

**2020 No. 278**

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

**The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel)  
(Amendment No. 23) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020**

*Made* - - - - *24th November 2020*

*Coming into operation in accordance with Regulation 1*

The Department of Health<sup>(a)</sup> makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 25B and 25F(2) of the Public Health Act (Northern Ireland) 1967<sup>(b)</sup>.

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

**1.**—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Amendment No. 23) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation at the time and on the date that the Regulations are made.

(3) In these Regulations, “the principal Regulations” means the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020<sup>(c)</sup>.

**Amendment of the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020**

**2.** The principal Regulations are amended in accordance with regulation 3.

**Amendments to Schedule 2**

**3.** In Schedule 2 (Persons not required to comply with regulation 3 or 4)—

(a) for paragraphs 13 and 13A substitute—

“**13.**—(1) Any person who the relevant Department has certified as meeting the description in sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c)—

(a) a Crown servant or government contractor who is required to undertake essential policing or essential government work in the United Kingdom within the period during which they would, but for this paragraph, have had to self-isolate in accordance with regulation 4,

(b) a person returning from conducting essential state business outside of the United Kingdom,

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<sup>(a)</sup> Formerly the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety; see 2016 c. 5 (N.I.), s. 1(5)

<sup>(b)</sup> 1967 c. 36 (N.I.). Part 1A was inserted by section 48 of, and Schedule 18 to, the Coronavirus Act 2020 (c. 7)

<sup>(c)</sup> S.R. 2020 No. 90 as amended by S.R. 2020 Nos. 138, 140, 154, 155, 163, 168, 179, 185, 189, 193, 194, 200, 203, 212, 216, 223, 228, 234, 241, 243, 244, 254 and 275

- (c) a person returning to the United Kingdom where this is necessary to facilitate the functioning of a diplomatic mission or consular post of Her Majesty or of a military or other official posting on behalf of Her Majesty.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)—
- (a) “consular post” means any consulate-general, consulate, vice-consulate or consular agency,
  - (b) “Crown servant” has the meaning given in section 12(1)(a) to (e) of the Official Secrets Act 1989,
  - (c) “essential government work” means work which has been designated as such by the relevant Department, and includes, in particular, work related to national security, the work of the National Crime Agency in pursuance of its statutory functions, and work related to immigration, the coronavirus disease or any other crisis response, but does not include work of the description in paragraph 2 of Part 1 of this Schedule,
  - (d) “essential policing” means policing which has been designated as such on behalf of the relevant chief officer or chief constable,
  - (e) “essential state business” means activity which has been designated as essential to the United Kingdom or Her Majesty’s Government by the relevant Department, and includes, in particular, bilateral or multilateral discussions with another state or international organisation and visits to another state on behalf of the United Kingdom or Her Majesty’s Government,
  - (f) “government contractor” has the meaning given in section 12(2) of the Official Secrets Act 1989.

**13A.**—(1) A person returning from undertaking essential or emergency work outside of the United Kingdom, which has been certified by the relevant Department as necessary to facilitate essential government work or essential state business.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) “essential government work” and “essential state business” have the same meaning as in paragraph 13.”.

- (b) in paragraph 36(a)(i) of Part 2 of Schedule 2 omit “(including such work relating to maintenance and repair of submarine cables connecting the United Kingdom with other countries)”.
- (c) after paragraph 36, insert—

**“36A.** A person—

- (a) who is engaged in the installation, maintenance or repair of subsea fibre optic telecommunications infrastructure,
- (b) whose role directly supports the installation, maintenance or repair of subsea fibre optic telecommunications infrastructure,

where they have travelled to the United Kingdom in the course of their work.”.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health on 24th November 2020

(L.S.)

*Dr Naresh Chada*  
A senior officer of the Department of Health

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations amend the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 (“the principal Regulations”) to amend the list of exemptions in Schedule 2 which specifies persons who are exempt from the requirement to self-isolate.

No impact assessment has been prepared for these Regulations.

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