

Business continuity reminder, Covid-19 support and planning

Shifts between alert levels, and regional alert level differences are a likely part of the 'new normal' as we manage the Covid response. If your business needs to regularly travel from Northland to other regions, ensure you have registered with the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and secured the necessary Business Travel Documents to allow travel across alert level boundaries. Do not leave it until you need it as there are a few steps to the process. Login or signup to Business Connect - <https://services.businessconnect.govt.nz/>.

A range of key support measures are available through agencies such as Ministry of Social Development and IRD we recommend reviewing their websites and familiarising yourself with the array of business support services, including the following aimed specifically at ensuring business continuity,

- **MSD's Short-term Absence Payment** is available to help businesses pay employees who can't work from home while they wait for a Covid-19 test result (also available to the self-employed), www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/short-term-absence-payment;
- **The Covid-19 Leave Support Scheme** for employers and self-employed people is to help pay employees who need to self-isolate and can't work from home, www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/leave-support-scheme;
- **The Covid-19 Small Business Cashflow (loan) Scheme** from Inland Revenue, may be available to eligible businesses for a loan term of five years, www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/small-business-cash-flow-loan.

Resurgence Support Payment. Available in the event of a COVID-19 Alert Level increase to COVID level two or higher. An eligibility criterion applies including ability to show a 30% drop in revenue or decline in capital-raising ability over a seven-day period. To review criteria or apply from Tuesday 23 February- (<https://www.ird.govt.nz/rsp>). www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/employing-staff/financial-support/resurgence-support-payment