

Questions regarding Scottish Government Guidance and self-catering accommodation

	3 <sup>rd</sup> – midnight 22 <sup>nd</sup> December (end of)	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> December	Midnight 27 <sup>th</sup> December onwards -
Can one household travel from Tier 3 in England to Scotland and stay in self-catering accommodation in Level 1 or 2?	No.	Yes - but only to stay in a bubble, or near an individual or household's bubble which is located in the same local authority area as the place which is the main residence of one of the households.	Under current rules and guidelines no.  These are under regular review so please check for updates on <a href="http://www.gov.scot/coronavirus">www.gov.scot/coronavirus</a>
Can one household travel from Tier 2 in England to Scotland and stay in self-catering accommodation in Level 1 or 2?	As above	As above	As above
Can one household travel from Tier 1 in England to Scotland and stay in self-catering accommodation in Level 1 or 2?	As above	As above	As above
Can one household travel from Tier 3 in England to Scotland and stay in self-catering accommodation in Level 3 or 4?	As Above	As above	As above
Can one household travel from Tier 2 in England to Scotland and stay in self-catering accommodation in Level 3 or 4?	As Above	As above	As above
Can one household travel from Tier 1 in England to Scotland and stay in self-catering accommodation in Level 3 or 4?	As Above	As above	As above
Can one household travel from Levels 1 or 2 in Scotland, stay in self-catering accommodation in	Yes – this is allowable for those in Levels 0, 1 and 2. But people are advised to	If you are forming a bubble, travel to a self-catering property in the local authority area of one of the other	Yes, at the moment the following guidelines apply:

<p>another local authority area?</p>	<p>minimise unnecessary journeys to avoid any potential virus spread and follow SG guidance.</p> <p>Single and extended household rules apply</p>	<p>bubble’s home local authority is allowable, but not elsewhere.</p> <p>If you are not forming a bubble, normal rules of the level you are in apply.</p> <p>this is allowable for those in Levels 0, 1 and 2. But people are advised to minimise unnecessary journeys to avoid any potential virus spread and follow SG guidance.</p> <p>Single and extended household rules apply</p>	<p>– this is allowable for those in Levels 0, 1 and 2. But people are advised to minimise unnecessary journeys to avoid any potential virus spread and follow SG guidance.</p> <p>Single and extended household rules apply</p>
<p>Is this Law or Guidance?</p>	<p>Law - legal provisions are through the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 3.) Regulations 2020</p>	<p>The Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 6) Regulations 2020</p>	<p>As first column in this row</p>
<p>“Operators should check that at least one household participating is from within the postcode area”: What is the liability associated with not doing so?</p>	<p>Regarding the element of guidance for operators to check that at least one household participating is from the local area – this has been included to provide accommodation providers with clarity on good practice.</p> <p>The obligation to be within the local authority area is with the household renting the property and not with the accommodation provider but we would ask you to encourage your members to ensure households</p>	<p>Regarding the element of guidance for operators to check that at least one household participating is from the local area – this has been included to provide accommodation providers with clarity on good practice.</p> <p>The obligation to be within the local authority area is with the household renting the property and not with the accommodation provider but we would ask you to encourage your members to ensure households</p>	<p>As with other columns</p>

	<b>comply with the requirement. This could include messaging on household requirements in websites or booking processes.</b>	<b>comply with the requirement. This could include messaging on household requirements in websites or booking processes.</b>	
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**Comments & specific questions:**

- Q1. After following this topic on the forum, I have been in touch with my only booking for new year who are travelling from England. They have sent me an email to say they have spoken to a friend who works at the Scottish Government who claims this is only guidance and they have also been in touch with the Highland Council who told them a Tier 2 England can visit a Level 1 or 2 in Scotland. They have told me that they have until 4pm to decide on flights before they incur a charge. I am lost for what to do now.
- A.1 **Outwith the festive period (23-27 December inclusive), it is illegal to travel for non-essential purposes from the rest of the UK to Scotland. Please refer to our guidance which explains the provisions within the Health Protection (Coronavirus)(Restrictions and Requirements)(Local Levels)(Scotland) Amendment (No.3) Regulations 2020. People should comply with the rules applicable to their local authority area in Scotland. Please note the levels and the contents of the levels is reviewed on a regular basis.**
- Q2. It is worth bearing in mind that if you take a booking that is not strictly adhering the regulation or guidelines then you may invalidate your insurance. Is this the case?
- A.2 **This will be for individual insurance companies and the detail for policies should be checked on a case by case basis. The obligation to be within the local authority area is with the household renting the property and not with the accommodation provider but we would ask you to encourage your members to ensure households comply with the requirement**
- Q.3 could you possibly show us the link to the specific Government web site which indicates that Tier 2 from England should not travel into Level 2 in Scotland. I have a customer from Tier 2 England refusing to cancel as she is unaware of any travel ban into Scotland. I need something concrete to show.
- A.3 **Regarding visiting Scotland from other parts of the UK and Ireland, under current Scottish regulations, unless you have a reasonable excuse, you must not travel between Scotland and England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Ireland. Find out more from Scottish Government travel between Scotland and the rest of the UK. Travelling for a holiday is not a reasonable excuse. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-travel-and-transport/>.**

However, temporary measures have been introduced during the festive period, as per the guidance below:

**Visiting Scotland from other parts of the UK during the Christmas period As agreed by all 4 UK governments** travel between Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland is permitted to allow families and friends to gather to form a Christmas bubble between 23 to 27 December (22 to 28 December for entering and leaving Northern Ireland). The location of a Christmas bubble in Scotland must be in the local authority area which a member of the bubble has their main residence. A bubble can meet in self-catered accommodation for a Christmas gathering, but only in the local authority area in which you or a member of your bubble lives. Operators should check that at least one household participating is from within the postcode area. The bubble should not meet or stay in hotel or B&B accommodation together during the Christmas period. However, individual members or an individual household which is part of a bubble may use hotel or B & B accommodation nearby. Find out more from Scottish Government guidance for the festive period. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-travel-and-transport/>

Please also refer to - Health Protection (Coronavirus)(Restrictions and Requirements)(Local Levels)(Scotland) Amendment (No.3) Regulations 2020

- Q.4. Wales has just announced that travel is now permitted from Tier 1 and Tier 2 in England. Why does the Scottish Government have to continue to cause such damage to Scottish businesses? This is totally unfair, again.
- A.4. Although we understand the serious economic impacts, the SG's current priority is to minimise transmission from higher to lower levels of infection to protect our population and our NHS. Household and other indoor settings can cause a greater risk of the spread of infection, hence the need to limit interaction.
- Q.5. So just to be clear – at present we are unable to confirm self-catering bookings for the so-called Christmas bubbles. The most we can confirm would be a same level booking for a single household as per the existing restrictions. No exemptions for families to travel from levels 3 and 4 and no exemption for English visitors joining a Scottish Christmas bubble regardless of where they are! I can only assume that Hogmanay is a total non-starter
- A.5 People from the rest of the UK (and within Scotland) can travel to join bubbles in Scotland as per our published festive guidance but not for general leisure. Levels and tiers are not relevant in this instance. Outwith the festive period the rules for the framework period and wider travel apply. Hogmanay does not fall within the agreed Four Nation festive period.

Q.6 My property is in Highland Council area. Over Christmas I have a booking from a family of 3 who do not live in Highland Council area, but who have family in the village. Over New year I have a booking from an extended (pre-bubbled) family of 6 from Scottish Borders. Do I now have to cancel these bookings?

A.6 Regarding the first family, If they are joining a festive bubble, yes. During the Christmas period you can have a bubble of 8 from no more than 3 households in a private dwelling. It is ok for people to stay in nearby holiday accommodation in order to join that gathering. Outwith this period, as things stand, it would depend on the local authority levels whether this would be possible. As per the table above, in level 0, 1 or 2 you can move between levels in either 0, 1 or 2 but are advised to minimise rather than avoid these journeys to minimise any potential virus spread.

Q.7 Good Morning, thank-you for update, but it does not answer a question I have regarding a family booking for christmas, it is one family not a bubble and they are coming to Scotland from England, are they allowed to do this. I also have a booking for new year. Your help would be much appreciated, Gosh we do live in difficult times.

A. 7 In terms of the first booking, although travel restrictions will be relaxed from 23-27 of December, this is only to allow people to travel between the local authority areas and the 4 nations to join their bubble, therefore this would not be possible for Xmas. These holiday gathering measures do not extend to the New Year, so the second booking would not be possible. (caveat - also need to check UKG position as some tiers are not allowed to travel).

- Q.8 This is just madness and completely unviable!! I'm at my wits end, confused, and exhausted. Why don't they just shut us down and then compensate us as basically that's what the Scottish Government have done anyway? How are we supposed to operate with unworkable, forever changing restrictions? I'd better go and cancel my 'Festive' bookings!
- A.9 Restrictions were brought in under our levels approach due to the rise in infection rates, especially in certain areas. Limiting travel from areas with higher rates to those with lower is part of our measures to combat the spread of the virus. Festive bookings from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> are allowed for bubbles as per guidance.
- Q.9 Hope you are soldiering on in these continued frustrating times. We have read the latest update from yourselves a number of times. Are we correct that nobody can travel to us (tier 1) from England on holiday, regardless of Tier from now till January 2021. I'm really losing the will to live keeping up to date with these changes and I have no doubt you are too. Our scenario is that we have guests (one household max 2 people) arriving from Tier 2 England, on 14 December for 2 weeks. If we are understanding the latest guidelines correctly, they should not be coming.
- A.9 Correct, guests can only travel in line with festive guidance for bubbles but not for leisure as per above. If they are not gathering with another household, the holiday relaxations do not apply to them.