



2,46 Fair Mall Otago, Auckland 2023
09 274 6401
www.otago.co.nz

WAGE SUBSIDY EXTENSION

COVID-19 Latest Announcement

It was announced at 6pm Tuesday that Auckland and the Coromandel Peninsula will move to Alert Level 4 for seven day starting 11.59pm August 17. The rest of New Zealand will enter Level 4 for a minimum of three days.

If you feel unwell, please visit your nearest Community Testing Centre, call your doctor or Healthline on 0800 358 5453: <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19/south-auckland/otago/>

Please abide by Government Guidelines.

- Stay home - only leave when absolutely necessary (for food supplies or exercise)
- When outside your bubble you must wear and mask and keep a 2m distance.

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- Keep on scanning your QR codes whenever you leave home.
- Practice good hygiene - wash your hands often.
- Supermarkets, pharmacies, clinics & petrol stations will stay open in the town centre.

During Alert Level 4, guidance from the Government and Ministry of Health stipulates that Council can still provide essential services, but non-essential operations must cease for the safety of staff and the community.

During these times essential businesses must operate cautiously and have an effective infection control policy to minimise the spread of the virus. That includes identifying and assessing the infection hazards at the workplace and implementing specific controls can help eliminate or minimise the risk of transmission.

These may include mask wearing, physical distancing, regular handwashing with soap and the use of hand-sanitiser. Appropriate routine environmental cleaning and disinfection should occur regularly at all workplaces.

COVID-19 Wage Subsidy August 2021

The Government has announced that a wage subsidy will be available to businesses impacted by New Zealand moving to COVID-19 Alert Level 4 on 17 August 2021.

It will be available to all New Zealand businesses and self-employed people that meet eligibility criteria. Applications will be open from 9am on Friday 20 August 2021 for two weeks. You can register for an email update using the [Wage Subsidy enquiry form](#).

Work and income will continue to update their website as information becomes available. The COVID-19 Wage Subsidy August 2021 is a payment for employers to keep paying staff and protect jobs.



COVID-19 Contact Tracing QR Code Poster

All workplaces and businesses legally must display an NZ COVID Tracer QR code for each location. This applies at all Alert Levels.

Having a QR code poster makes it easy for your guests to keep track of where they have been. You can choose to have a QR code poster if you are organising an event or gathering, if you are organising transport, or if you have visitors.

- You should generate a different QR code poster for each unique location or vehicle.
- You can print many copies of the same QR code poster to put in one location.

Create your QR posters here <https://qrform.tracing.covid19.govt.nz/> and protect your business and your visitors.

Any retailer requires assistance with the printing out of the Contact Tracing QR code poster for their shop, please contact Town Centre manager Rana Judge on [027 274 6401](tel:0272746401). Rana is happy to assist businesses with the printing.

Additionally, a free helpline service is available for Auckland businesses by the Auckland Council. It offers you specific advice and access to government support, and what the change in alert levels means for your business.



COVID-19 Vaccines

MIT has been a hub for Covid-19 vaccinations in South Auckland encouraging community members and youth to get their vaccines out. This initiative is an acknowledgment that vaccinating younger people in this community will have an overall positive benefit on regional health outcomes. It has created momentum for vaccination and awareness of its benefits in South Auckland.

We have recently attended COVID-19 vaccination hui, to better understand and inform Otara community about the vaccine roll-out. The Government's vaccination programme is for everyone over 16, regardless of immigration status or whether people are registered with the public health system. There is enough vaccine for everyone, in every community and we do not want anyone to miss out.

The key things to pass on are from the session:

- Vaccine will help keep our communities safe
- Vaccine is available for everyone over 16, regardless of immigration status
- People do not have to be registered with the public health system
- When it is their turn, people can book online at [Book My Vaccine | Ministry of Health NZ \(covid19.health.nz\)](#) or by calling [0800 28 29 26](#).

Find a time to come in that suits you, and bring your family members, there is a quick health check, short wait and then you are basically called for a vaccine.

For locals wanting to get their shots can assess the site through various options such as:

- Public Transport: Bus routes #325 Māngere/Manukau on Ōtara Road, #31 Botany, #314 Ormiston, #325 Manukau, #361 Ōtara at town centre stops.
- Accessible parking: Yes – though Gate A at 5 Ōtara Road. For people with mobility issues only.
- Drop off zones available: Yes

Note: The main entrance faces 5 Ōtara Road. There is on road parking here. Or use Gate B (open every day except Saturdays before 1pm) at 16 Newbury Street and follow the signs.

Help Otara become a Covid free zone by booking your vaccine.

Book your vaccine



Homeless people are not being looked after by the Auckland Council

Otara Business Association's objective is to assist and guide the development and advancement of the commercial interests of people and businesses in the Otara Town Centre through a co-ordinated, structured, and measurable

The association has acknowledged the issue related to number of homeless people and beggars in the Town Centre which has been a growing problem over the past couple of years.

Rough sleepers and beggars are causing problems for at least two South Auckland [Ōtara](#) and [Old Papatoetoe](#) business associations.

In regard to this issue, Town Centre manager Rana Judge has been working to make matters better by discussing with the Auckland Council.

In a statement, an [Auckland Council](#) spokesperson stated that the council has tried to provide people who are homeless or begging with advice on how they can access social services and organisations such as the Salvation Army, LifeWise and the City Mission.

While we are working on finding options to assist businesses with this issue, they can report to the council to take actions. This behaviour can be addressed under the Public Safety and Nuisance Bylaw for nuisance or aggressive behaviour from any person in a public place. The council works with police to address this behaviour once it escalates to a criminal threshold.

Read more on:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/local-democracy-reporting/300379706/businesses-struggle-with-south-aucklands-homeless>

Businesses of the Month

KAN'S SHOES

Kans' Shoes has been providing fresh kicks for locals for over 23 years now and remains a community favourite spot for all shoe needs. Young community members are attracted to the town centre because of Kans' efforts to connect and provide the youth with trendy products that are rare to find elsewhere. Their unique selling feature is providing shoe sizes ranging from 7US to 15US, meaning no one is left out. We want to thank Kans' Shoes for uplifting the community of Otara through digital marketing and engaging with the youth of Otara to shop local.

Visit them here: <https://www.facebook.com/kanshoesnz>



Another Shoutout goes to **Empower Lifestyle Nutrition** for providing the locals the support to be healthy and fit. Mii Tangata, a personal wellness coach runs the nutrition centre with the mission to build the Community Unity through Health, Nutrition, Fitness and Support. If you want to lose, maintain or even gain weight? Increase your energy and wellbeing? They can get you started by

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assessment! It is a great way to start to help create a NewU4Life!

Visit them here: <https://herbalnutrition.com/empowerlifestyle>

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