

## New Testing regime for entry in the UK

The UK government announced a bespoke testing regime for international arrivals who will be exempt from quarantine for work purposes, including for hauliers arriving from outside the Common Travel Area into England. This regime will commence on 6 April and further information can be found online here

<<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fnews%2Fbespoke-testing-regime-unveiled-for-exempt-international-arrivals&data=04%7C01%7CAndrew.Price4%40fco.gov.uk%7Cbc8f3f7a961e4062e84d08d8f2bf5662%7Cd3a2d0d37cc84f52bbf985bd43d94279%7C0%7C0%7C637526250885948047%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=JQ3wGZYe2Lb1escTSCp0hDLe%2FNdtwclzT9p08GaUyM0%3D&reserved=0>> . These measures have been designed to protect the UK from the spread of COVID-19 and new variants entering the country.

Under this new bespoke testing regime international arrivals who are in the country for longer than two days will be required to take a test before the end of day two. Those remaining in the UK for longer than two days will then be required to take a further test every three days – typically on days five and eight.

There is no test requirement for those staying for two days or fewer. The professions exempt from quarantining and able to access bespoke testing are listed here

<<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fnews%2Fbespoke-testing-regime-unveiled-for-exempt-international-arrivals&data=04%7C01%7CAndrew.Price4%40fco.gov.uk%7Cbc8f3f7a961e4062e84d08d8f2bf5662%7Cd3a2d0d37cc84f52bbf985bd43d94279%7C0%7C0%7C637526250885958032%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=RRbLYaOZjJhJJC92GtLL%2BI3kT9J89ksNK9O2MrivjU%3D&reserved=0>> . For transport, this includes hauliers, air crew, international rail crew and seafarers.

If an individual tests positive with a lateral flow test, they will be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. A subsequent positive PCR test will be sent for genomic sequencing, to detect variants of concern. The individual will then be required to self-isolate for 10 days from the day after the test was taken.

### Haulier testing

As above, all hauliers staying in the country for longer than two days will be required to take a test before the end of day two. Hauliers remaining in the country will then be required to take a further test every three days – so typically on days five and eight.

Hauliers will be able to access testing at one of the many government information and advice sites – which provide hauliers with free coronavirus tests – or use workplace or community testing centres.

Hauliers that test positive at any point throughout their journey in England, and that cannot secure a safe environment in which to self-isolate, will immediately be re-directed to self-isolate in hotel accommodation set up by the Government at a number of locations in the country at no cost to the haulier (or isolating co-driver/driver's mate). If they are able to safely self-isolate at home or with family or friends in the UK, they are expected to do so.

New legal requirements to limit contact between the community and international hauliers are also set to be introduced alongside inbound haulier testing. All hauliers arriving in the country will now be

required to self-isolate in their cabs for the duration of their time in England, leaving only for specific reasons such as to buy food, use a toilet or undertake limited exercise, among other reasons. These requirements on hauliers will apply for the 10 days after arrival and are based on current guidance (and practice).

Hauliers will be subject to regular monitoring on arrival in England. Anyone coming into the UK and found to not be complying with the new testing and self-isolation requirements could face fines of up to £2,000.