

COVID-19 Alert Levels Summary – Gambling Sector

- Alert Levels are determined by the Government and specify the public health and social measures to be taken in the fight against COVID-19. Further guidance is available on the [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz) website.
- Different parts of the country may be at different Alert Levels. We can move up and down Alert Levels.
- Restrictions are cumulative (e.g. at Alert Level 4, all restrictions from Alert Levels 1, 2 and 3 apply).
- The Department, and more particularly the Gambling Regulator, acknowledge that these changes place a range of impacts on the nature and volume of gambling activity in New Zealand, and significant implications for those working in a range of roles across the sector.
- We will continue to update you regularly. If you have any specific questions or need to notify us as requested below, please email gambling@dia.govt.nz.

Updated 18 September 2021

| Alert Level | Class 1-3 (raffles/lotteries, housie) | Class 4 | Casinos |
|-----------------------|--|---|--|
| Levels 3 and 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 1, 2, and 3 gambling activities must not take place, including raffles and lotteries. Housie sessions must close. If a draw date has changed you must advise purchasers as soon as possible. You should not meet to conduct draws. In-progress ticket sales must stop immediately. If prize(s) become unavailable or perish, return the costs of the tickets to the purchasers when it is safe to do so. Raffles and lotteries may not be conducted online by entities without a statutory exception. Draw dates, closure dates, and prize changes must be notified with the Department so that the licence details can be amended. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venues must remain closed in line with public health guidance. Electronic Gaming Machines must be turned off. Site Controllers must remain online, the electronic monitoring system will continue to operate. Electronic banking can continue, otherwise secure GMP until it can be banked safely. Licence renewal applications can be made without all supporting documentation if necessary. Venue transfers and surrenders cannot take place at level 4 but can take place at Level 3, providing MBIE guidelines are met. Daily monitoring fees do not apply during a period of inactivity. Inactivity due to the requirement to stay closed will not be counted as inactivity under section 71(1)(g) of the Gambling Act 2003. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casino premises must remain closed in line with public health guidance. Late payment penalties on unpaid fees will not be enforced. |
| Level 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raffle tickets may be sold at alert level 2. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venues can open but must comply with public health guidance. Food or drink must not be consumed within 2 metres of a gaming machine. A face covering must be worn while using a gaming machine. Customers must keep a 1 metre distance from others in the gaming area. Any outstanding supporting documentation for licence renewal applications must be submitted within 10 working days of your region moving to alert level 2. Electronic Gaming Machines can be turned on and operated although the primary activity of each venue must be available. Any outstanding GMP must be banked immediately, the requirement to bank GMP within five days of calculation resumes. Venue transfers and surrenders can take place. Daily monitoring fees apply. When your region moves to alert level 2 continued inactivity will be counted as inactivity under section 71(1)(g) of the Gambling Act 2003. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casino premises can open to the public in line with public health guidance. |
| Level 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 1, 2, and 3 gambling activities may take place under the prevailing alert level 1 restrictions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venues can open to the public under the prevailing alert level 1 restrictions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casino premises can open to the public under the prevailing alert level 1 restrictions. |