

Lockdown restrictions extended to City of Ballarat from 11:59pm tonight

The Victorian Premier has today [announced](#), that with the **exception of curfews**, the **current restrictions** in place in **Metropolitan Melbourne** will be extended to the **City of Ballarat from 11:59pm tonight, Wednesday 15 September 2021 until Wednesday 22 September 2021**.

Additionally, the **current restrictions applying to Greater Shepparton will ease from 11:59pm tonight** and be brought back in line with the remainder of **Regional Victoria**, meaning automotive businesses will be able to operate subject to the COVIDSafe settings below.

For **Metropolitan Melbourne** there is **no change** to the current level of restrictions outlined in our previous [Bulletin](#). The Victorian Premier has stated that he will reveal the '**roadmap out of lockdown**' this **Sunday, 19 September 2021**.

Work Permits

Authorised workers continue to be required to **carry permits** when working, and when travelling for work, in **Metropolitan Melbourne and the City of Ballarat**. Work permits will no longer be a requirement for Greater Shepparton.

Face masks

Face masks must be carried at all times and **worn indoors and outdoors** except if at home, or when visiting an intimate partner's place of residence or if an exemption applies. This continues to apply in **Regional Victoria**, with an express requirement that **masks remain mandatory and cannot be removed for eating/drinking in retail facilities**.

Density quotients

For workplaces in **Regional Victoria**, and those authorised to remain open in Metropolitan Melbourne and the City of Ballarat, density quotients in shared spaces and publicly accessible areas at the work premises are **1 person per 4 square metres**, subject to the following:

- **Food and drink facilities (e.g. roadhouses) in Regional Victoria** – open for seated service only with maximum of 20 outdoors and 10 indoors, subject to density quotient of 1 person per 4 square metres. Food courts open for takeaway service only.
- **Office work environment in Regional Victoria** – 25 per cent or up to 10 people if total workplace is 40 people or less, subject to a density quotient of 1 person per 4 square metres.

QR Code Requirements

The electronic record keeping requirements through **Victorian Government QR Code Service** continue to apply for those businesses that are eligible to continue operating. The requirement to make reasonable efforts to ensure people check-in and to prominently display QR Code signage at each entrance remains unchanged.

COVIDSafe Plan

COVIDSafe Plans are mandatory for **all** Victorian workplaces. VACC recommends that COVIDSafe Plans should be reviewed to ensure it remains current and that cleaning, signage, record-keeping and other applicable requirements are being adhered to and communicated with all relevant staff. Members are encouraged to contact the VACC OHSE Unit for any further information or assistance, including in relation to their [COVIDSafe Plan obligations](#) on 03 9829 1265.

VACC will continue to keep members advised of developments. Members needing further advice or assistance are encouraged to contact VACC's Workplace Relations team on 03 9829 1123.

Daniel Hodges
Executive Manager – Workplace Relations
Industrial Relations | OHSE