

## POLICY NOTE

### THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS) (RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS) (LOCAL LEVELS) (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT (NO. 28) REGULATIONS 2021

SSI 2021/242

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) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 to remove the Republic of Ireland and the area of Bedford Borough Council from the list of areas to which the common travel area restrictions apply. These regulations also add Manchester and Salford to the list of areas to which common travel area restrictions apply.

#### 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 principal regulations”) came into force and revoked the previous regulations.

#### Policy Objectives

##### *Common Travel Area*

2. These Regulations amend schedule 7A of the principal regulations to remove the Republic of Ireland and the area of Bedford Borough Council from the list of places in the Common Travel Area (CTA) from which travel to and from Scotland is not permitted without a reasonable excuse.

3. These Regulations also amend schedule 7A of the principal regulations to add the areas of Salford and Manchester to the list of places in the CTA from which travel to and from Scotland is not permitted without a reasonable excuse.

4. These changes are being made due to changes to the epidemiological position for those areas.

## **Consultation**

5. There has been no public consultation in relation to this instrument.

## **Impact Assessments**

6. No impact assessments are required. The provisions are also subject to strict obligations on the Scottish Government to review their necessity.

Scottish Government  
Directorate for Covid Coordination

*17 June 2021*