



## Pilot Programme

### Day 7 testing after return to the Bailiwick

Travel related spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 contributed substantially to transmission across the world in the early phase of the pandemic including in Guernsey. This trend was practically eliminated in Guernsey with the introduction of broad border controls and 14 days of compulsory self-isolation for everyone traveling to the Bailiwick.

In an effort to trial an alternative to a 14 day period of compulsory self-isolation, the States of Guernsey are running a pilot programme. In partnership with the main travel operators, this involves people traveling to the Bailiwick self-isolating and then being tested on day 7 of self-isolation, with **passive follow-up** from the time of receiving a negative result up to day 14.

**For the duration of this pilot programme, all passengers are given the choice:**

- (a) to self-isolate and then be tested at day 7, with passive follow-up until day 14 after arrival, if a negative result is obtained on the day 7 testing, OR**
- (b) to self-isolate for 14 days with no testing.**

**Passive follow-up** means that you do not have to remain in self-isolation from the time of receiving a negative result. However, you will have to comply with the requirements set out in the section "What happens if I get a negative result (passive follow-up)?" If you cannot comply with these requirements, you should choose NOT to participate in the pilot programme, as you will be required to self-isolate for the full 14 day period and may be prosecuted.

If you develop any of these symptoms: fever, chills, high temperature, muscle ache, fatigue, exhaustion, headache – sinus pain or pain around the eyes, loss of smell or taste, shortness of breath at any time during the 14 day period, you must seek testing immediately.

**You will not be charged for testing during this pilot project.**

**People travelling to Herm, Sark or Alderney are not eligible for the 7 day testing pilot programme.**

### What happens now?

On arrival you will be provided with a form, where you will be required to provide your personal details, including name, date of birth, contact number whilst in the Bailiwick and address where you will be completing your self-isolation period.

On this form you will also be asked if you would like to take part in the pilot programme.

A form will need to be completed for all passengers, children included.

If you choose to take part in the pilot programme, you **must** self-isolate until you are tested on day 7 AND a negative test result is communicated with you. You will then be subject to passive follow-up (see below).

If you choose NOT to take part in the pilot programme, you **must** self-isolate for the full 14 day period.

You will also be given the chance to opt in to receive a negative result by text to the mobile telephone number you provide. If you do not choose to receive your results by text message, you will receive a call from Public Health with your result. We recommend this option for families.

The Guernsey Border Agency will be informed of your isolation status so that they are aware if the requirement for 14 days isolation is to be lifted.

- a failure to self-isolate unless and until a negative result is obtained, and a failure to comply with the conditions and restrictions that will apply in the passive surveillance period, is a criminal offence punishable by a fine of up to £10,000
- full details of those conditions and restrictions in the '7 Day Pilot -Legal Variation Notice' can be found at <https://covid19.gov.gg/guidance/travel> and must be referred to by those taking part in the Pilot

## What sort of test will I be given?

A clinician will use a swab to take a sample from both your nostrils and from the back of your throat. This test is highly accurate and will indicate if the virus that causes COVID-19 is present at the time of testing.

## When and where will I be tested?

If you have opted to take part in the pilot programme, you will receive a phone call from the COVID-19 test booking team.

Tests will be carried out in a drive-through area on the Princess Elizabeth hospital site, during which you must remain in your car. Clear instructions will be provided when you receive a phone call to book your appointment.

Please ensure that no other passengers are in the car during your test, unless you have been self-isolating together (e.g. as a family). If you do not have access to a car/you cannot drive,



a home visit can be arranged – details to be discussed with booking team. However, this may be after Day 7 and will be dependent on availability of healthcare professional to do home visits.

Under no circumstances will requests for early testing be accepted.

### **When and how will I get my results?**

Results should be ready between 24 and 48 hours after the swab has been taken.

In the form you fill out with your personal details, you will be asked to tick a box if you consent to contact by text message where your result is negative.

If you do NOT consent to receive a text message, or if your result is positive, you will receive a phone call.

Please note that multiple results cannot be sent through to a single number e.g. families or travelling groups. Each individual will instead receive a phone call. Children's results will not be sent in text message format and a parent or other person with parental responsibility will be phoned.

### **What happens if I get a positive result?**

If you get a positive result, the Public Health Team will inform you of your result and will provide you with all the guidance required. You will be required to remain in self-isolation and will receive a further test at a later stage (usually 14 days after the initial test, providing you have no symptoms) to confirm your status. The contact tracing team will also be in touch to gather further information about your journey, activities and people you have spent time with.

### **What happens if I get a negative result (passive follow-up)?**

If you receive a negative result, and providing you have no symptoms, you will no longer be required to remain in self-isolation.

However, you will be required to comply with the following:

- (a) you must at all times be vigilant for symptoms, however mild, of COVID-19; must report any such symptoms immediately to Public Health; and must comply with any instructions given by Public Health thereafter (which may, for the avoidance of doubt, include an immediate resumption of self-isolation);
- (b) you must not go to a gym, sports centre, pub, nightclub, restaurant or café (and for the avoidance of doubt, al fresco dining is not permitted);
- (c) children must not attend school (including the College of Further Education);



- (d) you must not enter a shop, other than to buy food, medicine and other essential items;
- (e) you must not enter a nursing, care or residential home;
- (f) you must not, other than in an emergency, enter the Princess Elizabeth Hospital or any other health or care facility;
- (g) you must not attend a gathering of more than ten people;
- (h) you must not go to your place of work if you are in a public-facing role (in respect of which, see further below);
- (i) if you go to your place of work, you must, so far as reasonably possible, maintain social distancing of one metre while there;
- (j) you must, so far as reasonably practicable, keep a record of people met and places visited (to assist with contact tracing if necessary);
- (k) you must at all times maintain good hygiene and respiratory etiquette and practice, as advised from time to time by Public Health;
- (l) you must not use a taxi or travel by bus;
- (m) you must not leave Guernsey (and so, for the avoidance of doubt, must not travel to any other Island within the Bailiwick, including Herm); and
- (n) you must comply with any additional restrictions imposed from time to time by the Medical Officer of Health.

A "public-facing role" means a role that involves interaction with members of the public (including children), and includes, but is not limited to: teachers; retail assistants; and health and care professionals.

**If you do not comply with paragraphs (a) to (n), you will be required to self-isolate until day 14 and you may be prosecuted.**

Should you develop any symptoms before or after your test – however mild – you must ring the coronavirus helpline on **01481 756938** or **01481 756969**.

**For further information on all aspects of self-isolation go to [www.covid19.gov.gg/support/protect](http://www.covid19.gov.gg/support/protect)**