

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER  
PNG COVID-19 National Pandemic Response  
Joint Agency Task Force  
Media Statement – Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

**David Manning: PM has been cleared to return to official duties**

THE Controller of the National Pandemic Response Mr David Manning has clarified that the Prime Minister James Marape was cleared to return to work yesterday, Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

Mr Manning said, “The PM was cleared after he completed 14 days in isolation and seven days of being asymptomatic.

“After the review of the PM’s result in conjunction with the national clinical and isolation guideline, the PM was cleared officially to return to official duties.”

Mr Manning urged people, including the media not to mislead the public about the PM’s COVID-19 status.

He highlighted the fact that the National Control Centre medical team, led by the Deputy Controller Dr Daoni Esorom ensured that the PM’s situation was handled professionally and he was cleared to return to work in accordance with the set clinical and isolation guidelines.

Mr Manning was responding to clarify medical reports concerning the situation with the PM since he went into isolation after returning from his China trip.

Ends...

**APPROVED** 16/2/22  
  
DAVID MANNING, MBE, DPS, QPM  
CONTROLLER  
PNG COVID-19 NATIONAL PANDEMIC RESPONSE