

Opening doors for homeless people

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18th September 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

Peter McVerry Trust is a national housing and homeless charity and **an essential service provider** committed to reducing homelessness and the harm caused by substance misuse and social disadvantage.

The charity operates within the community and voluntary sector and provides low-threshold entry services to vulnerable adults with complex needs, and offers pathways out of homelessness based on the principles of the Housing First model. It is the main provider of COVID-19 isolation units for the homeless sector.

As such, **Peter McVerry Trust qualifies as an essential service provider** in line with the new public health guidelines issued on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020 under the heading of "Human Health and Social Work Activities" as follows:

- public health activities (including all those deployed to contract tracing and COVID-19 testing services)
- drug treatment and addiction services
- residential care activities (including nursing care, mental health and substance abuse, elderly and persons with disabilities, children's residential services)
- homecare home help and other community services
- social work and social care activities (including disability services, mental health, child protection and welfare, domestic, sexual and gender based violence, homeless services including outreach)
- employment placement and human resources associated with the recruitment and deployment of workers
- security activities to assist in the delivery of essential services and the securing of premises closed to the public
- cleaning of buildings and industrial cleaning activities; business support activities which are necessary to support essential services included on this list; payroll and payment services necessary for the operation of businesses; data processing, hosting and related activities

#### All Peter McVerry Trust employees are covered under this category and qualify as essential employees.

Pat Doyle CEO Peter McVerry Trust

### Human health and social work activities

- hospital services
- paramedical and essential therapy activities
- public health activities (including all those deployed to contract tracing and COVID-19 testing services)
- laboratory services
- drug treatment and addiction services
- hospice services
- pharmacy services
- primary care, general and specialist medical practice activities provided by public and private providers
- emergency dental practice activities
- blood donation service
- residential care activities (including nursing care, mental health and substance abuse, elderly and persons with disabilities, children's residential services)
- homecare home help and other community services
- social work and social care activities (including disability services, mental health, child protection and welfare, domestic, sexual and gender based violence, homeless services including outreach)
- ambulance/pre-hospital emergency care services
- minor injury units
- maternity services
- health, social work, environmental, food safety regulatory activities

# **Community/Voluntary Services**

- community and voluntary workers, working in a publicly commissioned service, not otherwise included on the list, deployed to assist in the delivery of essential services
- volunteer services operating under the local authority emergency management framework in accordance with public health guidance

### **Accommodation and Food Services**

- hotels or similar providing essential accommodation (including homeless, direct provision and related services)
- food and beverage service activities in accordance with the separate <u>essential retail outlets</u> <u>list</u> or for supply to a business engaged in an essential service

## **Administrative and Support Services**

Where necessary to support other essential services:

- employment placement and human resources associated with the recruitment and deployment of workers
- security activities to assist in the delivery of essential services and the securing of premises closed to the public
- cleaning of buildings and industrial cleaning activities; business support activities which are necessary to support essential services included on this list; payroll and payment services necessary for the operation of businesses; data processing, hosting and related activities

## Construction

- essential health and related projects relevant to the COVID-19 crisis, and supplies necessary for such projects
- · repair/construction of critical road and utility infrastructure
- delivery of emergency services to businesses and homes on an emergency call-out basis in areas such as electrical, plumbing, glazing and roofing

# **Rental and Leasing Activities**

- rental and lease of cars
- light motor vehicles and trucks necessary to support the provision of essential services

# **Agriculture and Fishing**

- farmers
- farm labourers
- farm relief service workers
- others involved directly or indirectly in crop and animal production and related activities (including veterinary services), and workers involved in fishing