

26 October 2021

Dear Ministers, Parish Clerks, Sessions and Church Councils

I trust that you are able to fruitfully participate in God's mission within your setting despite the challenging and strange times we are experiencing.

On Friday 22 October, the Government announced the COVID-19 Protection Framework which will take effect some time in future when certain criteria have been met.

It is clear that there are implications for churches contained in this – especially relating to requiring a vaccination certificate.

Prior to the announcement, the AES had already invited the Book of Order Advisory Committee to consider a wide range of guidelines and advice that would be offered to the church.

Furthermore, an information sharing zoom meeting involving the Moderator, Presbytery Executive Officers, and the convenor of COA is being planned for later this week.

Once Council has received and considered all information, further communication will take place.

Let us remember whatever the circumstances our "responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ."
(Ephesians 4:12)

kia tino rite ai te hunga tapu mō te mahi minita, mō te hanga i te whare, arā i te tinana o te Karaiti; (Epeha 4:12)



Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Convenor
Council of Assembly