

Coronavirus COVID-19 – move to a five levels system for managing COVID-19 in Scotland



Date: 6 November 2020

1. Introduction

The measures announced by First Minister as part of [Scotland’s Strategic Framework for COVID-19](#) came into force on 2 November. The strategic framework includes, amongst other things, details of the Protection Levels Framework which sets out five levels for managing COVID-19. (See Annex 1 and 2 of the Framework document). A useful summary of the key points can also be found in the [BBC online news](#).

The Scottish Government decision to place local authority areas in levels 1, 2 or 3 mean that it is advised that people do not travel outside their council area unless it is essential. Valid reasons for travel out-with your local authority area include travelling to work or education, shopping for essential items, attending a wedding or funeral or to take outdoor exercise. These rules are currently official guidance and are not statutory, but the First Minister has indicated that this would be kept under review and could change if people disregard the guidance. In addition, people living in a level 1 or 2 area are also advised not to travel into a level 3 area without a valid reason. An excerpt from the [strategic framework](#) is shown below for reference.

Annex 1: Protection Levels Framework

Strategic Framework					
	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Travel	<p>No non-essential travel to/from level 3 or higher areas in Scotland and equivalents in rest of UK</p> <p>Exemptions for essential travel for work, education, shopping, health etc; outdoor exercise; weddings and funerals; shared parenting and transit through restricted areas</p> <p>International quarantine regulations apply</p> <p>Otherwise unrestricted</p>	<p>No non-essential travel to/from level 3 or higher areas in Scotland and equivalents in rest of UK</p> <p>Exemptions for essential travel for work, education, shopping, health etc; outdoor exercise; weddings and funerals; shared parenting; and transit through restricted areas</p> <p>International quarantine regulations apply</p> <p>Otherwise unrestricted</p>	<p>No non-essential travel to/from level 3 or higher areas in Scotland and equivalents in rest of UK</p> <p>Exemptions for essential travel for work, education, shopping health etc; outdoor exercise; weddings and funerals; shared parenting and transit through restricted areas</p> <p>International quarantine regulations apply</p> <p>Otherwise unrestricted</p>	<p>No non-essential travel into or out of the level 3 area</p> <p>Exemptions for essential travel for work, education, shopping health etc; outdoor exercise; weddings and funerals; shared parenting, and transit through restricted areas</p> <p>International quarantine regulations apply</p>	<p>No non-essential travel into or out of the level 4 area. If necessary, limits on travel distance, or a requirement to stay at home</p> <p>Exemptions for essential travel for work, education, shopping health etc; outdoor exercise; weddings and funerals; shared parenting, and transit through restricted areas</p> <p>International quarantine regulations apply</p>

Note: All restrictions will be kept under review to ensure that they remain proportionate and necessary to address the ongoing public health emergency. This table is for reference purposes only and may be adjusted. Regulations in relation to each level will be published on [legislation.gov.uk](#) and relevant public health advice (such as physical distancing and enhanced hygiene measures) applies. Find relevant guidance on [www.gov.scot](#).

2. Angling and the current situation

Limitations on travel will have had the greatest bearing on angling activity. Most salmon fisheries are now closed in Scotland, however where rivers remain open for angling, this should be undertaken in accordance with the current advice and [previous guidance](#) issued.