

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER HON HENRY PUNA GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

MEDIA RELEASE CABINET EXTENDS TEMPORARY AIR BORDER CLOSURE FOR INWARDS TRAVEL 25 AUGUST 2020

The Cook Islands Cabinet met today and decided to extend the temporary total air border closure for inwards passenger travel with no exemptions.

This will be effective from 11:59pm tonight until 11:59pm Sunday 30 August 2020 (CKT).

Cabinet will meet again on Sunday 30 August to review the continuation or otherwise of the temporary total air border closure.

A revised travel advisory will be posted to the COVID-19 website <u>www.covid19.gov.ck</u>

Prime Minister Henry Puna wishes to reassure those Cook Islanders and permit holders wishing to return to the Cook Islands that government is working diligently to ensure their safe passage home as soon as possible.

"This is a difficult time for all of us, and we must make well informed decisions to ensure we keep our people safe from COVID-19 not only in the Cook Islands but also overseas."

Te Marae Ora – the Ministry of Health, is monitoring the recent significant COVID-19 cluster in Auckland and providing advice to those affected by the border closures.

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