

PEOPLE
BUSINESS
EMPLOYMENT LAW

## **WGANZ COVID-19 BULLETIN 23 April 2020**

<u>Business.govt.nz</u> has published un update on the move to level 3. The following two points are important.

New Zealand will move to Alert Level 3 from 11.59pm, Monday 27 April. We remain in Alert Level 4 until then, however a variation to the COVID-19 rules means some limited workplace activities are permitted this week and weekend.

## **Businesses and other organisations:**

- Clear, unpack and sort freight at their workplaces,
- Clean their premises, and
- Rearrange workplaces for when workers return to premises at Alert Level 3 (e.g. to allow physical distancing).

Activities such as regular maintenance and setting up delivery/click and collect systems should wait until we are at Alert Level 3.

Businesses should carefully consider what activities are absolutely necessary and how to safely operate based on their individual circumstances. They must meet the health and safety and public health requirements. This includes appropriate hygiene measures and two-metre physical distancing, as required at Alert Level 4.

All other normal rules still apply. For example, if stock needs to be moved with a forklift, the driver needs the appropriate licence.

<u>WorkSafe</u> has guidance on managing COVID-19 risks. <u>Essential businesses</u> can continue operating in line with the Alert Level 4 guidance from COVID-19.govt.nz (external link).

## **Bringing workers onto the premise**

Employers can ask a very limited number of their workers to come to work to prepare for Alert Level 3 if they are meeting health and safety and public health requirements.

Employers should only ask the minimum number of workers to come to work, and it should only be for activities that are necessary to prepare the workplace for opening at Alert Level 3.

Please note that Anzac Day falls on the weekend, and normal Holidays Act rules apply (external link).

This bulletin is brought to you by Advicewise People - 0800 692 384. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the bulletin above, please call Philip or Anthony.