



# Securing Our Border – Summary

## Key policies

1. Establishing Te Korowai Whakamaru/NZ Border Protection Agency to cut through the confused response from Labour.
2. Require people travelling to New Zealand to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test before arriving.
3. Deploy compulsory contact tracing technology for Agency workers, workers in border facilities and points of entry, and District Health Board staff treating or testing patients.
4. Ensure new arrivals can be adequately contact traced by requiring compulsory use of contact tracing technology.
5. Immediately invest and seek to rapidly deploy a Bluetooth application to enhance contact tracing capability.
6. Explore alternative contact tracing technologies to add more tools to the contact-tracing system (eg: COVID Card).
7. Widen the availability of testing throughout the country, making sure there are readily deployable mobile testing stations in each main population centre as well as any population centre where there is a quarantine facility.
8. Implement a target for test waiting times of no longer than 60 minutes for a test.
9. Require regular testing of aged care workers.
10. Have regular opportunities for testing within retirement homes.

## Border Protection Agency

National will establish a single Crown Agency to unify the Government response to securing the border, the first and best line of defence New Zealand has against COVID-19.

- The Border Protection Agency would report

to a single minister whose focus will be keeping New Zealand free from the risks of COVID-19.

- The Agency will have overall control of the response when dealing with an outbreak, including the ability to order compliance with agency policies and oversee the response from other agencies such as the Ministry of Health, District Health Boards and other agencies operating at points of entry.
- The Agency will be empowered to make orders to ensure compliance with the policies set by the Agency.
- The Agency will be responsible for managing co-payment for the costs of managed isolation.
- All Agency workers who are in contact with people in managed isolation would be required to undertake a COVID-19 test weekly.
- Establish policy to manage capacity for safe entry into New Zealand.

## Role of agency

1. Approving operations and develop protocols for managed isolation and quarantine facilities and provide security.
2. Ensuring effective training and safety protocols for all staff involved in border control, managed isolation and quarantine.
3. Managing protocols for port movements, freight and testing procedures at ports.
4. Conducting medical testing for COVID-19.
5. Receiving returning Kiwis and visitors at the border and ensuring pre-border checks for people coming into New Zealand.
6. Transferring people to managed isolation facilities.



7. Acting as a centre of expertise on pandemic containment and best practice.
8. Facilitating planning with businesses to ensure safe practices. Specifically tailoring plans for small business, retailers and manufacturers.
9. Considering expansion of entry qualifications and timing.

## Securing the Border

### National would

- Require people travelling to New Zealand to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test before arriving into New Zealand. This follows similar policies being put in place across Europe, parts of South East Asia, and states within the United States of America.
- Deploy compulsory contact tracing technology for Agency workers, workers in border facilities and points of entry, and District Health Board staff treating or testing patients.
- Ensure new arrivals can be adequately contact traced by requiring compulsory use of contact tracing technology.
- Require another test within three days of arrival as well as a test on day 12.
- Implement thermal imaging at points of entry.
- Require arrivals to complete a health declaration card.

## Contact Tracing

### National would

- Ensure the response to COVID-19 is coordinated nationally to provide for a more comprehensive contact tracing system.
- Scale up the contact tracing capability by increasing the numbers of people working on contact tracing to ensure contacts can be identified, traced and isolated quickly.

- Immediately invest and seek to rapidly deploy a Bluetooth application to enhance contact tracing capability.
- Explore alternative contact tracing technologies to add more tools to the contact-tracing system (eg: COVID Card).
- Immediately provide additional resource to bolster the campaign to increase the use and take-up of the COVID-19 app and continue to update its functionality.
- Ensure the Government is working with private providers to ensure best practice in the way we are deploying contact tracing technology.
- Undertake risk-based assessments for requiring the use of certain contact-tracing technologies. For example, requiring border-facing workers to use COVID-Cards or mandating the use of contact tracing technology for people arriving from certain high-risk countries in the future.

## Surveillance and Monitoring

### National would

- Widen the availability of testing throughout the country, making sure there are readily deployable mobile testing stations in each main population centre as well as any population centre where there is a quarantine facility.
- Implement a target for test waiting times of no longer than 60 minutes.
- Strive towards a 'test on demand' system where people seeking a test can and do receive one. A number of reports of individuals being told they do not require a test or are waiting more than five hours for a test is not optimal. National would scale up availability and processing so we have as widespread of a testing system as possible.
- Ensure regular wastewater testing for COVID-19 to monitor potential early outbreaks in the community. This would build on the testing already undertaken by the Institute of Environmental Science and Research in April and operating in other countries such as the Netherlands.



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- Ensure people in managed isolation and quarantine have a compulsory day three and day 12 COVID-19 test.
  - At-risk care contingency planning.
  - Require regular testing of aged care workers.
  - Have regular opportunities for testing within retirement homes.
  - Ensure adequate supplies of personal protective equipment and appropriate hygiene protocols are in place.
  - Coordinate with food providers and delivery agencies for an aged care response plan to cater to those who cannot simply rely on volunteers to deliver necessities to them in the event of an increases Alert Level.