

**Infectious Diseases Control (Coronavirus, Quarantine) Regulations 2021  
(S. R. & O. No. 1 of 2021)**

**Quarantine Exemptions Direction No. 7**

**Background**

In accordance with regulation 17 of the Infectious Diseases Control (Coronavirus, Quarantine) Regulations 2021, the Chief Medical Officer has reviewed the requirements of those Regulations and the Directions in force under regulation 11 of those Regulations. She has in particular reviewed the impact of Quarantine Exemptions Direction No.6 in the Falkland Islands in light of the changing picture of the incidence of coronavirus infection in the United Kingdom and across the world. She has reported the outcome of her review and in her opinion further change is required to reflect the very significant reduction in the risk of a person in the Falkland Islands being infected with coronavirus and, if infected, of becoming seriously ill or requiring hospital care. The risk of an uncontrolled community outbreak of the disease is likewise very significantly reduced.

In the circumstances, I am satisfied that the period of quarantine can be further reduced to 5 days for those arriving by air from the United Kingdom who have completed the full course of vaccination with the Oxford-AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna or Janssen vaccines (or any other vaccine approved by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency of the United Kingdom Government) and test negative for coronavirus on day 2 and day 5 of quarantine, provided those they are in quarantine with test negative on day 5.

Those who have not been vaccinated, or who have not completed the full course of vaccination at least 14 days before arrival still have the option of a test to release on day 2 and day 8 (originally introduced by Quarantine Exemption Direction No.6).

Similar arrangements will apply to persons who are convalescent cases, that is persons infected with the virus not more than 90 days before arriving in the Falkland Islands provided there has been a certain period between the person's infection and (where relevant) cessation of symptoms, and their arrival in the Falkland Islands, and provided they have been certified by a doctor as posing no or very little risk of transmitting the disease.

I am also satisfied that the exemption available under the Regulations for certain Crown servants who quarantine in the United Kingdom before arriving in the Falkland Islands can be extended to apply to Crown servants and military contractors, who quarantine in the United Kingdom for shorter periods (8 days, or 5 days in the case of vaccinated persons), on the basis that they meet appropriate testing requirements whilst in quarantine in the United Kingdom.

**Direction**

In accordance with regulation 11(3)(a) of the Infectious Diseases Control (Coronavirus, Quarantine) Regulations 2021 I, Nigel James Phillips C.B.E., direct that —

1. (1) This Direction applies to air passengers arriving in the Falkland Islands on or after 19 July 2021.

(2) Save to the extent set out in paragraph 10, the Quarantine Exemption Direction No. 6 dated 27 May 2021 is revoked.

**Part 1 – Test and release (partial quarantine exemption)**

2. Air passengers are not required to comply with the requirements for the remainder of the period of quarantine that would otherwise apply to them from the date the air passengers are informed by or on behalf of the Chief Medical Officer that they are of a description in either paragraph 4 or 5 of this Direction and all other persons who are in quarantine with such air passengers by virtue of regulation 8(2)(b) of the Infectious Diseases Control (Coronavirus, Quarantine) Regulations 2021 are likewise exempt from the requirements for the remainder of the period of quarantine.

3. (1) A child is not required to undergo a test for coronavirus for the purposes of this Direction.

(2) A child is treated as if they have tested negative for the purposes of paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Direction.

(3) Paragraph (2) does not apply if the child has tested positive whilst in quarantine.

(4) In this paragraph “child” means a person who is under 6 years of age.

4. (1) This paragraph applies to an air passenger who —

- (a) has been vaccinated;
- (b) is not in quarantine with an air passenger who has not been vaccinated; and
- (c) meets the criteria in subparagraph (2).

(2) The criteria are —

- (a) on or before the second day after the day of arrival in the Falkland Islands the air passenger tests negative for coronavirus or is a convalescent case; and
- (b) on the fifth day after the day of arrival in the Falkland Islands the air passenger tests negative for coronavirus or is convalescent positive and all other persons who are in quarantine with the air passenger test negative for coronavirus on the same occasion or are a convalescent case.

5. (1) This paragraph applies to an air passenger who —

- (a) has not been vaccinated, or who has been vaccinated but is in quarantine with an air passenger who has not been vaccinated; and
- (b) meets the criteria in subparagraph (2).

(2) The criteria are —

- (a) on or before the second day after the day of arrival in the Falkland Islands the air passenger tests negative for coronavirus or is a convalescent case; and
- (b) on the eighth day after the day of arrival in the Falkland Islands, the air passenger tests negative for coronavirus or is convalescent positive and all other persons who are in quarantine with the air passenger test negative for coronavirus on the same occasion or are a convalescent case.

## **Part 2 – Pre-arrival quarantine (full quarantine exemption)**

6. An air passenger who is a person of a description specified in paragraph 7 or 8 —

- (a) is not required to comply with the requirements; and
- (b) is not required to take other specified measures to reduce the risk of spreading coronavirus infection.

7. This paragraph applies to a Crown servant or military contractor who —

- (a) has been vaccinated;
- (b) has been in quarantine in the United Kingdom for a period of at least 5 days ending immediately before their arrival in the Falkland Islands;
- (c) has not been in quarantine with a person who has not been vaccinated; and
- (d) has met the requirements of the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence public health unit coronavirus testing regime in connection with the period of quarantine in the United Kingdom.

8. This paragraph applies to a Crown servant or military contractor who —

- (a) has been in quarantine in the United Kingdom for a period of at least 8 days ending immediately before their arrival in the Falkland Islands; and
- (b) has met the requirements of the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence public health unit coronavirus testing regime in connection with the period of quarantine in the United Kingdom.

## **Part 3 – Interpretation**

9. (1) In this Direction —

“**air passenger**” means a person who arrives in the Falkland Islands by air from the United Kingdom on or after 19 July 2021;

“**convalescent case**” means a person who —

- (a) is able to provide evidence that they were infected by coronavirus not more than 90 days before the day on which the person arrives in the Falkland Islands;

- (b) meets one of the following criteria —
- (i) the person has had no symptoms of coronavirus and is able to provide evidence that they were infected by coronavirus at least 14 days before the day on which the person arrives in the Falkland Islands;
  - (ii) the person has had no symptoms of coronavirus for a period of 4 days ending on the day on which the person arrives in the Falkland Islands, and is able to provide evidence that they were infected by coronavirus at least 10 days before the day on which the person arrives in the Falkland Islands; and
- (d) has been assessed by a qualified medical professional in the Falkland Islands and that professional is satisfied the person poses no or a very small risk of infecting others with coronavirus;

“**Crown servant**” means any member of the naval, military or air forces of the Crown and any person employed in the civil service of the Crown in right of the Government of the United Kingdom;

“**military contractor**” means any person who is not a Crown servant but who provides, or is employed in the provision of, goods or services for the purposes of the Government of the United Kingdom in the Falkland Islands;

“**Regulations**” means the Infectious Diseases Control (Coronavirus, Quarantine) Regulations 2021; and

“**the requirements**” means the requirements in Part 3 of the Regulations.

(2) In this Direction, a reference to a person —

- (a) being vaccinated is a reference to a person having completed the full course of a vaccine approved for coronavirus by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency of the United Kingdom Government not less than 14 days before the date on which the period of quarantine commences and a reference to a person who has not been vaccinated is interpreted accordingly; and
- (b) testing negative or positive (as the case may be) is a reference to a person being tested for coronavirus by a test administered under the direction or supervision of a qualified medical professional in the Falkland Islands and the outcome of the test is negative, indicating that the person is not infected with coronavirus or is positive, indicating that the person is infected with coronavirus.

(3) For the avoidance of doubt, a person seeking to assert that they are a vaccinated person for the purposes of Part 1 must provide the Chief Medical Officer with any information that the Chief Medical Officer reasonably requires in order to establish the person’s vaccination status under this Direction.

**Part 4 – Saving provision**

10. Quarantine Exemption Direction No 6 continues to have effect in relation to a person who arrived in the Falkland Islands by air from the United Kingdom before 19 July 2021 with the omission of the words “and all other persons on the same flight had a negative test result for coronavirus within the same period” from paragraph 2(a)(i).

15 July 2021



N. J. PHILLIPS C.B.E.,  
*Governor*