

30 March 2020

COVID-19 Alert Level 4 – Update related to what trainers can and cannot do their own property.

HRNZ has received a number of enquires over the weekend, related to what trainers are able to do on their own properties and how this relates to the updated Order and Direction that was issued on Friday. MPI confirmed to HRNZ late on Friday (after the update had gone out) that the guidance in the Order & Direction continues to be apply, however there are exceptions for trainers on their own property. The interview with Peter Jensen that we posted on Saturday, was recorded on Saturday morning, and was designed to reflect the latest MPI position.

Trainers on their own property can continue to work their team and educate younger horses as long as the horses are already on the property and that no-one (employee, neighbour, friend etc.), has to travel to the property for this purpose.

- The only exception to the above is if a trainer cannot legitimately find a suitable spelling property for a horse(s). An employee can travel for the purpose of lightly exercising horses that are confined to stables or small yards. This is in the interests of animal welfare and keeping horses safe.
 - If this applies to you, you should have registered with MPI and be ready to respond to any questions they have.
- Employees can travel to a property for the purpose of caring for and feeding horses who are spelling.
 - In both of these cases, you must have provided anyone travelling, for the purpose of caring for horses, with the completed letter that explains why they need to travel. This template was sent to everyone last week; please contact HRNZ if you need another copy.
- It is our expectation that no horses will be fast-worked, while Alert Level 4 in place. This is to limit any potential for injury and any unneeded pressure on the health system and emergency services.
- No horses may be transported to another property unless it is being moved to a spelling/agisment property.

It is important to note that the Order and Direction issued on Friday still applies unless the circumstances described above apply to you.

Should you require any clarification of any of the above, please contact Darrin Williams or Peter Jensen at HRNZ.