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Released by: Nick Leggett

To	Directors, Presidents and Area Executives
From	Nick Leggett, CEO

Government announcement on Auckland border and movement throughout New Zealand

Purpose

The purpose of this Advisory is to update you on the Government's announcement today regarding the incoming Covid-19 Protection Framework (the traffic light system) and the end of the Auckland road borders.

Transporting New Zealand has fought hard for the Auckland road borders to be removed before the rush of Christmas/summer traffic in and out of our biggest city, so we are pleased to have been heard and to see some clear decision-making that business operators can use for planning.

Covid-19 Protection Framework

Auckland will go to the new Covid-19 Protection Framework (traffic light system) in early December 2021 and is likely to start at RED. The confirmation of that will happen at the Cabinet meeting on 29 November 2021. It may happen as early as 1 December 2021.

The rest of the country will move to the framework at the same time, with the less vaccinated areas expected to start at RED.

Auckland's hard road borders stop on 15 December

On 15 December 2021, the hard road borders around Auckland will cease operations and Aucklanders will be free to travel to other parts of New Zealand provided they are:

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- **fully vaccinated with two vaccinations and have proof of that, OR**
- **have a negative Covid-19 test result from the past 72 hours and have proof of that**

This is an **OR**, not an AND.

This requirement will apply throughout summer until at least 17 January, when it is expected vaccination rates in other parts of the country are increased.

In place of hard road borders, the Police will be responsible for random spot checking that people travelling out of Auckland meet requirements. The Police will be responsible for the operational logistics of that. It may be a similar system to checking for drink-driving.

It is expected the fine for not complying with the requirements for leaving Auckland will be \$1000.

It is important for operators to note: Proof of travel will no longer be required to move in and out of Auckland, as there will be no hard border stop. Rather than having to have proof of a negative test within 72 hours, you can retain the current testing regime that requires drivers to show evidence of a test within the previous seven days, to move in and out of Auckland. That system is seen by Ministry of Transport to be operating well and they see no reason to change it.

Your vaccinated drivers will be able to have the certificate that proves their vaccination status.

We will continue to work with government officials and Police to ensure those at the operational level are aware of this requirement.

The rest of New Zealand

At this stage, there are no expectations of hard boundaries on roads anywhere else in New Zealand.

Inter-island ferries

As with travelling by air, to travel on the inter-island ferries travelers will need to be:

- **fully vaccinated with two vaccinations and have proof of that, OR**
- **have a negative Covid-19 test result from the past 72 hours and have proof of that**

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The Covid-19 Protection Framework

Information about the Covid-19 Protection Framework is available [here](#).

Vaccine pass

Covid-19 Response Minister Chris Hipkins announced today that the My Vaccine Pass is ready to provide an official record of a person's Covid-19 vaccination status and it will provide access to places within New Zealand that require proof of vaccination under the new Covid-19 Protection Framework.

You can read his media release, which includes information on getting the My Vaccine Pass [here](#).

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