

NOTE NUMBER: EUR/004/2021

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria. The Ministry has the honour to refer to the Embassy's Notes No. 17-25 (14 January and 18 January 2021) regarding the elections for Members of the Parliament of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The Ministry thanks the Embassy for these notes, and takes this opportunity to confirm what is required regarding conducting polling in a COVID environment.

What is required will depend on the Alert Levels at the time. We take this opportunity to share with you the link with the official COVID-19 website, specifically the information on alert levels: <a href="https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/">https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/</a>.

The Ministry wishes to inform the Embassy that at this time the Ministry is supportive of the Embassy's intention to establish a polling station in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Note that New Zealand's COVID-19 Alert Levels can be applied to individual regions and additional restrictions can also be applied to stop the spread of COVID-19.

For your information we also provide a link to the briefing from the New Zealand Electoral Commission. The COVID Special Orders related to the New Zealand election in 2020: <a href="https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2020/0267/latest/LMS412603.html">https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2020/0267/latest/LMS412603.html</a>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade takes this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Wellington

3 February 2021