

From: [Details supplied] on behalf of Chief Minister
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Sent: 16 November 2020 15:40
To: [Details supplied]
Subject: 10 November House of Keys Commitment

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Dear Honourable Members,

During the 10 November House of Keys, I committed to circulating to Members the criteria for entry to the Island based on compassionate grounds.

Hansard Ref 810

Ms Edge: *Thank you, Mr Speaker; and I thank the Chief Minister for his extensive answer.*

But with regard to immediate family and compassionate reasons, I have concerns that some residents who perhaps work off Island are still being refused being able to return to the Island for compassionate reasons, and I wonder whether the Chief Minister could circulate to Members the criteria for a compassionate reason so that the public are very aware of what the compassionate reasons are?

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The Speaker: *The Chief Minister to reply.*

The Chief Minister: *Thank you, Mr Speaker.*

I am more than happy to circulate to all Members in this Hon. Court and the Tynwald Members too.

Section 10 of the EMERGENCY POWERS (CORONAVIRUS) (ENTRY RESTRICTIONS) (NO.2) REGULATIONS 2020 provides for the following in respect of exemption to enter the island on compassionate grounds:

10 Exemption: compassionate grounds

- (1) The prohibition in regulation 5 does not apply to a non-resident if the Chief Secretary has given prior written consent to enter the island on compassionate grounds.
- (2) A consent given under paragraph (1) must provide that such measures are put in place as are reasonably practicable to mitigate any risks associated with giving consent in respect of that non-resident.
- (3) The Council of Ministers may publish guidance specifying compassionate grounds for the purposes of this regulation.¹⁶

The related guidance referred to in section 10(3), is available on the COVID-19 website, and can be found at the link below:

<https://covid19.gov.im/general-information/compassionate-application-for-uk-residents/>

Exemptions can be provided for non-residents to travel to the Island on compassionate grounds as follows:

- To attend a funeral of an immediate family member;
- To undertake the process of resolving the estate of a recently deceased immediate family member
- To care for a frail, bereaved or otherwise vulnerable immediate family member
- To allow a frail, bereaved or otherwise vulnerable person to travel to the Island to be cared for by a resident family member;
- Where a person can demonstrate that they have strong existing ties to the Isle of Man, and need to return to the Island for compelling personal health, safety or financial reasons;
- Where immediate family members wish to travel with or to join a person exempted for entry into the IoM. 'Funerals' may include other forms of memorial activity, e.g. the scattering of ashes, celebration of life service, visiting a graveside, particularly where a death and subsequent funeral has already occurred during the border closure period.

Further to this exceptional cases that do not meet the above criteria but where the Chief Secretary can be satisfied that they are compelling in nature and meet the intent for compassionate travel may also be considered individually on their merits.

This information can be found in the revised compassionate guidelines in the link below.

<https://covid19.gov.im/media/1284/revised-compassionate-guidelines-151020.pdf>

Kind regards
Howard

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