



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH SEYCHELLES

### PRESS RELEASE

WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

#### **Retail outlets allowed to reopen according to set public health criteria**

Using specific guidelines aimed at stopping the spread of COVID-19, retail outlets can now reopen their doors to customers.

To be eligible, retailers must use a checklist prepared by the Public Health Authority (PHA) in consultation with Seychelles Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) to review the conditions of their establishments and ensure that they meet public health standards.

Once self-assessment is completed and business owners are certain that they meet the criteria they can complete and submit their forms to Public Health Services by visiting the website <https://forms.gle/sVpLpgvdtJ6h4VtU8> or by emailing an attached copy to [Seybusinesssafety@gmail.com](mailto:Seybusinesssafety@gmail.com).

After receiving applications, Public Health Officers will conduct a visit and validate the assessment. Permission to resume operations will be extended if all criteria are met.

As of the 16<sup>th</sup> 142 outlets were visited by Public Health Officers, of which 80 were granted approval for reopening. These include 58 non-grocery stores and 22 grocery stores.

All retailers should complete this process to ensure that they meet the standards to stop the spread of COVID-19 and do their part in curbing the current surge.

While food retailers were permitted to remain open during the restrictions, they must also complete the review. This process will allow any shortcomings to be addressed.

If they do not conduct the review to meet the criteria, retailers will be asked to remain closed until improvements are made.

For further information, retailers can contact the hotline 6440000 on weekdays between 8am and 4pm. The hotline will assist with:

- Confirmation of submissions
- Guidance on Public Health Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
- General Enquiries with regards to the process of resumption of business
- General Enquiries with the Public Health Officer

**-END-**

**The Ministry of Health invites you to share this press release. Members of the public experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 are advised to go to special stations at the following centres: Glacis, Baie Lazare & Mont Fleuri. Alternatively use the QR below to report your symptoms.**

