

Moving Forward

# The Bailiwick Blueprint

Summary Document



States of Guernsey  
Public Health Services

[gov.gg/coronavirus](https://www.gov.gg/coronavirus)

As we move out of lockdown towards a Bailiwick that is living with COVID-19 as an endemic virus (one that is regularly found within certain areas or populations) rather than a pandemic virus (one that is found across whole countries or the world) we need to think about what we need to do to balance the risk of infection of COVID-19 (or a variant) with the impact of restrictions imposed during the pandemic on the wider health and wellbeing of Bailiwick residents. This includes the economic impact of the pandemic.

Public Health measures have been crucial to limit the transmission of the virus and reduce deaths associated with COVID-19 infections.

The World Health Organisation recommends that when lifting public health measures, the potential impact of lifting those measures on the capacity to rapidly respond to any new increase in cases should be considered and the following should be in place:



Adequate systems to detect, test and manage new cases.



The risk of outbreaks in settings with vulnerable individuals should be minimised.

Whilst as a community we might wish to strive for total elimination of the virus (defined as 28 days with no new cases of infection identified) we do not need to reach the elimination definition for us to move through the states of lockdown. As we progress beyond stage 3 and remove or reduce our border restrictions there needs to be an acceptance that we will see cases of COVID-19 infection and accept the fact the virus has become endemic.

We need to recognise that our on island testing ability, our track and trace process and our community understanding of ways in which to avoid the transmission of a virus will ensure we can protect our healthcare services and manage any identified cases.

We also need to recognise that the most vulnerable in our community have been, or are being vaccinated against COVID-19 infections. This means that if we haven't reached a point of elimination, we can still move forward, with a low number of cases.

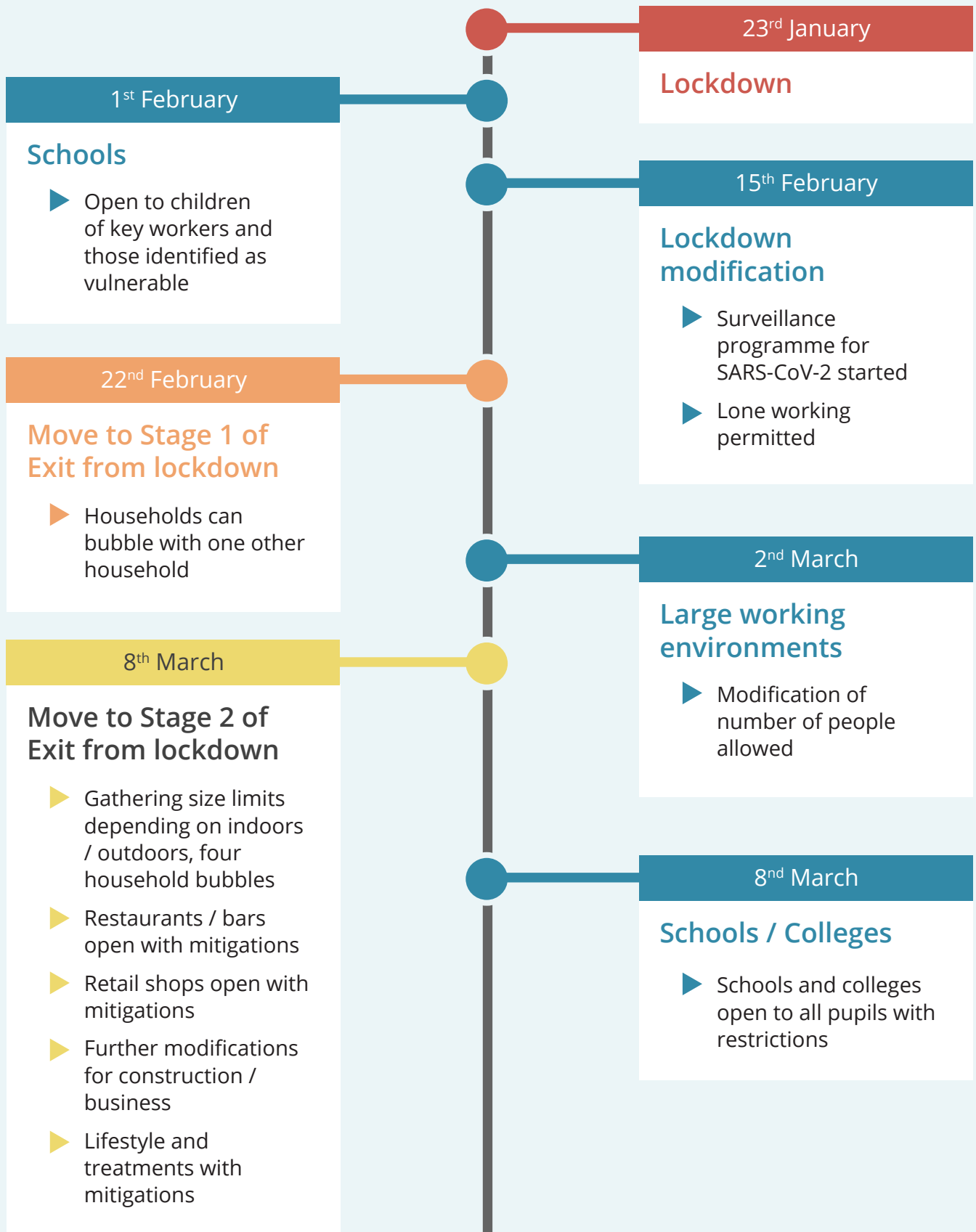
The following table sets out the key dates in our exit from lockdown strategy and proposed dates for our move to a post pandemic situation where the pandemic has ended and our borders are re-opened (with some testing and isolation requirements in place).

It is very important to note that this Blueprint can change at any time depending on the impact of COVID-19 in the Bailiwick. We all saw how quickly our lives changed in wave 2 of the pandemic when a highly transmissible variant of the virus (the Kent variant) required us to go into immediate lockdown. **We will, if we need to, revise this Blueprint to ensure the safety of our community.**





# The Next Steps



22<sup>nd</sup> March

## Move to Stage 3 of Exit from Lockdown

- ▶ The Bailiwick Bubble recommences with no restrictions on inter-island travel.
- ▶ All internal restrictions lifted, but some non-pharmaceutical interventions remain advised, e.g. face coverings, hand and respiratory hygiene.
- ▶ School reopen under Business as Usual Plus guidance
- ▶ Gatherings of over 100 people allowed with a specific risk assessment and a record of people attending.
- ▶ Non-essential travel allowed with all people entering the Bailiwick subject to a mandatory 14 days of self-isolation
- ▶ Hotels may open for all guests arriving from outside of the Bailiwick with travellers subject to the border controls in place, as well as for staycations
- ▶ Review of the role of travel passports with implementation as soon as national or international guidance becomes available

30<sup>th</sup> April

## Travel

- ▶ Non-essential travel allowed with the reimplementation of regional / country prevalence restrictions in relation to testing and self-isolation on arrival. This coincides with the anticipated completion of the administration of the first dose of vaccine for Priority Groups 1 – 9 in Phase 1 of the COVID-19 vaccination programme
- ▶ Specific information on Variants of Concern in the originating country means that there may be travel restrictions in place for a country / jurisdiction irrespective of the prevalence of infection. This will be determined by Public Health concerns.

## Gatherings

- ▶ All restrictions on gathering size removed

May - July

## Vaccination Programme progress

- ▶ Phase 1 of the vaccination programme complete
- ▶ Phase 2 of the vaccination programme starts and all eligible population have at least one dose of vaccine

## Local detection of Variants of Concern

- ▶ The development and implementation of a local sequencing capacity to detect variants of concerns

1<sup>st</sup> July or later

## Future Measures

- ▶ Borders re-open completely with no country or regional variations, subject to Phase 1 of the vaccination programme being completed (1st and 2nd dose) and the first dose of Phase 2 of the programme has been delivered to eligible islanders. A single test at the border, or pre-travel, may be retained, depending on Public Health concerns.
- ▶ Move is dependent on vaccines remaining effective against predominant circulating variants.
- ▶ Contact tracing process re-focussed to meet emerging needs, to include case isolation and a focus on Variants of Concern and household contacts.
- ▶ Possible testing on arrival, dependent on concerns with regard to control and emergence of vaccine-resistant strains of the virus.
- ▶ Possible use of travel passports as a condition of entry into the Bailiwick.
- ▶ If required, and depending of external Public Health threats, this testing and restrictions at the borders may be periodically implemented.

As we transition out of this pandemic, we also need to think about the lessons learnt from the last year and we need to plan for a future where we manage the virus in our community.

Considerations will include our future testing requirements, the vaccination programme, travel requirements such as vaccine passports, variants of the virus emerging globally and the long-term effects of post-COVID-19 syndrome.

The future will look different. We will need to accept and embrace a new normal.

As a community we will need to continue to integrate the positive messages from COVID-19 into our post-pandemic lives. For example, respiratory and hand hygiene and the 'stay at home' message if you are unwell needs to become the norm. Basic hygiene and respiratory etiquette will reduce the transmission of ALL viruses, not just COVID-19.