



# Press Release

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021

## **Guidance published for lockdown exit Stage Two in Alderney**

New guidance for Stage Two of the lockdown exit, which Alderney enters tomorrow (March 2<sup>nd</sup>), has been published by the Civil Contingencies Authority (CCA).

The guidance, issued as Guernsey considers a possible move to Stage Two in a week's time, covers rules for businesses, households and social gatherings.

Household 'bubbles' are extended to allow four households to join together to form a single, exclusive bubble. In Stage One, this was limited to two households.

Apart from household bubbles, social gatherings are permitted with a limit of 20 people indoors or 30 people outdoors.

However, as was the case in Stage One, any such gatherings cannot take place in a person's home – gatherings in homes and gardens should only involve those within that four-household bubble.

Generally, the limits of 20 indoors and 30 outdoors are also applied to businesses, though it is still strongly advised that people should work from home wherever possible. In gatherings outside of a household bubble, social distancing must be observed.

Non-essential retail and some hospitality businesses such as cafés and restaurants will be able to reopen in Stage Two but with strict measures in place. These can operate with table service only and limits on the number of people who sit together at a table, and a requirement that alcohol can only be served with food. Owners and staff at hospitality venues must keep detailed records of who has visited and when so that they can be contacted if track-and-trace is required.

Religious services, weddings and funerals will be able to proceed under the guidance restrictions.

All businesses are asked to familiarise themselves with the general guidance and any specific requirements for their sector which can be found under the 'business' heading at <https://covid19.gov.gg/faqs/stagetwo>. If unsure about any aspect of the guidance, businesses should email [trade@gov.gg](mailto:trade@gov.gg).

Face coverings continue to be a requirement in Stage Two for indoor public places and strongly recommended in other places where there are likely to be other people from outside a household bubble.

Non-essential retailers can open their doors and construction sites can operate within strict conditions and limitations. All businesses must maintain records to demonstrate they are working to a clear operating plan within the Covid-19 restrictions and Public Health guidance.

The 14-day self-isolation rule remains in place for anyone arriving from Guernsey and pleasure boats are not permitted to visit the island until these provisions are modified.

St Anne's School will open and parents have been advised directly by the Head Teacher who is working with his staff and the education authorities to ensure a safe environment for teachers and pupils.

This early move to the next lockdown release stage has been possible because of the low risk of the introduction of Covid-19 to the community and is a very positive development for the Island.

The Island can expect to move to Stage Three a week later, on Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup>, subject to confirmation by the CCA.

Alderney States Member Bill Abel, who represents the States of Alderney on the CCA, said: "We are fortunate to be in a position where we currently have no active cases of Covid-19, and we have not seen a new case since that single case was cleared. It's entirely appropriate for Alderney to move forward through its exit from lockdown."

He added that our understanding of the virus is developing over time and therefore the guidance may be amended in the light of risks to the community.

"There are many Alderney and Guernsey people working hard to get things done, sometimes late into the night, and I am sure that everyone will join me in thanking them," he said.

The full guidance can be found at [covid19.gov.gg/guidance/stagetwo](https://covid19.gov.gg/guidance/stagetwo). Further details and clarifications will be published on the Alderney.gov.gg website as they become available.

Ends