

Hello everyone

A few things of note today.

Main points:-

- 1. PPE supply**
- 2. Wearing of masks**
- 3. Disposing of PPE**
- 4. Changing of Alert Levels**
- 5. Vaccination**
- 6. Update from Nick Chamberlain, the NDHB CEO**

1. PPE supply

PPE is available to Support Workers who are actually working. You can collect: Monday to Friday - Whangarei Office (7am – 5pm) and Kerikeri Office (8am to 4pm).

Please remember to scan in with your COVID tracer app if you come to the Offices for PPE.

Next PPE drop Thursday 2nd September (tomorrow) as below: (please bring with you a bag and your 50 ml pottle for sanitiser)

Kaitaia: 11am to 12 noon - outside People's Centre

Coopers Beach: 1 to 2pm - Gravel Pit just past Fire Station, SH 1

Russell: 9.30am to 10.15 am - outside 4 Square

Paihia: 10.45am to 11.30am - in main carpark, opposite 4 Square

Kawakawa: 12noon to 12.30pm - by Caltex

Kaikohe: 1.15pm to 2pm - under the Big tree, Broadway Health

2. Wearing of Masks

Please wear a proper face mask (scarves and bandana's are not acceptable). Remember, it is mandatory, not a choice. Always follow the MoH guidelines that we supply.

Face Shields? Some Resthomes have been supplying, but these are not to replace the use of a mask. We will only supply Face Shields to use in confirmed COVID-19 infectious cases.

3. Disposing of PPE

All PPE should be disposed of into a rubbish bin outside your Client's home as per MOH guidelines – if possible, or you can put it into a paper or plastic bag in your car to take home and dispose of. Please ensure you sanitise your hands after removing.

4. Changing of Alert Levels

If we move to Alert Level 3, please keep applying the SAME rules as at Alert Level 4, stay within your region, stay vigilant and keep your bubbles small. We'll send out the next update when we get into Alert Level 3.

5. Vaccinations

We have been advised that Clients who are being fully cared for at home and unable to travel can be visited and vaccinated (including family and SWs) in their home – if you have Clients in this category you could let them know to check with Northland DHB whether this is an option for them.

Vaccination Survey

Paul will be sending out an anonymous online survey to Support Workers that we have email addresses for, to help us understand the vaccination status of our workforce.

Claiming Time and Travel Payment for your Vaccination

If you have been vaccinated please let us know the dates of your vaccination and complete and return the attached Vaccine Confirmation Form before 9am on Tuesday 26th October 2021 at the latest so that we can apply for time and travel reimbursement for you (**if you haven't already claimed**). We have today received the first payment from the MoH for Support Workers who provided confirmation of their vaccination in July. This will be in with your wages next week. 😊

MoH sites with some useful vaccination information:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/health-and-wellbeing/misinformation-and-scams/>

<https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/>

6. Update from Nick Chamberlain, the NDHB CEO

Northland is aiming to continue at 16,000 vaccines a week, and have now achieved over 51% first dose coverage. Because of the small number of recent contacts in Northland and our ability to wastewater test in 23 places across Northland, the NDHB was able to convince Cabinet that we can hopefully join the rest of NZ in Level 3 from midnight tomorrow. Those 23 sites were sampled again yesterday and results will be back in time for a final decision tomorrow. Northland's expanded contact tracing team have been a huge help to Auckland and assisted us in hopefully getting back to Alert Level 3.

Stay Safe – Keep your families safe – Keep our Community Safe

Thank-you for all the good work being done under challenging circumstances in changeable times.

The Management Team

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