depression in the previous week, up from a 7% baseline level at Alert Level 1, and 28% felt lonely at least a little of the time.

Many people's anxiety relates to COVID-19. 37% of people feel nervous when thinking about current circumstances, up from a 22% baseline at Alert Level 1.

One in five adults (20%) experience stress about leaving home (an increase from one in 20 (5%) during Alert Level 1). A third of people are worried about the risk of getting COVID-19, a similar level to during Alert Level 4 in 2020.

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021 12:55 PM

Testing Levels Declining

Testing levels have been declining in the last week, with the 7-day rolling average dropping from 39,929 tests a day on 26 August to 20,760 yesterday.

Ministry of Health: 27 August 9.48 AM and 3 September 2021 8.52 AM

COVID-19 App Usage Slight Increase

The COVID-19 app active devices count (the number of devices that have either scanned a code or added a manual entry in a day) has risen to 755,697 as of 3 September 2021. This is approximately the same level as when Auckland moved to Alert Level 3 in February 2021.

www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-over-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-nz-covid-19-app-data 3 September 2021

Shortage of Resources Among Pacific Providers

Pacific providers continue to report high demand for resources including food parcels, PPE, and access to social services and educational resources. PPE demand is now concentrated in the Northern region with supply provided to other regions.

MPP expect the government's \$26m funding support for Pacific communities to alleviate resource constraints among Pacific providers and will continue to monitor whether additional support or resources are required.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 2 September 2021 5.21 PM

Vaccine Misinformation Amongst Pacific Young People

Misinformation amongst Pacific young people is a concern and reports of vaccination hesitancy among Pacific young people are increasing in all regions. Community providers and churches nationally continue to promote vaccination and testing. MPP is supporting a national campaign encouraging vaccination for all Pacific community members aged 12+.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 3 September 2021 4.11 PM

Vaccine Uptake in Ethnic Communities

The Ministry for Ethnic Communities is working in collaboration with the District Health Boards (DHB) for group vaccinations in ethnic communities. Several community groups and faith-based organisations are eager to implement vaccination centres in their places of worship to help vaccinate the community.

Ministry for Ethnic Communities: 1 September 5.09 PM

COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

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Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	COVID-19 compliance Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz

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