POLICY NOTE

THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS) (REQUIREMENTS) (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT (NO. 3) REGULATIONS 2021

SSI 2021/384

The above instrument was made in exercise of the power conferred by paragraph 1(1) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020. The instrument is subject to made affirmative procedure by virtue of paragraph 6(3) of schedule 19 of the Act.

These Regulations amend the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (the 'Principal Regulations') to provide that persons who are a nominated representative of an organisation which has been accredited by the United Nations Framework on Climate Change for entrance to the COP 26 Blue Zone are deemed to be fully vaccinated for the purposes of entry to the COP 26 Green Zone. The amendments will cease to have effect on 13 November 2021.

Legislative background

1. The UK Coronavirus Act 2020 received Royal Assent on 25 March 2020. Under that Act, the Scottish Government made regulations (in force from 26 March 2020) to implement physical distancing and impose restrictions on gatherings, events and operation of business activity. From 14 September 2020 they were replaced by the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. From 9 October 2020 those Regulations were suspended and replaced by the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Restrictions and Requirements) (Additional Temporary Measures) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. A new levels-based approach was introduced on 2 November 2020, when the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 ("the Local Levels Regulations") came into force and revoked the previous Regulations. On 9 August 2021 the Principal Regulations came into force and revoked the Local Levels Regulations, and introduced a new approach to tackling coronavirus.

Policy Objectives

2. The Scottish Events Campus is the COP 26 Blue Zone, which will be attended by COP 26 delegates and key personnel during COP 26. Unfettered access to Green Zone (the Glasgow Science Centre) events for delegates and key personnel is essential to the smooth running and success of COP 26.The amendments mean that Blue Zone pass holders seeking entry to the Green Zone during the COP 26 period (31 October 2021 to 12 November 2021 inclusive) are deemed to be fully vaccinated for the purposes of domestic covid certification. The amendments will cease to have effect on 13 November 2021.

3. Certification will still be required for everyone other than Blue Zone pass holders who attend the Green Zone for an event that meets the criteria.

Consultation

4. There has been consultation with the relevant sectors in relation to this instrument, including UK Government (as organisers of the Green Zone) and clinical advisers.

Impact Assessments

5. Impact assessments are being prepared and will be published shortly.

Scottish Government
Directorate for Covid Coordination
29 October 2021