

## COVID-19

If you are feeling unwell and have



Cough



Runny nose



Sore throat



Fever



Difficulty breathing

Stay indoors,  
avoid contact  
with others



Call the  
Hospital for  
advice **28000**

## What You Need To Know About COVID-19

COVID-19 is an infectious disease of global concern. This page is to provide up-to-date information and links for Falkland Islanders and others so they can stay well informed and take steps to protect their health.

Below are a set of frequently asked questions. These will be updated so please check regularly. As well, there are downloadable information sheets and posters for your use., and links to useful overseas information sources.

### Latest Update

### Protecting Your Workforce During COVID-19

### Essential Travel Application

### Support Package Applications

### Frequently Asked Questions

### Information you can use (Translations: [Spanish](#), [Filipino](#))

### Useful Links



### COVID-19 Public Update April 20 2020

#### KEMH UPDATE

A further 18 swabs are on their way to the UK for COVID-19 testing.

A batch of 64 swabs were processed last Friday, with none of them reported as positive for COVID-19.

All 11 individuals who have so far tested positive for COVID-19 in the Falkland Islands have now completed self-isolation or treatment.

In total 319 samples have been sent to the UK so far.

Remember: If you feel unwell with flu-like symptoms and are worried you might have COVID-19. phone the Hospital on 28000. Staff will provide advice. DO NOT come to KEMH directly.

#### QUEENS BIRTHDAY PARADE CANCELLED

In light of the announcement at the weekend by Her Majesty the Queen, and following consultation between His Excellency the Governor and Buckingham Palace, it has been decided to cancel the Queen's Birthday Parade on 21 April 2021.

During these difficult days, the people of the Falkland Islands wish Her Majesty a safe and peaceful birthday. His Excellency the Governor and Elected Members would also wish to take this opportunity to thank all who had been preparing to mark the event tomorrow.

## **BUILDING INDUSTRY RESTRICTIONS**

Executive Council on Friday agreed in principle that construction activity on the Islands can resume this Wednesday, 22 April.

Chief Executive Barry Rowland said the final decision would be subject to test swab results from the UK expected to be received tomorrow, Tuesday 21 April.

He said ExCo had considered the issues carefully, included the fact there were still no cases reported in Stanley, and that new measures had been introduced to control movement to and from Mount Pleasant Complex.

Guidance by the Government (see below) is being issued to the sector regarding safe COVID-19 working practices and maintaining social distancing.

Mr Rowland said if the guidance was not followed, the restrictions could be reinstated.

This change would be subject to daily review, based on test results and other circumstances.

Building material merchants will be able to supply building materials to the trade provided they follow safe COVID-19 working practices.

The provision does not include routine servicing or improvement work on residential or commercial properties, although repairs could still be carried out in an emergency provided previous guidelines are followed.

## **SUMMARY OF GUIDANCE TO BUILDING SECTOR**

The government has today published guidance for the building sector on operating under COVID-19 conditions.

These are exceptional circumstances and the industry must comply with the latest Falkland Island Government advice on COVID-19 at all times.

The Site Operating Procedures are based on Public Health England (PHE) guidance and information provided by the Falkland Islands Government Chief Medical Officer;

Anyone undertaking construction activities during the COVID-19 pandemic needs to ensure they are protecting their workforce and minimizing the risk of spread of infection. This includes considering how personnel travel to and from site.

This guidance is intended to introduce consistent measures on construction sites of all types and sizes, in line with the Government's recommendations on social distancing and ensure employers and individuals make every effort to comply.

Where it is not possible to follow the social distancing guidelines in full in relation to a particular activity, an operator should consider whether that activity needs to continue for the site to continue to operate, and if so, take all mitigating actions possible to reduce the risk of transmission.

The health and safety requirements of any construction activity must not be compromised at this time. If an activity cannot be undertaken safely, it should not take place

Emergency services also have limited resources and may not be able to respond as quickly as usual. This should be taken into consideration in the planning of work activities, first aid, fire and emergency responses. There are also limitations on the availability of aeromedical evacuations.

Organisations must have in place effective arrangements for monitoring and reviewing their compliance with Government and industry guidance. Sites should also remind the workforce at every opportunity of the Site Operating Procedures which are aimed at protecting them, their colleagues, families and the Falkland Islands population.

The full guidance is available at [fig.gov.fk/covid-19](http://fig.gov.fk/covid-19) under Protecting Your Workforce During COVID-19.

It includes:

- When and How to Travel to Work
- Social Distancing
- What to do if a worker falls sick
- Driving of vehicles at work
- How to manage work site movements.
- Safe hygiene requirements
- Work Planning to avoid Close Working.
- Enhanced cleaning of site surfaces.
- Advice for tradespersons carrying out essential repairs.

## **ECONOMIC MEASURES**

A package of new measures to help our businesses, private sector employees and households was announced on Friday.

The suite of new measures is to assist businesses, private sector employees and households as they adjust to the economic effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The measures when taken together represent a comprehensive approach to addressing the cash flow needs of private sector workers and households and the liquidity needs of micro, small and medium sized businesses over the next three months.

The measures proposed are together comprised of:

- a job retention scheme to assist with employee retention and to support income stability for households;
- an enhanced unemployment subsidy system to support income stability for households where individuals have been economically dismissed;
- direct non-repayable grants to businesses to assist with liquidity;
- provision of government backed loan guarantees for businesses to assist with liquidity, subject to approval of the Secretary of State;
- reductions in electricity rates to support businesses and households
- a waiver of utility service charges for a period of ninety days
- existing government mechanisms that can be accessed during times of need

You can find more detail under latest updates on the web page [www.fig.gov.fk/covid-19](http://www.fig.gov.fk/covid-19)

**Advice around the Falkland Islands Government's COVID-19 response can change. Please watch out for further statements from the Government in local media and through the FIG and Community Facebook pages, the web page [fig.gov.fk/covid-19](http://fig.gov.fk/covid-19) and other channels.**

## HEALTH

KEMH has put into effect its well-developed plans for handling COVID-19 cases.

Patients requiring emergency treatment of any sort including respiratory, and cold like symptoms are asked to contact the hospital on 28000 and discuss their condition with a member of the clinical staff who will then advise.

Routine GP and Dental appointments have been suspended. Those affected will be contacted by KEMH.

The Pharmacy is able to take prescription requests. But please do NOT come to the Pharmacy solely for the purpose of ordering a prescription, nor if you have COVID-19 like symptoms. Please either e-mail [pharmacyoffice@kemh.gov.fk](mailto:pharmacyoffice@kemh.gov.fk) or call 28011 to leave a message on the answerphone.

## WHERE TO FIND HELP

There are many sources of help, support or advice that you can reach out to during these uncertain times.

If you have any concerns or queries regarding financial matters, welfare or safeguarding concerns for yourself, your family or someone you know, please contact Social Services on 27296. They operate a 24-hour service and an after-office hours you can call on 28100. Issues can also be raised by contacting KEMH and its CPN Service. You can also call the Early Help Service for advice or support on 52281 or [earlyhelp@sec.gov.fk](mailto:earlyhelp@sec.gov.fk)

Alternatively, if you are worried about something or fearful for your safety or are concerned about a friend or neighbour, you can also reach Social Services by writing your name (or remain anonymous), phone number or email address on a piece of paper with a safe time to call and drop it into one a number of collection boxes in Stanley and they will get back to you at the time you ask. These boxes are at

- The Chandlery
- The West Store
- The Kelper Stores
- IJS Reception

You can also use these boxes to make suggestions on how we, as professionals, can help you through these times of uncertainty. All suggestions will be looked at and answers given if required.

## YOUR WELLBEING

It is understandable if you are worried about your safety and that of your loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic. Local support is available as a 7-day service from the emotional wellbeing team at KEMH on 28082.

You may also find the following contacts helpful:

Samaritans (UK based charity): 51515 or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

NSPCC: 28888

Citizens Advice Bureau: 55355

## EDUCATION CHILDCARE

The Education Department is providing childcare for the children of essential key workers to enable them to go to work. Parents in this category have been contacted directly.

The emergency childcare remains open during the school holidays. Schools and playgrounds remain closed. For queries, please call 27294.

## CURRENT GUIDANCE ON ESSENTIAL WORK CATEGORIES

We are currently advising everyone to reduce all non-essential activities until further notice; everyone should stay at home where they can, and work from home where possible.

Essential activities, at this stage, include critical and key work, where this cannot be done from home.

Essential work categories are available on our [fig.gov.fk/covid-19](http://fig.gov.fk/covid-19) website under the 26 March update.

If you are unclear about where your function or activities sit please contact the Secretariat on 28450.

## HOW TO ACCESS EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE SUPPORT PACKAGE

The Falkland Islands Government's support package announced on 25 March 2020 is for private sector employers with employees, as well as the self-employed who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Government is doing this to reinforce and support the strong public health action which the Falkland Islands Government is taking to protect the population and minimise the social and economic impact of this challenging issue.

How to apply –

Application forms along with other guidance are available through:

Falkland Islands Government -

[www.Fig.gov.fk/covid-19](http://www.Fig.gov.fk/covid-19)

Falkland Islands Development Corporation

<http://www.fidc.co.fk/library/covid-19>

If you need assistance filling out the forms, contact Sian Davies, Business Development Officer, at FIDC telephone 51211.

## VOLUNTEERING

The Falkland Islands Government are looking for members of the public to join the Community Volunteers to help those who are currently self-isolating. Vicky Collier is the Volunteer Coordinator.

If you are interested in being a volunteer, email [volunteers@sec.gov.fk](mailto:volunteers@sec.gov.fk) with your name and the following information:

- Contact details
- What would you like to volunteer for
- Any particular skills you can offer
- If you are happy for your contact details to be shared

If you are in self-isolation or know someone who is that may need support contact Vicky or [volunteers@sec.gov.fk](mailto:volunteers@sec.gov.fk) or 27451.

## FIGO SERVICES

While the Falkland Islands Government Office in London is closed all staff are working from home to help all Islanders in the UK, Falkland Islands organisations, FIG, and anyone traveling to and from the Islands. Please do not hesitate to contact them:

For Airbridge – Please contact our Travel Co-Ordinator Teryn Joshua on either 07984 096 726 or [travel@falklands.gov.fk](mailto:travel@falklands.gov.fk).

For Medical – Please contact our Medical Co-Ordinator Gemma Clayphan on 07399 163140 or [reception@falklands.gov.fk](mailto:reception@falklands.gov.fk).

For Students – Please contact the Deputy Representative Michael Betts on [deputyrep@falklands.gov.fk](mailto:deputyrep@falklands.gov.fk).

For all other queries regarding COVID-19 or any other issues, we can be reached via 020 7222 2542 (message will provide a range of contact information) or [reception@falklands.gov.fk](mailto:reception@falklands.gov.fk)

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Executive Council is meeting regularly to consider response and make other policy related to the COVID-19 response. MLAs are also meeting regularly to consider COVID19 related matters.

## HELP US FIGHT COVID-19

What to do if you feel unwell and are worried you might have COVID-19.

If you have flu-like symptoms, phone the Hospital on 28000. Staff will provide advice. DO NOT come to KEMH directly.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a cough
- a high temperature
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- aches and pains in muscles and joints

But these symptoms do not necessarily mean you have the illness. The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu.

Please remember the importance of good public health hygiene measures:

- Always cough and sneeze into a tissue and dispose of the tissue safely in a bin and wash your hands afterwards. If you do not have a tissue, sneeze and cough into the crook of your elbow.
- If you are unwell with any infectious illness, please act responsibly and stay away from people and crowds and isolate yourself as much as possible.
- Avoid close contact with people who appear unwell and avoid sharing personal items.

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use a disinfectant, especially after coughing and sneezing, and always before

[Government unveils comprehensive COVID-19 support package - 17 April](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update - 17 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update - 16 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update - 15 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update PM - 14 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update - 9 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update - 8 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update - 7 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update – 6 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update – 5 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update – 3 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update – 2 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update – 1 April 2020](#)

[COVID-19 Public Update – 31 March 2020](#)

[New stage in Government COVID-19 response - 26 March 2020](#)

[Infectious Diseases Control Regulations - 24 March 2020](#)

[Summary – Next stage in COVID-19 Response - 20 March 2020](#)

[Guide to FIG services](#)

[What is social distancing and why is it important - 20 March 2020](#)

[NEW TRAVEL ADVISORY - 17 March 2020](#)

[INFECTIOUS DISEASES PLAN PUBLIC - 16 March 2020](#)

## Protecting Your Workforce During COVID-19

The government has today published guidance for the building sector on operating under COVID-19 conditions.

These are exceptional circumstances and the industry must comply with the latest Falkland Island Government advice on COVID-19 at all times.

The Site Operating Procedures are based on Public Health England (PHE) guidance and information provided by the Falkland Islands Government Chief Medical Officer;

Anyone undertaking construction activities during the COVID-19 pandemic needs to ensure they are protecting their workforce and minimizing the risk of spread of infection. This includes considering how personnel travel to and from site.

This guidance is intended to introduce consistent measures on construction sites of all types and sizes, in line with the Government's recommendations on social distancing and ensure employers and individuals make every effort to comply.



### FIG Site Operating Procedures

Created: 2020-04-20 | Size: 127.91 KB

Download

## Essential Travel Application

BFSAI have stringent restrictions in place and are working hard to reduce movement from MPC to Stanley; this is in order to limit travel to that which is essential only

FIG has explored options around the introduction of a process so that essential travel is specifically authorised, this will support efforts already in place by BFSAI

FIG have decided to jointly sign registrations under this scheme.

The scheme is intended to reduce travel between the two population centres and thereby minimise the risk of COVID19 across the Falklands..

Anyone travelling from MPC must have written authorisation with them.

People travelling in from Camp may get stopped, in which case they will be offered advice on social distancing.

Persons who use the MPA road for reasons, such as travel to and around Camp, do not need to register.

The form below is for anyone wishing to make an Essential Travel Application. In relation to the registration process itself enquiries should be addressed to your employer in the first instance or [pa.desis@sec.gov.fk](mailto:pa.desis@sec.gov.fk)



### Essential Travel Application

Created: 2020-04-14 | Size: 84.31 KB

Download

## Support Package Applications Now Open

Applications can now be made for the Falkland Islands Government's support package that was announced on 25 March 2020 for private sector employers with employees, as well as the self-employed who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Government is doing this to reinforce and support the strong public health action which the Falkland Islands Government is taking to protect the population and minimise the social and economic impact of this challenging issue.

### How to apply:

Application forms along with other guidance are available through:

Falkland Islands Government - [Here](#)

<https://www.fig.gov.fk/covid-19>

<http://www.fidc.co.fk/library/covid-19>

The Falkland Islands Development Corporation (FIDC) is tasked to develop the commercial sector of the Falkland Islands by being one of the principal partners delivering the Economic, Rural and Tourism Strategies.

If you need assistance filling out the forms, contact Sian Davies, Business Development Officer, at FIDC telephone 51211.

Relevant documents will be translated into Spanish and Filipino and posted to the websites within the next few days.

The package provisions apply to the following categories.

- All employees with symptoms who are advised by KEMH to self-isolate for 14 days will continue to be paid by their employer (regardless of whether they are entitled to leave or sick pay). Employers will be able to seek reimbursement of the costs of this measure from the Government, up to a cap of £1,250 for the 14 calendar days per employee for the period of isolation.
- All self-employed people with symptoms who are advised in writing by KEMH to self-isolate for 14 calendar days will similarly be able to claim a sum of up to £1,250 for the 14 calendar days of self-isolation.
- All “vulnerable” self-employed people who are advised in writing by KEMH to self-isolate for an initial period of 3 months, and who are unable to work from home, will be able to claim a sum of up to £2,500 per month for the period of isolation.
- All “vulnerable” employees who are advised by KEMH to self-isolate for an initial period of 3 months, and who are unable to work from home, will continue to be paid by their employer (regardless of whether they are entitled to leave or sick pay). Employers will be able to seek reimbursement for this measure from the Government, up to a cap of £2,500 per employee per month for the period of isolation.
- When private sector employees without symptoms are
  - a) advised by KEMH to self-isolate due to a household member being symptomatic with a fever and with that household member having been advised by KEMH to self-isolate; or
  - b) advised by the government to stay home due to being classified as a non-essential worker.
  - and who in both instances cannot work from home, they will continue to be paid by their employer (regardless of whether they are entitled to leave or sick pay) for a period of up to 14 days.
- When self-employed people without symptoms are
  - a) advised by KEMH to self-isolate due to a household member being symptomatic with a fever and with that household member having been advised by KEMH to self-isolate.
  - or b) advised by the government to stay home due to being classified as a non-essential worker,
  - and who in both instances cannot work from home, they will be able to claim a sum of up to £1,250 for a period of up to 14 calendar days.

All funds will be considered taxable and subject to the usual deductions from payroll.

If employees or self-employed persons are able to work from home during any period of isolation, we would expect them to do so and not to claim re-imburement from Government.

These measures are designed to ensure that everyone can make the right choice to take necessary public health measures, for the benefit of all, whilst ensuring that the impact on the economy is minimised.

The Government will be announcing further measures to assist the private sector more generally within the next several days.

In addition, the Government continues to offer a range of benefits and allowances to Falkland Islands residents through the Department of Health and Social Services.

English



### Application Form and Guidelines - Employer

Created: 2020-04-02 | Size: 321.06 KB

Download



### Application Form and Guidelines - Self-Employed

Created: 2020-04-02 | Size: 307.71 KB

Download



### Employer flowchart

Created: 2020-04-02 | Size: 72.56 KB

Download



### Self-Employed flowchart

Created: 2020-04-02 | Size: 59.69 KB

Download



### EMPLOYEE FAQ

Created: 2020-04-02 | Size: 50.36 KB

Download



### EMPLOYER FAQ

Created: 2020-04-02 | Size: 52.31 KB

Download



### Employers Claim form template

Created: 2020-04-06 | Size: 171.5 KB

Download



### SELF-EMPLOYED FAQ

Created: 2020-04-20 | Size: 183.44 KB

Download

Spanish

Filipino

## COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

*This information was last updated on 17 March, 2020.*

### What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is an illness caused by the new novel coronavirus strain, SARS-CoV-2.

### Symptoms of COVID-19

### What preparations have been made for COVID-19 in the Falkland Islands?

### How COVID-19 is spread

### How can I avoid catching COVID-19?

### What should I do if I feel unwell?

### What is the advice on those returning to or travelling to the Falklands?



What steps are taken for a suspected COVID-19 case in the Falkland Islands?

Why can't we test in the Falklands?

What is self-isolation?

Specific advice on self-isolation for different groups

Can I go outside for exercise?

Can I go for a drive?

I have returned on the Airbridge and am in quarantine - can I go out for a walk or a drive?

Treatment for COVID-19

Who is most at risk of COVID-19?

Can I catch COVID-19 off parcels from overseas

Can I get COVID-19 from food or takeaways?

Should I wear a face mask?

Do gloves offer protection?

Is there a vaccine for COVID-19?

Do I need to avoid public places?

Should I stock up on supplies?

## Information you can use

Here is more information you can read. These can be downloaded and printed out.

The material covers:

### Covid-19 - What you need to know



**Covid-19 - What you need to know**

Created: 2020-04-03 | Size: 108.68 KB

Download

### Feeling Unwell Poster



**Feeling Unwell - Poster**

Created: 2020-03-06 | Size: 192.49 KB

Download

### A COVID-19 information leaflet



**COVID-19 Information Leaflet**

Created: 2020-03-05 | Size: 468.66 KB

Download

### All about flu



**Flu Leaflet**

Created: 2020-03-05 | Size: 473.55 KB

Download

### Information for schools



### COVID-19 Information For Schools

Created: 2020-03-05 | Size: 326.1 KB

[Download](#)

#### Information for hotels and lodges



### COVID-19 Advice For Hotels

Created: 2020-03-05 | Size: 266.56 KB

[Download](#)



### COVID-19 Cleaning Information

Created: 2020-03-05 | Size: 256.59 KB

[Download](#)

#### Social Distancing



### What is social distancing and why is it important

Created: 2020-04-13 | Size: 124.73 KB

[Download](#)



### Social Distancing - Spanish

Created: 2020-03-27 | Size: 35.83 KB

[Download](#)



### Social Distancing - Filipino

Created: 2020-03-29 | Size: 134.11 KB

[Download](#)



### Social Distancing - Zimbabwean

Created: 2020-04-06 | Size: 97 KB

[Download](#)



### What you need to know about Social Distancing

Created: 2020-04-13 | Size: 54.82 KB

[Download](#)

#### Self-isolation



### Self-isolation - 10 tips

Created: 2020-03-05 | Size: 324.72 KB

[Download](#)



### Self-isolation - 10 tips - Spanish

Created: 2020-03-27 | Size: 27.41 KB

[Download](#)



### Self-isolation - 10 tips - Filipino

Created: 2020-03-27 | Size: 61.26 KB

[Download](#)



### Self-isolation - 10 tips - Zimbabwean

Created: 2020-04-06 | Size: 124.31 KB

[Download](#)



### Self-isolation Guidance

Created: 2020-04-16 | Size: 132.33 KB

[Download](#)



### Self-isolation Guidance - Spanish

Created: 2020-04-17 | Size: 87.24 KB

[Download](#)



### Self-isolation Guidance - Filipino

Created: 2020-04-17 | Size: 184.98 KB

[Download](#)

#### SPANISH COVID-19 Latest Updates



### Government unveils comprehensive COVID-19 support package - 17 April 2020 - Spanish

Created: 2020-04-20 | Size: 75.67 KB

[Download](#)



### COVID-19 Public Update - 17 April 2020 - Spanish

Created: 2020-04-20 | Size: 37.83 KB

[Download](#)



### COVID-19 Public Update - 16 April 2020 - Spanish

Created: 2020-04-17 | Size: 52.5 KB

Download

#### FILIPINO COVID-19 Latest Updates



### Government unveils comprehensive COVID-19 support package - 17 April 2020 - Filipino

Created: 2020-04-20 | Size: 209.63 KB

Download



### COVID-19 Public Update - 17 April 2020 - Filipino

Created: 2020-04-20 | Size: 134.69 KB

Download



### COVID-19 Public Update - 16 April 2020 - Filipino

Created: 2020-04-17 | Size: 147.32 KB

Download

## Useful links concerning COVID-19

The following links cover the latest global information and from the UK.

World Health Organization information is here: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

National Health Service information is here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

UK Government latest information and advice: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

## Contact Us

### In the Falkland Islands:

Gilbert House, Ross Road, Stanley. FIQQ 1ZZ

Tel: +500 27451/27455

Email: [info@sec.gov.fk](mailto:info@sec.gov.fk)

### In the United Kingdom:

Falkland Islands Government Office, Falkland House, 14 Broadway, Westminster, London SW1H 0BH

Tel: +44 (0)20 7222 2542 E-mail: [reception@falklands.gov.fk](mailto:reception@falklands.gov.fk)

[Scroll to Top](#)