Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth

CRISIS PREPAREDNESS FOR RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS

ANNEX

Precautionary Measures for Essential Rites and Private Worship
(*non-exhaustive list)*

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i. <u>Baseline precautionary measures</u>

- Register worshipper/devotees to facilitate contract tracing
- Administer temperature screening and health/travel declarations of worshippers/ devotees
- Turn away those who are unwell, have travelled overseas in the last 14 days, or who are serving home quarantine or stay-home notice
- Frequent cleaning and sanitisation of premises, including common areas and high-contact surfaces and improve ventilation
- Remind worshippers/devotees to practise good personal hygiene and be socially responsible – wash hands regularly, avoid touching their faces, avoid greetings with physical contact, and stay home if unwell

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ii. <u>Additional measures to ensure safe distancing by reducing Density, Intensity and Duration</u>

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<td>Reduce Density

The closer the physical contact between individuals, the higher the likelihood of transmission</td>
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Manage worshipper/devotee flow by implementing appointment-only prayer slots to minimise queues
Offer alternatives to in-person religious services to minimise crowds

e.g. personal prayers to be conducted over telephone or videoconferencing

At least 1m separation between worshippers/attendees

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<td>Lower Intensity

The more vigorous the activity (e.g. singing), the greater the degree of release of droplets</td>
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No singing
No mingling between worshippers/devotees and religious leaders (i.e. imams, pastors, monks)
No communal meals
Avoid physical greetings and contact

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• Advise elderly to pray in their homes instead		*i. advocate alternatives to shaking hands, e.g. demonstrate offering of peace by clasping hands to the chest in church/mosque services* ▪ Remove shared prayer items; encourage worshippers/devotees to bring their own bibles, prayer mats
	Shorten Duration *The longer the exposure to others, the higher the likelihood of transmission*	• Shorten on-site prayers and allocate a specific cut-off for worshippers/ devotees • Monitor entry and exit times of worshippers/devotees to minimise mingling • Advise worshippers/devotees to leave immediately after