



THE GOZO BUSINESS CHAMBER

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The New COVID-19 Restrictions

The Chamber notes the COVID-19 restrictions that have been announced by the Government and deems that these were necessary given that the present situation had become unsustainable, with grave risks to the community at large. The restrictions imposed on travel on the Gozo Channel, while necessary, continue to show the precariousness of Gozo vis à vis the whole nation, and the special attention that is required so that Gozo's specific needs are addressed. The current situation once again shows that the island of Gozo suffers more than the main island of Malta in such situations. This is why a distinctive regional approach should always be a priority in all policy areas.

The Chamber welcomes the initiative that the full wage supplement will be provided to all those businesses that will have to close their activity. Though the current situation will have a significant impact even on those businesses that will continue operating.

The Chamber notes that the present situation calls for significant reflection. Consequently, even those non essential services that will remain open need to follow strict health protocols to ensure that the situation will be kept under control. Even after the present measures are terminated proper enforcement and observance of health protocols need to be continued.

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