Ordinance 17 of 2022

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An Ordinance to amend the Protection of Public Health (COVID-19) Ordinance 2022

R. Thomson

ADMINISTRATOR

23 May 2022

BE it enacted by the Administrator of the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia as follows:—

Short title and commencement

1.—(1) This Ordinance may be cited as the Protection of Public Health (COVID-19) (Amendment) (No.3) Ordinance 2022.
   (2) This Ordinance comes into force on 24 May 2022.

Amendment of the Protection of Public Health (COVID-19) Ordinance 2022

2.—(1) The Protection of Public Health (COVID-19) Ordinance 2022(a) is amended as follows:
   (2) In section 2 (interpretation)—

(a) Ordinance 04/2022, as amended by Ordinances 08/2022 and 09/2022.
(a) omit the definitions for “entry requirements for high-risk venues and events”, “entry requirements for low-risk venues and events” and “entry requirements for medium-risk venues and events”;

(b) in subsection (8) for “entry requirements for low-risk venues and events, medium-risk venues and events or high-risk venues and events” substitute “requirement to provide evidence of vaccination against COVID-19, recovery from COVID-19, or a negative test for COVID-19”.

(3) In section 5 (masks), in subsection (1) for “6” substitute “12”.

(4) In section 11 (religious worship)—
   (a) for paragraph (b) substitute—
       “(b) in a place of worship where the total floor area exceeds 500 square metres, at any time the number of people simultaneously present does not exceed 85% of the capacity of the place of worship.”.
   (b) omit paragraphs (c) and (d).

(5) Omit section 12 (events including weddings and christenings).

(6) In section 13 (conferences and trade fairs)—
   (a) for paragraph (b) substitute—
       “(b) in a conference or trade fair where the total floor area exceeds 500 square metres, at any time the number of people simultaneously present does not exceed 85% of the capacity of the venue.”.
   (b) omit paragraph (c).

(7) In section 15 (sporting events)—
   (a) in subsection (1)(b)—
       (i) for “70%” substitute “85%”.
       (ii) for “, and” substitute “.”.
   (b) omit paragraph (1)(c).

(8) Omit section 16 (low-risk venues).

(9) Omit section 17 (medium-risk venues).

(10) In section 18 (catering premises)—
    (a) in subsection (1), for paragraph (b) substitute—
        “(b) in a catering premises where the total floor area exceeds 500 square metres, at any time the number of people simultaneously present does not exceed 85% of the capacity of the premises.”.
    (b) omit subsections (2) and (3).

(11) In section 19 (nightclubs, reception halls, discos, music and dance venues etc)—
    (a) in subsection (1), for paragraph (b) substitute—
        “(b) in a venue where the total floor area exceeds 500 square metres, at any time the number of people simultaneously present does not exceed 85% of the capacity of the venue.”.
    (b) omit subsections (2) and (3).

(12) In section 21 (signage)—
    (a) omit paragraph (1)(a).
    (b) omit paragraph (2)(a).

(13) In section 22 (open air markets)—
    (a) in paragraph (b)—
        (i) for “70%” substitute “85%”. 
(ii) after the comma insert “ and”.
(b) in paragraph (c) for “, and” substitute “.”
(c) omit paragraph (d).

(14) In section 23 (cinemas, theatres etc)—
(a) at the end of paragraph (a) for “, and” substitute “.”.
(b) omit paragraph (c).

(15) In section 24 (casinos)—
(a) in paragraph (a) for “,” substitute “.”.
(b) omit paragraphs (b) and (c).

(16) For section 28 (schools), substitute—

“28.—(1) Subject to subsection (3), a person in charge of a school must ensure that the relevant health and safety guidelines are complied with.

(2) In this section “school” means a private or state school of primary or secondary education, a kindergarten, preschool, special school or special unit of a school.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to a school on land occupied by the Crown in right of its Government of the United Kingdom.”.

(17) In section 29 (hospitals)—
(a) in subsection (1), after paragraph (a) insert—

“(aa) either—

(i) the person in hospital has had no more than one other visitor on that day, or
(ii) the director of the hospital has given permission for the person in hospital to be visited by more than 2 people in total that day; and”.

(b) in subsection (2), in paragraph (b)— for “(by either a PCR or rapid flow test) within the 24 hours immediately preceding the visit” substitute “by a PCR test within the preceding 72 hours or by a rapid flow test within the preceding 48 hours”.

(c) in subsection (3) for “comply with the entry requirements for high-risk venues and events” substitute “have either—”. 
(d) after subsection (3) insert—

“(a) completed a full course of vaccination against COVID-19,
(b) recovered from COVID-19 in the preceding 3 months,
(c) tested negative for COVID-19 by a PCR test within the preceding 72 hours, or
(d) tested negative for COVID-19 by rapid flow test within the preceding 48 hours.”.

(e) in subsection (6) for “comply with the entry requirements for high-risk venues and events” substitute “have either—”. 
(f) after subsection (6) insert—

“(a) completed a full course of vaccination against COVID-19,
(b) recovered from COVID-19 in the preceding 3 months,
(c) tested negative for COVID-19 by a PCR test within the preceding 72 hours, or
(d) tested negative for COVID-19 by rapid flow test within the preceding 48 hours.”

(18) In section 30 (residential and support facilities)—
(a) for subsection (2) substitute—

“(2) P is permitted to visit another person in a residential facility listed in subsection (1) if P is less than 6 years old or is in possession of evidence that they have either—
(a) completed a full course of vaccination against COVID-19,
(b) recovered from COVID-19 in the preceding 3 months,
(c) tested negative for COVID-19 (by either a PCR or rapid flow test) in the preceding 72 hours.”.

(b) omit subsection (3).

(c) for subsection (5) substitute—

“(5) No employee of a facility listed in subsection (1) may attend work unless they have evidence that they have either—

(a) completed a full course of vaccination against COVID-19,

(b) recovered from COVID-19 in the preceding 3 months,

(c) tested negative for COVID-19 by a PCD test within the preceding 72 hours, or

(d) tested negative for COVID-19 by a rapid flow test in the preceding 48 hours.”.

(d) omit subsection (6).

(19) In section 31 (immigration centres) for paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute—

“(a) provides evidence that they have completed a full course of vaccination against COVID-19,

(b) provides evidence that they have recovered from COVID-19 in the preceding 3 months,

(c) provides evidence that they have tested negative for COVID-19 by a PCR test in the preceding 72 hours,

(d) provides evidence that they have tested negative for COVID-19 by a rapid flow test in the preceding 48 hours, or

(e) is less than 6 years old.”.

(20) In section 33 (prisons) for paragraphs (a) and (b) substitute—

“(a) provides evidence that they have completed a full course of vaccination against COVID-19,

(b) provides evidence that they have recovered from COVID-19 in the preceding 3 months,

(c) provides evidence that they have tested negative for COVID-19 by a PCR test in the preceding 72 hours,

(d) provides evidence that they have tested negative for COVID-19 by a rapid flow test in the preceding 48 hours, or

(e) is less than 6 years old.”.

(21) In section 34 (community councils and municipality councils)—

(a) in paragraph (4)(c)—

(i) in subparagraph (i), for “, or” substitute “.”.

(ii) omit subparagraph (ii).

(b) in subsection (5)—

(i) omit subparagraphs (b)(i)(aa).

(ii) in subparagraph (b)(ii) for “, or” substitute “.”.

(iii) omit subparagraph (b)(iii).

(22) In section 36 (relevant health requirements for operating a ferry etc.) omit “that all passengers and crew comply with the entry requirements for low-risk venues and events, and”.
EXPLANATORY NOTE
(This note is not part of the Ordinance)

1. This explanatory note relates to the Protection of Public Health (COVID-19) (Amendment) (No.3) Ordinance 2022 (the “Ordinance”). It has been prepared by the Office of the Attorney General and Legal Adviser in order to assist the reader of the Ordinance. It does not form part of the Ordinance and is not intended to be a comprehensive description of the Ordinance.

2. Section 2 amends the Protection of Public Health (COVID-19) Ordinance 2022 (the “principal Ordinance”) and, broadly, relaxes or removes restrictions relating to COVID-19, reflecting the changes introduced in the Republic by the Quarantine (Determination of Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus) Order (No. 20) of 2022 (P.I. 186/2022).

3. The Ordinance increases the maximum number of people permitted to be present at certain venues including places of worship and places of entertainment such as nightclubs. It also removes the COVID-19 related entry requirements, such as providing proof of vaccination, for most undertakings.