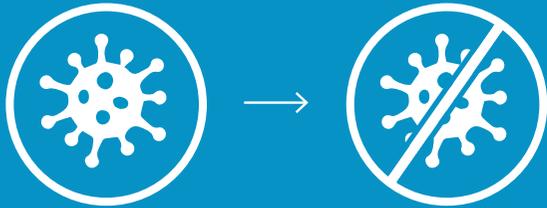


20 April (Decision Date)

## Option 1: Short term pain long term gain



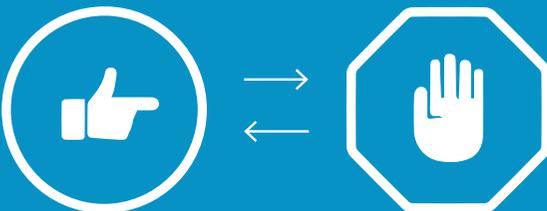
### Short term pain (from 22 April to 15 May approximately):

- (a) Remain in Alert Level 4 until 20 consecutive days of zero new cases
- (b) Test all symptomatic individuals, all retirement home residents and all hospital patients, and regularly test all frontline workers (e.g. healthcare workers, police, supermarket employees etc.)
- (c) Test all new arrivals to NZ and quarantine for 20 days
- (d) Border open for exports but imports quarantined or sterilised (as necessary).

### Longer term gain (over 17 months after 15 May):

- (e) Progress to Alert Level 1. Live, work and travel freely within New Zealand borders until world population and New Zealanders are successfully vaccinated (approx. 18 months).

## Option 2: Short term gain long term pain



### Short term gain (from 22 April):

- (a) Businesses, schools and elective surgery reopen

### Longer term pain (over next 18 months):

- (b) Over 70s and those with compromised health stay in lockdown
- (c) Ongoing management of hospital capacity, protection for healthcare workers (e.g. PPE), stock of medication and equipment for patients, and sterilising of work and care environments.
- (d) Continued testing and tracing
- (e) Unable to live, work or travel freely. Disruption occurs through movement between Alert Levels 2, 3 and 4 (Lockdown) as required.

Option 1 is only achievable if New Zealand is kept on Alert Level 4 with zero new cases for 20 days in a row. Heavy testing would need to be undertaken to make sure all cases were identified (e.g. 5% of the population tested). This option delivers the greatest possible freedoms and certainties for all New Zealanders within the border for 18 months and a known market for businesses without the additional costs and risks contained in Option 2. Given our understanding of the Coronavirus the Institute prefers Option 1, but we are interested in what other people think. This virus is highly sensitive to physical distancing and, unlike other countries, New Zealand potentially has the ability to remove the virus from the population completely. If this was achieved, we believe the benefits would exceed the costs. This would help reinforce New Zealand's international brand and give the country time to develop a vision and strategy to reignite the economy in a considered, equitable and democratic manner. Arguably the decision to move out of Level 4 Lockdown is so strategic for the future of New Zealand, it would in normal conditions be a referendum.

#### Two issues need to be explored:

- (1) What date might New Zealand reach zero cases for '20 days in a row'? (our research indicates this might be as early as 15 May); and
- (2) Who is completing a detailed cost benefit analysis of Options 1 and 2 and will that analysis be published before the decision is made on 20 April?