

As you will all know, we reached a major milestone this week with zero known active cases; and today is the 29th consecutive day of no new cases. By special request from some of you, I'm wearing a rainbow tie in celebration. As further good news, at its meeting yesterday, the Civil Contingencies Authority was able to lift some of the regulations which are no longer needed – such as those relating to the temporary provisions for driving licences, pharmacies or the registration of medical professionals. We will now keep the remaining regulations under regular review every 2 weeks.

But. But. The main provisions remain because, lock down is **not** over. Lock down has changed and got easier but categorically lock down is not over. We cannot be complacent. We've all said that before – and we will say it again. And again. The number of reported cases continues to climb globally. As Europe starts to exit lockdown, it would be easy for us to think the crisis has passed. It has not. Many, including the UK, are exiting because everyone knows it is not possible to retain the highest level of lockdown indefinitely. Remember, the number of new cases in England alone is running at 52,000 a week; that would be the equivalent to about 60 a week here. If we were running at that level, there is not a cat in hell's chance, we'd be close to Phase 4 starting tomorrow.

And that is why we are strengthening our borders. With non-essential travel permitted, it is critical that the compulsory period of 14 day self-isolation is strictly adhered to. Ruari Hardy, the Head of Law Enforcement, is going to talk in a little more depth but there are three changes with immediate effect: the Civil Contingencies Authority yesterday agreed, firstly, that a breach of the self-isolation requirement will be an arrestable offence – and Ruari can explain the significance of that; secondly, we agreed that the maximum penalty for a breach would be increased from £1,000 to £10,000; thirdly, we agreed that an employer or contractor will now also be liable for an individual breaching self-isolation. Finally, we have also increased

resources in the team supporting those in quarantine; that team will be increasing contact with those in self-isolation, including random home visits and spot-checks – Ruari can say more about that. Let's be clear, until the UK has got a firm grip on Covid-19 – and it has some way to go yet - the borders are our best defence against new cases in the Bailiwick. And we intend to ensure that they are as strong as they need to be, for as long as they need to be until the risks of increased inbound travel can be properly mitigated and managed.

So to Phase 4. Deputy Soulsby and Dr Brink will take you through some of the guidance. As we've said about guidance before – it won't be perfect. We will continue to flex and respond to experience. There are still requirements in Phase 4, particularly in relation to social distancing and the size of gatherings. The police will be taking appropriate enforcement action if needed; let's hope it's not; they will also be conducting more foot patrols – particularly on popular beaches such as Cobo – to remind people of the importance of following these vital public health rules, for the benefit of the whole community. I really don't believe this will happen, but if the #GuernseyTogether spirit breaks down and everyone just does their own thing, ignoring the rules, we will almost certainly see more cases; and more cases that cannot properly be traced and managed; and if that happens we will go backwards. Be in no doubt, that the Civil Contingencies Authority will have no hesitation in locking back down if that is what is needed – and we already have demonstrated our willingness to act decisively. So, let's please all continue to work together to make sure that does not happen. And let's please also continue with great community spirit of co-operation and courtesy that has marked this period in our community's life – in the supermarkets, let's continue to give space to each other and respect to those essential workers who have kept us all going through the toughest days.

Just a couple of other things from me. Firstly, with schools starting back, please consider your active travel options – such as walking or cycling - particularly during the fine weather. The school buses will be operating but social distancing is self-evidently difficult; and if everyone drives, not only will the roads be much busier, but it will become hard to maintain social distance at drop-off and pick-up as well.

Secondly, some other changes in Town. To help pedestrians more easily maintain a good 2m uncontrolled social distance - which Heidi and Nikki will explain in a moment - whilst walking around Town, it is necessary to close Church Square and the Lower Pollet effective tomorrow; and also to help the hospitality trade with al fresco seating during this fantastic summer weather, in a pilot this weekend, the Quay will be closed. Consideration is also going to be given to doing this in the evenings and further information will follow on this in due course.