



Infectious Diseases Control (Coronavirus: Transmission Control Period) Regulations 2022

Summary

POWERS - The Regulations contain powers that enable medical officers to require potentially infectious persons to be “screened and assessed” (including mandatory testing) and to impose requirements and restrictions (including requiring face coverings to be worn and restrictions on movement i.e. self-isolation) in order to control the spread of infection. These powers can be used where it is necessary and proportionate.

MEDICAL OFFICERS - A medical officer is a registered medical practitioner employed by the Falkland Islands Government (including the Chief Medical Officer) or any other doctor or health care professional designated as a medical officer for the purposes of the Regulations by the Chief Medical Officer.

TRANSMISSION CONTROL PERIOD - The powers are only available during a Transmission Control Period. A Transmission Control Period comes into force after the Governor has declared coronavirus to be a serious and imminent threat to public health. The powers are intended as a last resort because it can be reasonably expected that the majority of people will follow instructions on a voluntary basis. Where this is not the case the powers will be used to ensure that instructions are followed so that people are protected from the spread of infection and public health is maintained.

CHILDREN - People who are responsible for children (a person under the age of 18 years) have a duty to ensure that children comply with directions, requirements and restrictions.

APPEALS - A person (including a person responsible for a child on the child’s behalf) can appeal to the Magistrates Court against the imposition of a restriction or a requirement.

ENFORCEMENT - Reasonable force can be used by police to enforce directions, requirements and restrictions. Failure to comply with directions, requirements and restrictions is a criminal offence for which a person (including a person responsible for a child) can be fined up to £1000.