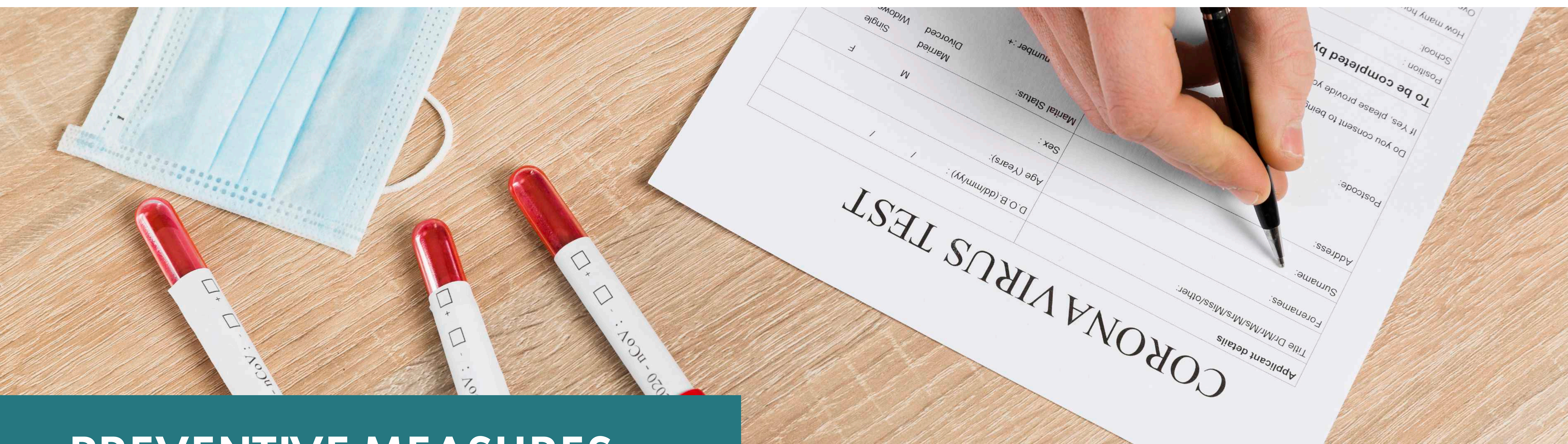


TO OUR HEROES – WE SAY THANKS

Professionals and workers working in the **medical health sector**, and **members of the disciplined corps**, are working **day and night, every day, to help those in need**. We unite in **sending them a message (by audio or video) on WhatsApp 7907 5414** to give them our **support** and to **motivate** them. These are **heroes**. Let us tell them **more than a mere ‘thanks’**.



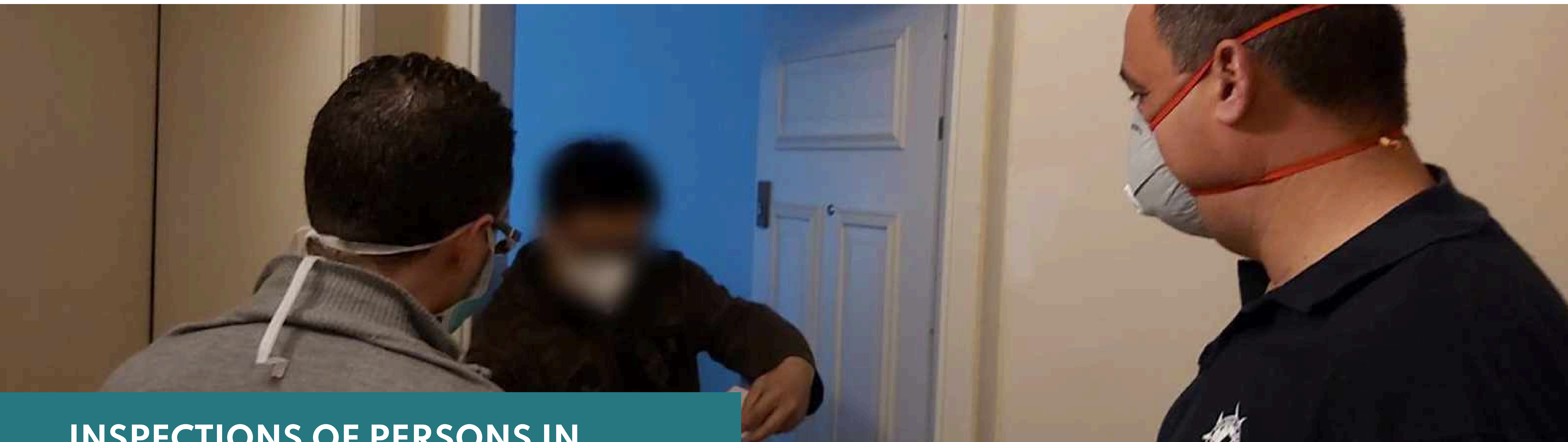
PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Swab tests on individuals coming from abroad, who had a symptom or who were suspected to be carrying the virus, are **ever increasing**, and so far amount to more than **1,600 swabs**. The more swabs are carried out on individuals suspected to be infected with the virus, **the more one can detect cases earlier**. Ratio-wise, in terms of the number people tested, **Malta remains one of the countries which has carried out the most swabs in Europe**. **Respiratory screening is also being increased for those entering Mater Dei**. So far, **more than 300 tests** have been carried out. Contract tracing has also increased so that the situation remains under control. The advice remains the same, namely that individuals keep their distance from others (social distancing), that those who can should work from home via teleworking, **that elderly people stay indoors**, and that we do not crowd supermarkets and shops. Above all, the **regular washing of one's hands is vital**.



NEW CASES

In the last 24 hours, **8 more cases of Covid-19 were confirmed**. The cases vary from a child of **3 years to a man of 62 years**. They are all in a **good state of health**, so much so that health experts stated that they could be sent home in order to be kept in isolation. Instead, because the circumstances permit, they are **being kept under observation at the Department of Health's facilities**. Among today's positive cases, there are **3 which were imported from abroad**, with **5 others being cases of local transmission**. Among these there is a three-year-old child who had direct contact with a relative of theirs who was tested positive after she returned from Brussels. A patient also resulted positive at Mater Dei. Health experts are still investigating as to how this virus was transmitted. With regard to this case, all the necessary steps are being taken to **ensure the security of patients and staff at Mater Dei**.



INSPECTIONS OF PERSONS IN QUARANTINE

In total, since the Police started doing spot checks, **557 spot checks have been carried around Malta and Gozo**. In the last 24 hours, **149 spot checks were carried out in Malta and 26 in Gozo**. For the **first time, no one was found breaking the law**. In these circumstances, everyone should be **responsible and cooperate** with the directives being given by the authorities.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

As **one of the measures against the spread of the coronavirus**, public buses have started **being fumigated** during the night at the Marsa, Ċirkewwa, and Victoria (Gozo) park and ride facilities. In all, there are **400 buses involved**. Transport Malta has stated that even the **bus stops** and **terminals** in primary centres are **being fumigated**. In order for the spread of coronavirus to be reduced and for workers to be protected, Transport Malta is **not accepting payments via cash but in the form of cheques and with cards**.



ECONOMIC RELIEF

After last Saturday the **postponement of the payment of tax due for two months** for companies and the self-employed was announced, as well as the **refund of investments in teleworking made by businesses**, this week the government will be announcing **further strong measures to support the economy**. Businesses and the self-employed **will be aided in order to safeguard their workers' jobs**, workers who were the bedrock of our country's economic success. While the government and businesses must shoulder part of the responsibility so that workers do not become the victims, **workers should also do their part by being more flexible**.



HELPLINES

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

+356 2204 2200 – For Maltese residents **who were caught in one of the high-risk countries and wish to return to Malta**

+356 21411 411 – For those in **mandatory quarantine** who require provisions of food and medicine

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).