

Coronavirus – changes to international travel restrictions

Following agreement at a cross-UK meeting earlier today, testing requirements for most people are being removed.

Fully vaccinated people arriving in Scotland are no longer required to take tests. Further work will be done on a new surveillance system to monitor the border.

Testing will no longer be a requirement for all adults who have completed a full course of an approved vaccine, usually at least two doses. Children under the age of 18 continue to be treated as fully vaccinated.

Travellers will still need to fill in passenger locator forms and face coverings will still be required at Scottish airports in line with wider health advice.

For non-vaccinated travellers pre-departure tests and a PCR test on or before day two are still required – but the requirement for isolation will end – and they will no longer have to take a day eight test.

The measures were agreed by The Scottish Government following

engagement with all four nations and will protect the travel and tourism sectors north of the border.

Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport Michael Matheson said: “These measures will significantly open up international travel and were agreed on a UK wide basis.

“The measures will be extremely welcome for the Scottish tourism and aviation sectors, encouraging travel from our airports.

“While this is a positive step which will be welcomed by many we believe further surveillance measures will be necessary across all nations – as intelligence will help in terms of variants of concern. It was agreed further work to take this forward will be carried out over the coming weeks.”