



**St Helena
Government**



THINK BEFORE STOCKING UP

ASK YOURSELF

Who is missing out and who is being impacted



During these uncertain times and with the slight delay in the MV Helena's schedule, many households on St Helena have begun to stockpile, which has resulted in some food items being no longer available in outlets.



Stockpiling has been known to have a more detrimental impact on some of the most vulnerable in our community, meaning that those who have lower incomes are now having to go without.



We continue to work closely with importers and merchants to ensure that there is sufficient food on the Island to last until the next call of the MV Helena. Residents are assured that while stocks of some items might be low, the Island will not run out of food. However at this time there might be a need for people to consider using alternative items to what they would normally use.



In the meantime, everyone is encouraged to continue to shop normally, especially when the next voyage of the MV Helena arrives. We want to ensure that as a community everyone has a chance to buy what they need and no one is left without an item that is used daily, whilst other households have stockpiled items for future use.



We urge the Island community when buying more than they need, to ask the questions who is missing out, and who is being impacted? Those impacted are often the elderly, those with current medical conditions, young children and babies which in turn impacts family members, friends and neighbours.

We would like to thank merchants at this time for introducing measures and restrictions on certain food items to ensure that everyone has a chance to purchase.

In the meantime, AW Ship Management Ltd and local importers have indicated that goods have been received at the warehouses in Cape Town. We have received news today that the MV Helena is at her berth and has started loading cargo for the next voyage due to arrive at the Island on 21 May.

AW has updated and published the MV Helena shipping schedule for the rest of the year and this can be found online at the following address: <https://sthelenashipping.com/schedules/>

At this stage there are still no suspected cases of Covid-19 on the Island. As a community we remain connected and resilient, we are all affected during these times so please continue to look out for and help each other.

***"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."* – Coretta Scott King**

SHG

11 May 2020