

PRE-FLIGHT COVID-19 TESTING NO LONG REQUIRED FOR INBOUND OVERSEAS TRAVEL

News Release – 16th April 2022

The Controller of the National COVID-19 Response, Police Commissioner David Manning, has announced further measures to re-open the economy as the country and the global community seeks to overcome the devastation of the past two years.

In releasing a revision of International Travel Measures, the Controller has announced that as of Monday, the 18th of April, people traveling to Papua New Guinea will no longer be required to have a COVID-19 test prior to departure.

“We have faced the worst of the Pandemic, and while there remains an ongoing risk of new variants that could emerge, we must move forward,” Mr. Manning said.

“The Prime Minister has made it very clear that 2022 is the year when we return to the normalcy and emerge from this pandemic.

“This is important as the COVID-19 Pandemic becomes increasingly manageable both in Papua New Guinea and around the world.

“Removing the need for pre-flight COVID-19 testing will ensure greater flexibility for travel and this is important for business and the creation of new jobs.

“COVID-19 has been a burden on our country in terms of reduced community and social interaction, as well as the financial and economic costs.

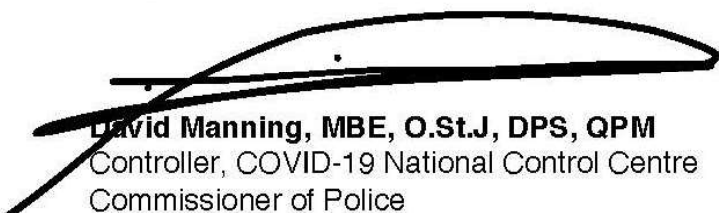
“We want to see more people being able to travel to be with family and friends, and for business to be more active in growing the economy.

“All passengers will still be required to have relevant documentation, which for foreign citizens this means evidence that they have been fully vaccinated. Upon arrival all passengers will be required to take a COVID-19 test before they leave the airport.”

Commissioner Manning said the past two years have been challenging, but Papua New Guineans have shown their resolve and unique character.

“I thank every person who has contributed to our pandemic response in Papua New Guinea. We mourn the loss of Papua New Guineans who have been taken by the Pandemic and they are in our prayers.

“We must continue to demonstrate our strength as a Nation, to be vigilant as COVID-19 is still in the community, but we must rebuild and that is what the Government is doing with this announcement.”



David Manning, MBE, O.St.J, DPS, QPM
Controller, COVID-19 National Control Centre
Commissioner of Police