

QC mayor eyes tougher measures as cases surge

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QUEZON City Mayor Josefina Belmonte on Thursday said the implementation of stricter restrictions is necessary as the city registered a 190-percent daily increase in coronavirus cases.

“I call this a surge. I believe this demands stricter restrictions from the higher government. The local government hasn’t received any guidelines but if we are given clearance to proceed — we, in QC, would like to implement added restrictions,” she said.

The City Health Department (CHD) reported a 190-percent daily increase in coronavirus cases — 218 cases between March 2 and 8 from the 75 cases recorded in the same days last month.

CHD data showed that transmission was most prevalent in households at 28 percent, followed by community or neighborhood at 16 percent and workplace at 11 percent.

The city government had started consultations with village leaders, owners of commercial establishments and the church regarding the imposition of additional restrictions.

“We are also mulling lessening capacities of establishments and churches for maybe two weeks should this be acceptable to all stakeholders as well, just to slow down the spread,” Belmonte said.