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Stay At Home Order and Cancellation of Flights into the United Kingdom due to the Transmission of a New Strain of COVID-19

The Government of the United Kingdom has announced the identification of a new variant of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 through the Public Health England’s genomic surveillance. As the new strain, ‘VUI – 202012/01’ (the first Variant Under Investigation in December 2020), is claimed to have the ability to spread more quickly, the UK government announced the move to Tier 4 (Stay at Home), which is the strictest restriction of four designated tiers, to be imposed on affected areas, as follows:

**London**
- All 32 London boroughs plus the City of London

**South East**
- Kent and Medway
- Buckinghamshire
- Berkshire (Bracknell Forest, Reading, Slough, Wokingham, Windsor and Maidenhead and West Berkshire)
- Surrey (excluding Waverley)
- Hastings and Rother
- Havant, Gosport and Portsmouth

**East of England**
- Hertfordshire
- Essex (excluding Tendring, Uttlesford and Colchester)
- Central Bedfordshire, Bedford, Milton Keynes, Luton
- Peterborough

While some countries have imposed flight cancellations and restrictions of travel into the Kingdom, guidance for inbound travel from non-exempt territories such as the Philippines is provided at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) following strict protocols of filling up a passenger locator form, self-isolation, and testing.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

22 December 2020

**Source**: Official Web Portal of the United Kingdom [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)