



General Staff Update - 18May21

The Government continued their phased easing of restrictions on the 4th and 10th of May. further easings are expected in June. In order to review the current situation for the DF with respect to COVID-19 related matters a COVID-19 JOPG was held on the 7th of May.

The General Staff reviewed the issues raised and provide necessary guidance.

The medical force protection of all personnel remains the priority of the General Staff.

The follow **decision** was provided by the General Staff:

1. A revised DF Framework for Living with COVID-19 (Ver 11) has been approved and is issued with effect from 17May21.

The follow **updates and guidance** were provided by the General Staff:

1. The DF are continuing to support 9 vaccination centres with approx 72 pers in logs/admin support roles, in addition to 16 vaccinators. a request to provide support to an additional 5 centres is currently being staffed.
2. 98 DF pers are currently deployed across 7 Mandatory Quarantine Hotels.
3. The DF is following Government advice in relation to the prioritisation of the vaccine. There are three DF cohorts that can be nominated for vaccination outside of the age related priority:
 - a. DF pers working in COVID facing tasks.
 - b. DF pers listed to deploy on an overseas mission
 - c. DF pers in the medically vulnerable categories - managed by Formation MOs and it is a medical in confidence matter.
4. All Formations and Units are required to comply with guidance issued by DCOS (Sp) to recorded COVID-19 vaccinations on the Socrates Medical System.
5. The rotations of the 117 Inf Bn UNIFIL has begun, Chalk I arrived on the 10th of May and the final Chalk is home on the 31st of May. Upon arrival at Dublin airport all pers will be transported to a designated hotel for a PCR test from a CMU staff.
6. All Formations and Units are requested to ensure that all their personnel are aware of the Letter of Instruction issued by DJ1 on 14Apr which states that only DCOS (Sp) may authorise the travel to the state by members of the DF as being in the course of performing their duties. No other travel to the state will be considered as travel in the course of DF duty (In the context of exemption from public health requirements)

DF Internal Communications Team.

