



Southern Lakes Business Response Group - COVID-19 – Update 21 –07/05/2020 – 4:00PM

*Here's the latest update from the **Southern Lakes Business Response & Recovery team.***

The next group update will be Monday 11 May following the meeting of Cabinet and a second update post budget on Thursday 14 May.

All other updates in between will be posted online here at the [local COVID-19 page](#) and the Government [page here](#).

What's New

While we are still in Level 3 until Cabinet meets next Monday 11 May to decide when we will move to Level 2, today announcements were made about details of Level 2 and how we can operate businesses and live safely.

Life at Alert Level 2 means we can resume many of our everyday activities — but we have to do so safely.

- All businesses can open if they can do it safely. This will help to get people back to work.
- We can go in-store at local businesses.
- Tertiary education facilities, schools and early learning centres will be open.
- We can travel between regions.
- We can safely connect and socialise with close friends and family.
- We can visit local restaurants, cafes and bars.
- We can return to our regular recreation activities.
- We can celebrate life's important moments with our loved ones such as weddings, funerals, birthdays and anniversaries.
- Small religious gatherings and ceremonies can be held with public health measures in place.

More information on what can happen in Level 2 can be download here (see PDF)

Workplaces and businesses

At Alert Level 2 businesses can operate if they're able to do so safely.

Engaging with customers

At Alert Level 2 businesses can have customers on their premises if they can meet public health requirements. This means businesses should:

- have a contact tracing system in place to record everyone who you interact with on your premises
- maintain physical distancing of 1 metre between groups of customers.

Services can also be provided on customers' premises, for example, cleaning and home help. This means that most businesses can open their premises to the public, including:

- bars and cafes
- hardware, gardening, and clothing retailers
- butchers, bakeries, and fishmongers.

Hospitality businesses should keep groups seated, separated, and use a single server if possible.

Work involving close personal contact

For some businesses, close personal contact is required to deliver a service. This includes:

- hairdressers
- home help providers.

These businesses can operate if they have measures like:

- have a robust contact tracing system in place
- maintain good hygiene practices
- minimise contact to the extent possible.

Specific guidance for key sectors is being developed by the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment and WorkSafe.

Doing business safely

The key public health requirements stay the same at Alert Level 2. Businesses should maintain hygiene measures, including physical distancing, hand washing and regularly cleaning surfaces.

All businesses are encouraged to use alternative ways of working if possible. This means businesses that don't normally have customers on their premises could continue to have staff work from home. If workers are sick with symptoms of COVID-19, they should stay home.

[Self-isolation advice if you're unwell](#)

Golden rules for business at Alert Level 2

Do everything you can to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission at work – we all have a part to play in keeping each other safe.

COVID-19 is still out there. Play it safe.

- All businesses can operate if they can do so safely. Alternative ways of working are encouraged where possible.
- Hospitality business should keep customers seated, separated, and with a single server.
- Talk with your workers to identify risks and ways to manage them.
- Ask everyone – workers, contractors and customers – with cold or flu-like symptoms to stay away from your premises.
- Keep groups of customers at least 1 metre apart
- Keep contact-tracing records of anyone who will have close interaction (workers, contractors or customers).
- Reduce the number of shared surfaces, and regularly disinfect them.
- Wash your hands. Wash your hands. Wash your hands.

[Read the full Level 2 announcement here.](#)

Reminders

Redeployment and Employment Opportunities

The **Ministry of Social Development** has rolled out new support initiatives aimed to connect workers with job opportunities. These initiatives include an **[online recruitment tool](#)**, which aims to connect job seekers directly to the employer, making it quicker and easier for people to find work. The tool has just gone live, and provides online training courses. MSD is also establishing 35 'Employment Services' across the country, including in Queenstown. The intent of the sites is to focus on work and re-deployment, not replacing its traditional work and income model (WINZ sites will continue to operate). More details to follow.

QLDC has collated these job-seeker opportunities on its Covid-19 Portal [HERE](#), they include WINZ channels, Go With Tourism which assists one on one and with redeployment of tourism workers to opportunities across all sectors and regions in NZ, and also Work the Seasons, assisting people to find seasonal work around the country (primarily in horticulture and viticulture).

Webinars

Business

Queenstown Chamber – Economic Update with Westpac Chief Economist – Monday 11 May 12:00-1:00pm.

Westpac Chief Economist Dominick Stephens will share his expert insights on the economic impacts of Covid-19 on the local, national and global economies. Zoom details and registrations [here](#). Once the webinar fills up the event will be livestreamed on FB so no one will miss out

Are you looking to raise capital for your company? - with Callaghan Innovation and Avid.legal - Thu 14th May 2020, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

This foundation workshop provides a broad overview for early-stage founders and companies that are thinking about - or are about to begin - capital raising. By attending this online workshop you will be equipped with the information you need to make informed decisions as you embark on your capital raise.

Workshop content has been designed and produced by Callaghan Innovation and will be facilitated by Bruno Bordington, Director, [Avid.legal](#). [Click here to register.](#)

Export Experts: Tap into opportunities for growth through Export - Monday 11th May 2020, 2pm

If you have lost your traditional income streams then going online may be a good option. Che Bliss from New Zealand Trade and Enterprise will talk about their role in helping businesses in export as well as Amazon specialists Sell Global talk about how to enter the export market online.

Join us to learn how New Zealand brands are launching and succeeding online. With traditional channels struggling, pivoting to online channels including marketplaces like Amazon is a smart decision. Hamish Conway of Sell Global will share why Amazon may work for your brand, the steps to launch and how to be successful on the platform. [Register in advance for this webinar here.](#)

Accounting for Non Accountants (NFP) with Andrew Hamilton - Thursday 21 May, 9:00am - 12:30pm

This engaging course will provide a better understanding of Financial Tools and Terminology Delivery: Via Zoom - details and link will be provided. [Click here for more info and to register.](#)

Otago Southland Director Dialogue with Tony Mitchell: Covid-19 – protection and transparency for shareholders – Friday 8 May, 10:00-11:00am

Tony Mitchell, chair of the New Zealand Shareholders Association will provide some straight talk on the effects of COVID-19 on shareholders and what they are seeking from directors during this time. Register [HERE](#).

FAQs

Business FAQs on COVID-19 - How do I apply for the subsidy, what does it mean for my business, the economy, my staff etc. [BDO has set up a great resource here.](#)

General FAQs on COVID-19 - What it is, what self-isolation and level 4 means etc. [Click here for the COVID-19 website.](#)

Local FAQs on COVID-19 - What services are available, how can I get help etc. [Click here for local Council information.](#)

Local Business FAQs- Up-to-date [local information for businesses here.](#)

We are here to help, so if you have any concerns, or are not getting the support you need, from the resources, please contact anyone below.

Destination Queenstown – Ann Lockhart – CEO – annl@queenstownNZ.nz

Queenstown Chamber – Anna Mickell – CEO – ceo@queenstownchamber.org.nz

Lake Wanaka Tourism – James Helmore – GM – james@wanaka.co.nz

Ignite Wanaka Chamber – Naomi Lindsay – Executive Officer – naomi@ignitewanaka.co.nz

QLDC Economic Development – Peter Harris – Economic Development Manager
peter.harris@qldc.govt.nz

Regional Business Partners – Tara Druce – Business Advisor – tara@otagorbp.co.nz