

PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS) REGULATIONS 2020

Direction Notice by Council of Ministers under Regulations 33C, 33D and 33E of Part 7A (Events and Gatherings) of the Public Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 ("the Regulations") providing exemptions where persons may gather or attend an event

Part 1 - Direction

1. The Council of Ministers, having considered the need to ensure the health and safety of all persons with regard to Coronavirus, makes this Direction Notice in accordance with Part 7A (Events and Gatherings) of the Regulations.
2. The Council of Ministers in making this Direction Notice has consulted with the Director of Public Health.
3. This Direction Notice, the prohibitions described in Part 2 and the exemptions set out in Part 3 are in operation from 14:30 on 9th January 2021 and will remain in force until 00:01 on 28th January 2021.

Part 2- Prohibition of events and gatherings

4. In accordance with Regulation 33B, no event or gathering may take place in a public place or a private place unless provided for in Regulation 33B(2)(a)-(d).
5. In accordance with Regulation 33C the Council of Ministers gives this Direction Notice exempting the events or gatherings set out in Part 3 of this Direction Notice.

Part 3 – Exemptions from prohibition on events and gatherings

Funerals

6. A person may gather with up to nine (9) other persons in total at the premises (inside or outside) at which a funeral is taking place subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) Social distancing (being no closer in proximity than two (2) metres to another person) must be maintained at all times between all persons present unless you are from the same household; and
 - (b) Face coverings must be worn by all persons present at all times;
7. For the purposes of this Direction Notice a funeral does not include any pre or post social gathering of attendees (a wake) which shall remain prohibited.

Employment and Emergency Services

8. A person may gather with others at premises permitted to be open under any other Direction made under the Regulations where a person is an employer or employee (including the provision of emergency services by that person).

Customers and Service Users

9. A person may gather at premises (for example at a shop or business which is permitted to be open under any Direction made under the Regulations) where a person is a customer or service recipient at such premises.

Gathering with own household

10. Where persons gathering in a public place or private place, they will be subject to the Regulations (including where other persons may be present in accordance with the Regulations or any other Direction made under the Regulations, such as permitted exercise in a public park) in relation to mixing of household groups, appropriate social distancing or leaving a household for exercise. If a person gathers with the same household, this will not constitute a gathering for the purposes of the prohibition in the Regulations.

Emergency Response

11. A person may gather at a public place or private place to attend to an emergency for the purposes of preserving life or property provided that appropriate social distancing, including the wearing of face masks where reasonably practicable, is undertaken.

Care for vulnerable persons

12. Care for a vulnerable person in a household premises does not constitute and is exempt as a gathering. For the purposes of this exemption, a person is considered to be a 'vulnerable' person where the person is elderly, or infirm (through age, illness, condition or disability) or otherwise dependent upon the care being provided by the person entering the premises.

Part 4 - Definitions

13. "Director of Public Health", "event", "gathering", "premises", "private place" "public place" all have the same meaning as in the Regulations.

Part 5 - Revocation of previous Direction Notice

14. Government Circular No 2021/006 in relation to Events and Gatherings is revoked from the date and time when this Direction Notice comes into operation.

Signed W Greenhow

Chief Secretary on behalf of Council of Ministers

Date: 9th January 2021

Time: 14:10