

26 August 2020

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koutou,

COVID-19 Public Health Response (Alert Levels 2 and 3) Order (No 2) 2020

As you will be aware, the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Alert Levels 3 and 2) Order (No 2) 2020 came into force at 11.59 pm on 22 August 2020.

Section 12 (1)(h) provides that a court or tribunal may require or permit a person to attend a hearing in-person in a different Alert Level region. This encompasses lawyers and other court participants.

The Ministry has worked with the judiciary to operationalise this by developing guidance for staff to support them where a judge directs or permits a person to attend court, and that attendance will require the person to travel between Alert Levels.

The registry will forward any application to attend a court or tribunal, involving travel between Alert Level areas 2 and 3, to the presiding judge for their consideration. Where a judge directs that a person can attend, the registry will send the person a letter confirming that permission has been granted.

Alternatively, where the judge has refused permission, the participant will be advised of the outcome of their application and provided any further information they may require regarding the hearing.

I would appreciate this message being shared with your colleagues.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Nāku noa, nā


Carl Crafar
Chief Operating Officer