



**A communication to our governing bodies of sport –
recovery framework. 12 05 20**

**Today the NI Executive published ‘Coronavirus our approach to
decision-making’.**



The document sets out some indicative steps for the relaxation of restrictions when specific criteria are met.

CORONAVIRUS EXECUTIVE APPROACH TO DECISION-MAKING

Pathway to recovery:

All risks build on what is currently permitted. Steps do not necessarily apply at the same time in different sectors - e.g. Step 1 for work, may apply at a different time than Step 1 for retail, reflecting the complexity and adaptability of each environment.

Sectoral examples are illustrations, and are not intended to be comprehensive. All steps should be read with the description for the step in mind. Step descriptions are general indicators used to inform risk evaluation at each stage rather than to rigorously define permitted activities.

	Current Position	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Work (Also see note on page 11)	Work permitted subject to following legal requirements and best practice arrangements. Executive has committed to enhancing messaging around what is permissible in terms of work. Remote working is default position.	Encouragement to those unable to work from home to return to workplace as phased back subject to legal requirements and best practice arrangements being in place.	➔	➔	➔	All able to return to work subject to mitigations. Remote working still strongly encouraged and maintained where possible.
Retail	Food and other permitted retail activity subject to following requirements. Many retailers only able to function using takeaway/delivery/curbside.	Large outdoor based retail can open. Dry goods centres through associated take away and restaurants only able to offer takeaway/delivery.	➔	➔	➔	➔
Education	Schools are closed except to accommodate vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers. Measures are in place to support remote learning and to provide outdoor learning to vulnerable children and special needs pupils.	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔
Travel	Public transport will operate with limited capacity to allow for social distancing. Passengers recommended to wear face coverings and to avoid travel on busy rail/bus/tram services. Contactless payment systems in place and staff on board and trains, trams and buses. It is advised that passengers should be encouraged to walk and cycle for short journeys where possible.	➔	➔	➔	➔	➔

CORONAVIRUS EXECUTIVE APPROACH TO DECISION-MAKING

	Current Position	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Family and Community	Contact should be within one household.	Groups of up to 4 people who do not share a household can meet outdoors maintaining social distancing. Only the exception of people who are providing, visiting to household family allowed indoors where social distancing is possible. Drive through church services and churches open for private use with appropriate social distancing and cleaning of contact hard surfaces.	Groups of up to 10 can meet outdoors.	Gatherings can accommodate up to 30 people while maintaining social distancing.	A wider range of gatherings permitted including church services subject to social distancing and other suitable mitigations, such as wearing of face coverings.	Can meet in extended groups subject to social distancing or other suitable mitigations.
Sport, cultural and leisure activities	Exercise permitted.	Outdoor spaces and public sport activities to open. Can undertake for example, walking, running, cycling, some water activities, golf, tennis. Drive through cinema.	Resumption of, for example, team sports training in a non-contact basis in small groups. Selected libraries open, restricted services. Open all museums to open.	Resumption of, for example, team sports training in a non-contact basis. Museums and galleries open. Libraries open. Contact and theatre return to resume.	Resumption of, for example, competitive sport, limited to small scale. Museums and other indoor leisure facilities open. Outdoor concerts on restricted basis.	Resumption of some physical contact sports. Return to competitive sport and full use of sporting facilities. Spectators to attend live events on restricted basis. Nightclubs, concerts open on a limited basis.
Definition of steps	Regulations define what is currently permitted.	Outdoor activities involving small groups of up to 10 people where social distancing can be maintained for individuals who do not share a household contact and where there is no shared contact with hard surfaces.	Indoor activities involving small groups of up to 10 people and interactions of up to 12 people that maintain social distancing and prevent congregating in places for any extended period. Outdoor activities involving small groups of less than 10 people during which it may be difficult to maintain social distancing but where contacts are brief (less than 10 minutes).	Indoor activities involving larger number of individuals where social distancing can be maintained for individuals who do not share a household contact. Outdoor activities involving larger groups of less than 30 people during which it may be difficult to maintain social distancing but where contacts are brief (less than 10 minutes).	Indoor activities involving larger number of individuals where social distancing cannot be consistently maintained but contacts are limited and last less than 10 minutes or longer if effective mitigation is possible. Outdoor gatherings involving larger numbers of individuals where social distancing cannot be consistently maintained and multiple contacts of more than 10 minutes are likely.	Indoor gatherings of large numbers of people where social distancing cannot be consistently maintained and multiple contacts of more than 10 minutes are likely.

Note: The scope to work depends on the ability to take the appropriate mitigating measures. Significant work has been done on these issues by business and trade union representatives under the Engagement Forum chaired by the Labour Relations Agency which resulted in the Workplace Safety Guide. This sets out principles and practical steps to keep workplaces safe. This guidance should be read in parallel with that work and more information is available at the links below.
<https://www.lra.ie/en/news-and-articles/2020/04/2020-04-29-workplace-safety-guidance-and-practice-2020-04-29>
<https://www.lra.ie/en/news-and-articles/2020/04/2020-04-29-workplace-safety-guidance-and-practice-2020-04-29>

To read the document: [click here](#)

What does this mean for the sports sector?

In the past week Sport NI has been working on a draft Framework to guide how a resumption of sport could take place in NI.

Sport NI met with Department officials this morning and in light of today's announcement, Sport NI will align the draft Framework to the five stages set out in the Executive's document, for approval within the next week.

The Framework is based upon consideration of information from a wide range of sources including consultations with Sports

Governing Bodies, discussions with Sport Ireland and UK Sport and consideration of other international responses from proven sporting systems.

The purpose of this framework is to act as a general high level guide for sports as they consider their specific plans for resumption.

What are the next steps for governing bodies of sport?

Sport NI recognises that a number of sports have already drawn up detailed staged plans, some with direction from their International Federations.

Once the Framework is approved, sports can consider these plans against it in order to ensure appropriate alignment.

Those sports that have not yet developed a plan, can use the Framework to guide their thinking.

Both Sport NI and the Department recognise that there will need to be constant review of the Framework, as more information becomes available and to take account of changing circumstances within NI's response to the Covid outbreak.

**Antoinette McKeown
CEO**