

# CORONAVIRUS : COVID-19

## SOCIAL LOCKDOWN - GUIDE FOR BUSINESSES

1. The Chief Minister announced on the 22 March that new amendments to the Civil Contingencies Emergency (Catering and other Establishments) Regulations 2020 would come into effect immediately.
2. The Government is of the view that the Regulations contain only provisions which are appropriate for the purpose of preventing, controlling or mitigating an aspect or effect of the current emergency and the effect of these Regulations is in due proportion to that aspect or effect of the said emergency
3. These regulations extends the list of premises that must remain closed at all times to members of the public to now include gymnasiums and certain other retail shops. This is in addition to restaurants, bars, cafeterias and discotheques/ nightclubs which are already subject to closure. Catering establishments may continue to provide a takeaway and delivery service.
4. All other retail establishments may operate on a delivery basis only. This means that retailers must close their physical shop but can continue to sell and deliver products online or on the phone.
5. This closure does not apply to retail stores which are supermarkets, grocery stores, bakers, confectioneries, butchers, fishmongers, pharmacies, health stores, pet shops, or banks (financial institutions).
6. The closure also does not apply to petrol stations, port and bunkering activities or to wholesalers or other business which provide supplies to other exempted businesses (such as a wholesaler supplying an establishment supplying a takeaway service or a grocery store).
7. Those businesses providing a service can stay open so long as social distancing rules are observed.
8. Businesses which provide maintenance services and repairs to domestic appliances (eg water heaters) or urgent domestic works (eg water leak) will be permitted to do so provided that they adhere to published Public Health protocols.
9. The regulations also require the closure of all construction sites and sites used for shipbuilding and repair unless the construction work or shipbuilding or repair is either authorised by a certificate issued by the Government's Chief Technical Officer or is being carried out in the case of an emergency. Requests for certificates should be sent for consideration to [constructionpermits@gibraltar.gov.gi](mailto:constructionpermits@gibraltar.gov.gi) providing details of the works involved. It should be noted that requests for small projects, such as for home improvements, will not generally be approved. The Chief Technical Officer may make the issuing of his certificate subject to conditions which must be adhered to.
10. Having an establishment subject to these regulations open to the public, or carrying out construction or shipbuilding or ship repair work, in a manner contrary to the regulations is a criminal offence which carries a fine of up to level 5 on the standard scale (£10,000).