

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MUNICIPALITY OF SERIFOS

CYCLADES, SOUTH AEGEAN

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Date: 08-09-2020

Reference Number: 2525

To: Mr. Grant Shaaps, Secretary of State for Transport

Cc: Hellenic Ministry of Tourism

Hellenic Organization of Tourism

Embassy of Greece in London

RE: Removal of Serifos island from the travel Corridor List

We are writing to you regarding the recent updates on the travel corridor list and specifically the removal of Serifos island from this list.

We have been surprised by the recent developments and the UK's government decision in this regard. Serifos island does not have any direct flights to/from the UK since there is no airport on the island and therefore the possibility of infection is quite remote. Also, the island traditionally relies on domestic tourism and the percentage of UK tourists in the island is less than 5%-7% of the international tourism on a yearly basis. Therefore, we are questioning the representativeness of the sample size.

Additionally, we would like to highlight that Serifos Municipality managed to successfully shield the island during the pandemic since we have taken all the necessary precautions to guarantee the health and safety of our guests. Serifos was the first island in Greece that introduced the disinfection stations which are located at the port and the entrances of each village.

Therefore, we would appreciate it if you could explain the rationale behind your decision to remove Serifos island from the travel corridor list and it would be helpful if you could provide the data indicating that there is a high risk of infection in our island.

Yours sincerely,

Livanios Stylianos

Mayor for Finance & Tourism