



NEW MEASURES TO REDUCE RISK

Considering the phase the Covid-19 spread in the country has reached, and the evidence at hand, **Government has announced two further measures to reduce the risk that persons get infected by Coronavirus from one another.**

The first measure, with immediate effect, will allow the **Malta Police to have the right to intervene on groups of more than 5 people, and disperse them in such a way as to leave 2 metres between each one of them.**

The second measure, which will come in effect from next Saturday, **disallows in their entirety, two categories of persons from leaving their homes.**

The persons who are **65 years or older, as well as persons with chronic illnesses**; including **diabetic persons** who are **dependent on insulin**, persons on **biological medicines**, persons who are facing or who have faced **cancer** or **chemotherapy in the last 6 months**, persons undergoing **immunosuppression** such as persons who have had a **transplant**, persons who have **HIV**, persons on **dialysis**, **pregnant women**, persons who have **respiratory illnesses** and who were **admitted to hospital in the last year**, persons with **heart illnesses** who have had a **medical intervention in the last 6 months**, persons who **attend the heart failure clinic**, and **all persons on oral steroids.**

These two categories amount to **more than 118,000 persons who must stay at home under all circumstances.** Whoever of these persons is in employment must not go to work either, and **will be offered special quarantine leave.** The only exception for these persons to be able to leave their homes is for **medical appointments and emergencies**, or on **obtaining permission from the Superintendent for Public Health.** These measures have been taken in the **best public health interest, and the health of those who are most vulnerable. The co-operation of one and all is needed.**



NEW COVID-19 SWABBING HUBS

Two other Covid-19 swabbing hubs have started operation as from today which will be operating alongside the existing hub in Hal Farruġ. More tests can now start being carried out, over and above the **4, 230 swabs that have been carried out already**, more persons who test positive be identified, so that they may be isolated immediately, and thus the spread of Covid-19 be reduced. The new Malta hub will be situated in the **Luxol grounds in Pembroke**, and will be open every day from Monday to Sunday from 08:00 to 20:00. The other new hub in the **helipad terminal, in Xewkija, Gozo**, will be open every day from Monday to Sunday from 08:00 to 14:00. It is important for all those who feel any symptoms to **phone 111**, and not check themselves in the hub of their own accord. **No hubs will admit persons without appointment**. It is also important that any person going to any of the hubs **does not make use of public transport**.



NEW CASES

There were **5 new Covid-19 cases**; 3 were related with travel, and 2 persons who contracted the virus from other sick persons due to local transmission and who have already been identified. **All are in good condition of health**. The 61-year-old elderly person in ITU **is now feeling better**. In all, **134 persons have contracted Covid-19**. There have been **no deaths, nor any Covid-19 cases in elderly people's homes**.



ESTABLISHMENTS REMAIN CLOSED

For the sixth day in a row, **no food establishment was found to be breaking regulations to remain closed**, as part of the efforts to stem the transmission of Covid-19. In the last day, **340 inspections in Malta and 140 in Gozo have been carried out**. Up till now, **more than 5,170 inspections in Malta and more than 1,300 in Gozo have been carried out**. Those who break regulations are to be reported on **21692447**, or by email on **tourismcovid-19helpline@visitmalta.com**.



THOSE WHO BROKE QUARANTINE

One person was caught breaking obligatory quarantine and was fined €3000 during one of the **492 inspections** that were carried out in the last 24 hours by police, Health Department, and Civil Protection Department officials. **33 fines have been handed out since inspections started**. The appeal **always remains for each and every one of us to co-operate with the directives that are being given by the authorities**.



HELPLINES

111 – For those who feel **symptoms of COVID-19** or who wish **further information**

2204 2200 – For Maltese residents **who were caught in one of the high-risk countries and wish to return to Malta**

21411 411 – For those in **mandatory quarantine** who require provisions of food and medicine

153 – For those who require **information** about the **financial measures** administered by the **Department for Social Security**.

144 – For those who require **information** about the **financial measures** administered by **Malta Enterprise**.

25981000 – For those who have **questions about the educational sector and the impact of the coronavirus**

21692447 – For **hoteliers and tourists** who have questions about the announced measures.

25903030 – For **elderly persons bereft of support** who need medicines, ready-made meals or food products (fruit and vegetables).

25469111 – For those who work in the **gaming industry**.