

## COVID-19

# **Critical Travel and Compassionate and Medical Travel**

The States of Guernsey recognises that there need to be a limited number of exemptions to the mandatory imposition of self-isolation after travelling to the Bailiwick.

These exemptions are to enable critical workers vital to the maintenance of the islands' critical infrastructure to travel from and to the Bailiwick without needing to enter into the 14 day isolation period unless, on entry to the Bailiwick they have any new onset or recent onset of any respiratory or flu-like symptoms (a persistent cough, shortness of breath, fever, muscle aches, headaches).

The States of Guernsey also recognises that there may also be compassionate or medical reasons why individuals may need to travel. In such circumstances, individuals can travel but will be subject to the mandatory imposition of self-isolation.

### **CRITICAL WORKER TRAVEL**

CRITICAL WORKER TRAVEL is defined as travel by workers required to keep critical services running across the Bailiwick.

Such travel is necessary to support and protect the Islands' connectivity, critical national infrastructure, the safety and security of the Bailiwick, and essential public services including education and medical provisions. Such workers are considered vital to the Bailiwick's continued ability to operate at this time and include:

- those directly involved in maintaining and protecting the Islands' air and sea links as determined by the Managing Director of Trading Assets\*;
- those directly involved in maintaining and protecting the Islands' critical national infrastructure as determined by the Strategic Lead for Place Policy\*;
- those providing, or directly facilitating, front line health and care services deemed critical by the Medical Director and/or Chief Nurse\*;
- those delivering emergency services or the good administration of justice as determined by the Director of Operations for Justice & Regulation\*;
- education professionals delivering critical activity within the Islands' schools as defined by the Director of Operations for Education\*;
- those involved in business continuity and/or business recovery as defined by the Director of Operations for Economy, Infrastructure, Environment & Culture\*;

<sup>\*</sup> Or other such person nominated on their behalf



- those involved in ensuring financial stability and resilience as defined by the States Treasurer\*; and
- those involved in ensuring the safety and stability of the Island of Alderney as defined by the Chief Executive of the States of Alderney.\*

Any appeal in respect of a decision made regarding whether travel should be classified as critical worker travel will be determined by a member of the Strategic Leadership Team whose decision will be final.

Individuals undertaking CRITICAL worker travel from and to the Bailiwick must when in the Bailiwick, or when otherwise directed:

- Restrict their movements to pre-agreed sites and any other limitation imposed by the States of Guernsey and/or the Medical Officer of Health;
- Restrict their movements and actions to the degree necessary for the purpose of their work. This includes:-
  - Avoiding visiting known or presumptive cases of COVID-19;
  - Minimising close contact with people where possible;
  - Avoiding using public transport, including taxis, and hiring a car if possible;
  - Practicing good hand hygiene;
  - Avoiding public places, including restaurants.

Individuals undertaking CRITICAL worker travel will be EXEMPT from the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days upon arriving in the Bailiwick - unless, on entry to the Bailiwick they have any new onset or recent onset of any respiratory or flu-like symptoms (a persistent cough, shortness of breath, fever, muscle aches, headaches).

Individuals undertaking CRITICAL worker travel from and to the Bailiwick must not travel if displaying any respiratory symptoms, no matter how mild.

In order to have CRITICAL worker travel approved, individuals, or their employer, must contact the determining officers of the States of Guernsey set out above. Applications can be made either directly to these officers or may be made through the Population Management Office by population@gov.gg or 01481 715790.

This policy is also applicable to critical workers travelling from and to Alderney, Sark, Jethou and Herm, from outside the Bailiwick.



### COMPASSIONATE AND MEDICAL TRAVEL

Individuals do not need to get specific approval to travel, but are advised against undertaking non-essential travel. Essential travel may include travel for compassionate and medical reasons may individuals should consider carefully whether such travel is time critical. Examples include:

- Dependent relatives, for example:
  - Travelling from and to the Bailiwick to support dependent relatives in poor or critical health;
- Medical care, for example:
  - Travelling from and to the Bailiwick to receive time-sensitive care that cannot be delivered on island;
  - Travelling from and to the Bailiwick to receive care that in the opinion of the patient's consultant cannot be deferred, without harming the patients' health or likely outcome.
- Individuals who are ordinarily resident in the Bailiwick returning home. This includes individuals who have been studying or travelling outside of the Bailiwick.

Individuals undertaking compassionate and medical travel from and to the Bailiwick may be asked to confirm their reasons for travel and must:

#### When travelling:

- Restrict their movements as far as possible to the degree necessary for the purpose of their travel. This includes:-
  - Avoiding visiting known or presumptive cases of Covid-19;
  - Minimising close contact with people where possible;
  - Avoiding using public transport, including taxis, and hire a car if possible;
  - Practicing good hand hygiene;
  - Avoiding public places, including restaurants.

Individuals should not travel when displaying <u>any</u> respiratory symptoms unless directly related to a known pre-existing condition such as hay fever.

#### On return:



Individuals undertaking compassionate and medical travel will be required to self-isolate for 14 days on returning to the Bailiwick. Such travellers are NOT exempt from the 14 day isolation period.

All individuals undertaking compassionate and medical travel from and to the Bailiwick are encouraged to consider whether travel can be deferred if they are displaying any respiratory symptoms, no matter how mild. It is recognised that in some circumstances this may not be possible and in these cases individuals should seek advice from a medical professional before travelling.

This policy is also applicable to residents from Alderney, Sark, Jethou and Herm undertaking compassionate and medical travel from and to the Bailiwick.