

**Title: Information Note – Summary of Public Health Measures
in EU Countries**

Organisation: Department of Health

Date: 17 February

Action required:

- For noting
- For discussion
- For decision pending NPHEI discussion

Approved for future publication: YES (remove as applicable)

Please note: This is not a comprehensive review and is provided only as a snapshot of current trends

Country	Update
Denmark	The Danish Government lifted all remaining mandatory domestic coronavirus restrictions as of 1 February. Advice in relation to self-isolation remains in place.
England	The remaining Covid-19 restrictions in England have been lifted as of 27 January. The Government has also indicated that legal requirements to self-isolate may be removed later in February.
Norway	All Covid-19 restrictions in Norway have been lifted as of 12 February. Legal requirements to self-isolate have been removed and are now guidance instead.
Sweden	Sweden have lifted the majority of its Covid restrictions. Advice remains that unvaccinated people should still avoid crowded places and anyone with symptoms of Covid-19 should stay at home.
Northern Ireland	In Northern Ireland, all legal restrictions have been replaced by guidance from 15 February. Rules in regard to testing and isolation remain.
Scotland	All Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted in Scotland aside from the requirement to use a vaccine passport in order to attend nightclubs as well as large indoor and outdoor events. Similarly, other Covid restrictions, such as self-isolation rules, and the requirement to wear face coverings in indoor settings and public transport, remain in place for now.
Czech Republic	The only measures that remain in the Czech Republic include mask-wearing indoors and on public transport as well as limits on capacity for large events.
Wales	The Welsh government have lifted almost all restrictions as of January 28 with only a select few remaining in place. From 18 February, the domestic Covid Pass will no longer be a legal requirement for entry to events and venues. From 28 February, pupils will not have to wear face masks in class and the law requiring face coverings in most public places will be relaxed. However, face coverings will continue to be legally required in retail, public transport and health and care settings. Self-isolation rules remain, but will be reviewed on 3 March.
Netherlands	The Netherlands announced that they would remove the majority of restrictions by the 25 Feb. Masks will still be required on public transport and at airports and advice in relation to isolation will remain.
Spain	Spain lifted its outdoor mask mandate on 10 February. Citizens are still advised to maintain a distance of 1.5 metres from one another. Masks are still required indoors. Other restrictions vary on a regional basis with some regions maintaining restrictions on indoor and outdoor capacity limits, table limits at restaurants or the need to produce a Covid pass to enter certain locations.
France	In France, nightclubs have reopened as of 16 February. Vaccine passes are needed in order to enter a range of settings including restaurants, bars, theatres, museums, and stadiums. For all indoor spaces where it is necessary to provide a vaccine pass in order to enter, there will no longer be a requirement to wear a mask inside from 28 February. However, masks will remain mandatory on public transport.
Portugal	In Portugal, the remaining Covid-19 restrictions include the requirement for Covid Passes in a range of settings and face masks are still mandatory on public transport and in closed spaces.
Germany	In Germany, those seeking to access restaurants and bars must show either that they have received a booster shot or provide a negative test result on top of proof that they have been vaccinated or recovered in order to enter. Nightclubs remain closed. Private gatherings of vaccinated people have been limited to a maximum of 10 people. Further restrictions vary on a regional basis. It was announced on the 16 February that these remaining measures would be lifted on a phased basis by the end of March.
Italy	In Italy, a Super Green Pass (proof of vaccination or recovery) is necessary to access nightclubs, restaurants, cinemas, public transport, sporting events and hotels. As of 15

	February, all public and private workers aged over 50 need a Super Green Pass to access their workplace. Wearing masks is mandatory in indoor places. Sporting events currently operate at a maximum capacity of 50% outdoors and 35% indoors. Similarly, nightclubs are allowed to operate at 50% capacity indoors.
Belgium	From 18 February, nightclubs will be allowed to reopen at a capacity of 70% and restrictions regarding closing times for hospitality will be lifted. All public events will be allowed to take place, with some remaining limitations on capacity.
Finland	Covid-19 restrictions continue in Finland, where bars and restaurants are allowed to stay open until 12 pm. Bars are required to stop serving alcohol at 11 pm. Capacity limits on how many customers are allowed to attend restaurants and bars remain in place. Face masks are required on public transport and in all public indoor places. Those who can work from home are advised to do so. It has been indicated that remaining restrictions on hospitality may be lifted at the end of February.
Austria	In Austria, a vaccine mandate is in place for all of those over 18. Restaurants and cafes must close at midnight. Bars and nightclubs remain closed. Theatres, cinemas, restaurants, gyms, and hotels all have a 2G requirement (full vaccination or recovery from Covid-19) and an FFP2 mask requirement in order to enter. However, a negative test will allow entry to restaurants from 19 February. It was announced on the 16 February that all remaining restrictions will be lifted by the 5 March.