

Memo to Clubs and Members
From Clubs New Zealand Board and National Office
Date 25 March 2020
Subject Essential Services Clarification



A large number of clubs have been seeking clarification on where they fit amongst the essential services list and what support they can potentially provide to members during the level 4 'shut down'.

The Government last night clarified their position on essential services.

Food delivery is prohibited, except meals-on-wheels and whole food delivery (e.g. subscription boxes such as My Food Bag).

MBIE deputy chief executive Paul Stocks said "We cannot guarantee every kitchen operates strict food preparation controls or that everyone who works in a kitchen is well. Evidence overseas suggests the virus has been spread via poor food hygiene practices, so it's a real risk we have to eliminate.

For clarity, every restaurant, café and bar must close all aspects of their operation, including delivery."

Clubs with Off-Licences **will not** be able to sell and deliver beverages. Liquor stores are being treated as other non-essential retail outlets and must close.

A dedicated email address has been provided essential@mbie.govt.nz for businesses to seek advice. Clubs are encouraged to seek confirmation from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment before advertising any services to members.

Other ways to support members

The message from the Government is clear and that is to stay home.

There are other ways that clubs can support members and look out for the most vulnerable in our communities. For example, the club could facilitate a 'buddy system' amongst members. Members who are isolated or live alone could be offered the chance to provide their phone/mobile number and other members put their hand up to keep in regular contact.

It is also possible for people to drop essential supplies, "non cooked" food and medications to those who are unable to travel or the risk of them visiting the supermarket or pharmacy is too great (so long as these items are left at the door and physical distancing is ensured).

We are under no illusions that these are challenging times, however, we have to trust in the process so that we can get the doors to our clubs open as soon as possible.

Larry Graham
Chief Executive, Clubs New Zealand