

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP
Convenor
Covid-19 Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

23 June 2020

Dear Murdo

The Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 2020

During the Committee evidence session on the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 2020, on Wednesday 3 June, I agreed to provide the Committee with a written response giving further detail on some points raised by members.

Monica Lennon asked when betting shops would be able to reopen for business and what measures would be in place to ensure social distancing. From 29 June retail premises of all sizes, including betting shops, can reopen but only if they have outdoor entrances and exits. As with all businesses and services that reopen, betting shops will be required to take reasonable steps to ensure their employees are able to maintain a two metre distance from each other. Businesses must also ensure that they admit people into their premises in sufficiently small numbers to maintain a two metre distance and take steps to ensure that distance can also be maintained by people (e.g. customers) waiting to enter their premises.

In addition guidance will be developed to confirm that betting shops are open for the purpose of placing bets only. Measures should be taken to avoid clusters of people gathering, such as removing chairs and ensuring televisions in the premises are turned off. Gambling machines should also be switched off to avoid spread through surface transmission.

In response to Willie Coffey's question in relation to personal training for sport and exercise; the published guidance on exercise and activity states that one on one personal training or coaching is permitted if it is outdoors, physical distancing can be maintained, and is with members of your household and/or members of up to two other households. It also indicates that a coach or personal trainer should not deliver training to more than two households at any one time or provide training to more than two households per day. Tennis Scotland have also produced detailed guidance to help coaches and participants undertake activity safely and within the current restrictions.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

In response to Stewart Stevenson's question, while current guidance refers to various activities, this is not an exhaustive list. Other activities are permitted provided that they are undertaken in a way that is consistent with the rules and guidance that are applicable to any activity in this phase e.g. maintaining physical distancing requirements and staying within a short distance of your local community (broadly within 5 miles). Therefore any private flying must be carried out in a way that ensures all rules and physical distancing guidance relating to the current phase are complied with.

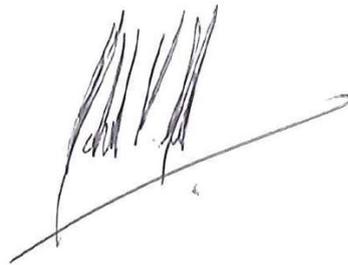
The Scottish Government will not be publishing specific guidance in relation to General Aviation. The Department for Transport has published guidance which is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-recreational-general-aviation>

Any decision to open an individual airfield is a matter for the operator of that airfield.

I hope the Committee finds this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Russell', written over a horizontal line.

MICHAEL RUSSELL