



Council Workshop Meeting Notes Commencing at 9.00am 14th Feb 2022

Workshop Theme

2nd discussion with Medical Officer Dr. Kevin Walter regarding proposed Spey Visit re delays the detection of a positive Covid- 19 case.

Present:

Mayor Charlene Warren, Deputy Mayor Shawn Christian, Cr Michele Christian, Cr Heather Menzies Cr Torika Christian and Cr Simon Young

Apologies: None

In attendance: Medical Officer Kevin Walters & Nurse Darralyn Griffiths

Welcome: The Mayor welcomed Dr Walters and Nurse Griffiths to the table

Agenda Item	Tabled by
<p>HMS Spey Visit delays</p> <p>A Positive C-19 Case Detected</p>	<p>The Mayor and Medical Officer advised Council that they had received notification from the Commander of the Spey that the ship will be delayed for 3 days due to a need to collect mechanical parts. The Commander also advised that she had tested positive for COVID-19 on the 13th of Feb. The Commander is in isolation for 7 days (from the 13th) and all crew are being regularly tested.</p> <p>It was noted that the ship cannot be declared as free of C-19 until the last person tested has shown a negative test result. It was agreed this is a wait and see scenario, over the next few days, and Council will keep the community updated with the assistance of the Medical Officer.</p> <p>In the interim the Commander has advised the following protocols are in place:</p> <p>The dental team have been separated from Ship's Company since 8 Feb and are now quarantining in a separate cabin until arrival in Pitcairn; The Commander has had no contact with them since 7 Feb. All Ship's Company including the dental and medical team tested negative today. We have reintroduced our standard on-board Covid measures as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gym closed • Social distancing enforced • Staggered meal times • All non-essential activity on board suspended • Face coverings everywhere on board • Hand sanitiser readily available in all spaces • All personnel carrying personal hand sanitiser • Max numbers in compartments enforced – including mess decks • Ship completely sanitised twice daily – sanitiser sprayed on all touch points

Agreed Priorities

- LFD testing for 100% of personnel every day
- Personnel moved into single cabins where possible to minimise spread
- Personnel encouraged to work and rest in fresh air as much as possible.

The Commander is now isolating in her cabin on board for at least 7 days as per UK policy (until 19 Feb),

The Ship is expected to arrive at Pitcairn no earlier than 20 Feb based on the delay to await stores from Tahiti, which will align with the end of the Commanders isolation period (pending negative test results).

All going to plan the ship could then land the dental and medical team ashore on 20/21 Feb to conduct the tasking, and keep the rest of Ship's Company at sea until the 10-day period was complete 22 Feb.

The Mayor advised she is now in direct contact with the Commander of Spey. It was agreed she will continue to discuss options with the Commander regarding getting the boosters ashore and, if possible, the dental team landed.

There was general discussion about what Council understands to be the priorities for Pitcairn with regard to the Spey's visit.

It was agreed that the primary outcome of the visit remains the Spey's ability to deliver C-19 vaccinations so the Medical Clinic can administer booster shots to the community. It was noted that this key outcome could be achieved regardless of levels of C-19 infection on board the ship, through contactless delivery.

It was agreed that being able to access Dental treatment for those in immediate and acute need was also important. This being preferable to Islanders being sent to Tahiti, where risk of infection is greater. It was clarified that Council's understanding is that such a trip would not entail accessing Tahiti via Mangareva.

It was also agreed that having the ship's Doctor land, to assist with vaccinations, was not a priority.

The Mayor invited comment from Dr Walters who conveyed that, given the circumstances and the precautions the Spey continues to undertake to managed the situation, he is still inclined toward it being safe to land the Dental Team. He noted that the dental team has been in isolation, on-board Spey, since Feb 8th. As such, if there are no further positive cases detected, having the team land to undertake their prescribed dental work remains a real option.

Dr Walters noted that, in terms of standard, the protocols in place on Spey are likely to be second-to-none. It is a military ship and risk is well mitigated.

He added that he is continuing his assessment of patient's medical needs (particularly non-NZ passport holders) and will be ready with a Plan B scenario should the dental team not be able to land and other secondary medical care is necessary.

	<p>The Medical Officer noted it was still too early to ascertain the level of infection and spread. He can only guess at this point that it is the Omicron variant. If he is right, the ship (and Council) will have a better picture of the way forward with the next 24 to 36 hours. It was agreed that in the interim the following actions will be implemented.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>The Mayor will remain in daily contact with the ship so as to keep Council and the Community informed of its C-19 outbreak.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>The Mayor will liaise directly with the Commander to discuss best options for meeting priorities. i.e., ideally in the first instance, getting boosters ashore and providing dental care for acute patients.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>Council will develop a succinct power point presentation and handout for the community at the Public meeting.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>The Mayor will call a Public Meeting for 15th Feb 4pm to communicate the situation and up to date developments to the community. The Medical Officer will also be present to answer any questions.</p> <p>ACTION</p> <p>The Mayor will call further Spey Visit Workshops with the Medical Officer as required.</p>
	Meeting Closed 10.30am
Approved 16 / 02 / 2022	Mayor Charlene Warren. 

