

48-hour review of travel restrictions

Purpose

- To provide health advice on continued requirements for travel restrictions. This is the **first** such review and is current at **1200 on 4 February 2020**.

Key messages

- The Ministry recommends that travel restrictions **are not lifted** due to:
 - the rising number of cases in mainland China (14,380 – up 2,604 from 2 February 2020)
 - the recent rapid rise in deaths in mainland China (305 – up 45 from 2 February 2020)
 - a further increase in the number of cases in Australia, suggesting risk in the Pacific region remains high.

Further information

- On 3 February 2020 we advised that the recommended high-level health criteria for modifying or lifting the travel restrictions are:
 - the evolving epidemiology of the outbreak in both mainland China and globally
 - any emerging evidence about the transmissibility of the virus
 - any emerging evidence about the severity of illness from infection
 - any new advice from the WHO on travel restrictions
 - public health measures taken by other countries designed to limit the spread of the virus.
- There are no suspected or confirmed cases in New Zealand. Our assessment has therefore focused on the evolving international outbreak situation.
- The international picture has not significantly shifted from when the travel restrictions were announced. The risk remains high and there is no evidence of a sustained decrease in the number of reported cases and the rate of increase is not declining (both in mainland China and internationally).
- The process for reviewing travel restrictions against the criteria will be confirmed by 5 February 2020 and inform the next 48-hour review.

- Our assessment against the high-level review criteria is:

#	High-level criteria	Ministry comment
1	Evolving epidemiology of the outbreak	The number of cases in mainland China continue to rapidly increase. Deaths in mainland China continue to increase. There is no evidence of sustained decrease and the worldwide risk remains high.
2	Emerging evidence about transmissibility	No new evidence has emerged that reduces or increases the risk of transmission.
3	Emerging evidence about severity of illness	No new evidence has emerged that reduces or increases the risk of transmission.
4	WHO advice on travel restrictions	WHO continues to advise that no travel restrictions are required.
5	Public health measures in other countries	<p>Multiple countries continue to enforce travel restrictions and international concern remains high.</p> <p>s 6(a)</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>