

***UPDATED* COVID-19 (coronavirus) Building and Construction Industry Advisory**

This document has been prepared as a general Toolbox Talk for building and construction workers and supervisors. It supplements but does not replace information from the government and Ministry of Health which will always be the primary source of advice in this matter. [Please see the MOH website for further information](#)



New Zealand is operating at alert level 1. Building and Construction sites are almost back to normal, while continuing with contact tracing and increased hygiene measures.

COVID-19 What it means for business in Building and Construction

We're now operating at alert level 1, which is almost business as usual for building and construction sites. However, the recent incident where two people travelled from Auckland to Wellington prior to testing positive for coronavirus is a reminder of how easily we could lose our grip on the spread of the virus. With nine active cases in the country, we need to make sure that everyone in our sector is adhering to the **government's COVID-19 advice**.

The battle to contain COVID-19 has come at a major cost for our sector. We've already seen significant job losses and many others are concerned about job security. The team at **Mates in Construction** (MIC) are experiencing an increase in call volumes and are busy providing onsite support. MIC are seeking government funding to expand into the regions in response to continual calls for support outside of Auckland.

Working at level 1

Level 1 protocols are far simpler than the requirements of levels 2 and 3. Despite that, we must stay vigilant to ensure that any outbreaks can be quickly contained in order to prevent having to move back to a higher alert level.

It's important that anyone feeling unwell stays at home. If you're displaying **symptoms of COVID-19**, call Healthline 0800 358 5453 and your manager. Anyone visiting a site must sign in and out. All sites must have a COVID-19 emergency plan and be able to contact trace in the event of an outbreak.

Common areas must be cleaned regularly and hands should be washed frequently.

Let's hope that one legacy of the COVID-19 pandemic might be improved management of all infectious diseases at work!

NZCIC members working with the Construction Sector Accord

The Construction Sector Accord (CSA) is working with the government to minimise the fallout from COVID-19 while returning to work on implementation of the CSA Transformation Plan. A few (of the many) CSA workstreams' projects that are underway are listed below:

- Developing the Contract Partnership Agreement. This contract will convey how parties can work together following the principles of the Construction Sector Accord and contribute to CSA outcomes.
- Developing the Rapid Mobilisation Playbook – a guideline to assist agencies through a typical construction project. It will outline best practice and provide advice for streamlining or fast-tracking parts of the process.
- Running a **risk webinar** hosted by ASG member and Naylor Love CEO Rick Herd.
- Developing interim special conditions for 3910 contracts to deal with events such as COVID-19.
- Supporting the development of a Cabinet paper that outlines a construction sector procurement recovery plan.
- Developing ways to improve the procurement process of professional services by government to make it more efficient and hasten the development of projects.
- Assisting Crown Infrastructure Partners and the Infrastructure Commission with progressing the 'Shovel Ready' projects.
- Ongoing work to support the residential sector including ways to improve consumer confidence in the housing sector post-COVID-19.

For any media inquiries or if you're interested in becoming a member of the NZCIC, please contact the NZCIC Chair, Graham Burke at graham@grahamburke.co.nz or 021 249 3459.