

COVID-19 restrictions update: 19th November 2020

The Northern Ireland Executive has agreed and announced new stricter lockdown measures from next Friday, 27th November 2020, for two weeks.

Close-contact services and cafes can still open on Friday, 20th November, as planned but only for one week. They will have to close again next Friday, 27th November, while other hospitality sectors like pubs and licensed restaurants will remain closed throughout. Takeaway hospitality services will be allowed.

The full list of measures agreed by the Executive for Friday 27th November:

- Closure of all retail except essential retail that was permitted to stay open in the Spring.
- Off licences will remain open, with an 8pm closing.
- Closure of close contact services, and driving instruction (not motorcycles), except close contact for Film and TV production; those ancillary to medical, health and social care services; and elite-sports therapeutic services.
- Closure of all hospitality (except for accommodation for essential travel). Takeaway and delivery, and food and drink in motorway services, airports and harbour terminals remain open.
- Closure of all leisure and entertainment (to include all soft play areas, gyms, swimming pools etc).
- Sporting events only permitted for elite sports. Individual/household outdoor exercise and school PE to continue.
- Elite sports events behind closed doors without spectators.
- No household gatherings of more than one household, other than current arrangements for linked households (bubbles), with current exceptions for caring, maintenance, house moves, etc.
- Closure of places of worship, except for weddings, civil partnerships and funerals. Remain with 25 max for weddings and funerals.
- Stay at home, work from home if at all possible, otherwise only leave for essential purposes such as education, healthcare needs, to care for others or outdoor exercise.
- Schools and childcare to remain open.

- Universities / Further Education to provide learning at distance except where it is essential to provide it face to face.
- Public parks and outdoor play areas remain open.