



17th September 2021

To: Minister Stuart Nash
Minister Grant Robertson

Via email

g.robertson@ministers.govt.nz

s.nash@ministers.govt.nz

Dear Ministers,

Re: Impact of Level 4 on manufacturing and businesses

GETBA is the business association representing the East Tamaki business precinct.

This manufacturing and distribution district is the hub for over 2000 businesses, contributes \$3 billion into the NZ economy each year and provides employment for 30,000+ employees.

We are writing to urge the government to urgently put in place measures to allow our Auckland businesses to be able to operate whilst we transition between levels 3 and 4. More needs to be done to mitigate the impact on businesses and the people they employ.

Many of the 2000+ businesses in the East Tamaki area are either working at a significantly reduced capacity or are unable to open for business during level 4.

We have factories and businesses haemorrhaging money. The rent, rates and wages keep going out and whilst the wage subsidy and resurgence payments help it is but a drop in the bucket.

For those essential businesses that are currently able to operate production lines and manufacture product safely under level 4 restrictions, surely at the very least they can manufacture goods for other customers under the same restrictions.

Our members are also seeking clarification around the parameters for future use of Level 3 and 4 lockdowns so businesses can plan. To date there has been little direction or transparency for businesses as to whether there is a clear vaccination goal whereby level 4 lockdowns will no longer be necessary.

We ask that the Government take urgent action and provide measures for businesses to operate under levels 3 and 4 in order to mitigate the catastrophic effects on our members' businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth White'.

Ruth White
General Manager
Greater East Tamaki Business Association (GETBA)