

MEDIA STATEMENT

21 OCTOBER 2020

NAPIER PORT BELIEVES THE BEST PRECAUTION IS TO KEEP KEN REI OFFSHORE FOR THE REMAINDER OF A 14-DAY ISOLATION PERIOD

Napier Port was notified Sunday morning that the Ken Rei vessel heading to Napier had possible Covid-19 exposure. In line with our border protection measures, and in discussion with the local Public Health Unit, we anchored the vessel at sea, rather than bringing it in to dock at Napier Port.

The vessel was being kept offshore until a plan was put in place for testing the crew. Napier Port remained on standby to facilitate getting local Public Health Unit medical staff onboard as and when required.

As always, we will continue to follow any instruction we receive from the Ministry of Health.

At 6pm Tuesday 20 October 2020, Napier Port received a letter of advice from the Ministry of Health's COVID Health Response Team, forwarded to us by the HBDHB.

The letter advised that:

- from a public health perspective the vessel can safely berth at any New Zealand port and load cargo while following the existing Covid 19 procedures and guidelines
- they are reassured the crew are all reported to be well 7 days following the purported contact
- testing of the crew could be offered once the vessel has berthed and this can be arranged by the Public Local Health Unit
- Shore leave would not be granted unless it was approved by the local Medical Officer of Health

Napier Port is grateful to have received this advice.

We have also carefully considered two other factors:

- that the crew onboard are doing well, have good supplies and are used to being at sea for extended periods of time
- currently, there is no cargo for the vessel to collect at Napier Port. The cargo the vessel was entering Napier to collect on Sunday has already left the docks on a replacement vessel

For all these reasons, Napier Port believes the best precaution to take for its people and the community is to keep the Ken Rei anchored offshore until Wednesday 28 October 2020, which represents the equivalent of a 14-day isolation for the vessel from the date of Covid-19 exposure. At that time, we will assess the circumstances of the vessel. This is in line with our responsibility to our people (and the community) under the Health & Safety at Work Act.

For the duration of their anchor offshore we will deliver supplies as required and continue to offer any assistance to take medical staff out to the vessel to facilitate testing.

We thank the MoH and HBDHB for the advice which we took on board when reaching this decision.

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About Napier Port

Napier Port is New Zealand's fourth largest port by container volume. We are the main gateway for Hawke's Bay exports and operate a long-term regional infrastructure asset that supports the regional economy. Our strategic purpose is to collaborate with the people and organisations that have a stake in helping our region grow. View Napier Port's investor centre: www.napierport.co.nz/investor-centre/