

Further easing of COVIDSafe Setting Restrictions to take effect in Victoria from 11:59pm Tonight

The Acting Victorian Premier has [announced](#) that a further easing of COVIDSafe Restrictions will take effect in Victoria from 11:59pm 17 June 2021, including:

- the **removal of the 25km travel limit** for Metropolitan Melbourne;
- the **removal of the requirement to wear face masks outdoors** in Metropolitan Melbourne; and
- the **removal of travel restrictions between Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria** (with the introduction of new requirements for those travelling to Victorian Alpine Resorts)

The full list of changes is contained in the updated [Table of Restrictions](#) released by the Victorian Government.

All automotive business workplaces in both Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria may open subject to the following applicable COVIDSafe Requirements:

- **face coverings** – must be carried at all times and **worn indoors**, and is **recommended** outdoors where 1.5 metres physical distancing is unable to be maintained
- **density quotient of one person per 4 square metres** in shared spaces and publicly accessible areas at the work premises – and in addition:
 - those operating **food and drink facilities** (e.g. roadhouses) will be able to provide seated dining service with a maximum patron cap in **Regional Victoria** of 300 people per venue (maximum group size of 50); and in **Metropolitan Melbourne** of 150 people per venue (75 indoors and maximum group size of 10). **Venues can have up to 25 patrons before the density quotient applies** – and in Regional Victoria, venues of less than 600 square metres can operate with a density quotient of one person per 2 square metres (or cap of 150 patrons, whichever is the lesser) if they have a COVID Marshal at the entrance to confirm 'green tick' check in before entry.
 - those operating in an **office work environment** in **Regional Victoria** will be able to have a 75% return (or up to 30 people if total workplace is 40 or less); and in **Metropolitan Melbourne** a 50% return (or up to 20 people if total workplace is 40 or less).
- electronic record keeping through **Victorian Government QR Code Service** for customers, visitors and employees (with limited exemptions, see below).
- **COVIDSafe Plan** requirements continue to apply.

QR Code Requirements

Members will recall from previous Bulletins, that the use of the **Victorian Government QR Code Service** (businesses yet to register, can do so [here](#)) is now compulsory for almost all Victorian workplaces, with businesses required to take reasonable steps to ensure that all customers, visitors and employees check-in, regardless of the time they stay at the premises. Where a person does not have access to a device (e.g. smartphone) the workplace needs to make reasonable efforts to provide access (e.g. iPad), check-in on their behalf (i.e. [Service Victoria Kiosk check-in](#)), or if otherwise impractical, use an alternative record keeping method (including paper and pen).

Under the current Workplace Directions, greater clarity has been provided on the workplaces that are currently exempt from having to comply with the QR Code record keeping requirement. Relevantly for the automotive industry, this limited exemption includes:

- premises where pre-ordered goods are being delivered via contactless delivery; or
- premises in respect of the operation of 'click and collect' purchase services; or
- service stations in respect of customers who do not enter a building and pay using contactless payment methods at the bowser; or
- any work undertaken at residential premises.

Members should also note that Victorian Government officials have advised that the current enforcement amnesty on QR Code requirements that apply more generally will end tonight (17 June 2021) for retail businesses, and has been extended to 1 July 2021 for other businesses. However, this remains an evolving situation, with the Victorian Government likely to release further details in the coming days. VACC will continue to keep members advised of developments.

COVIDSafe Plan

VACC continues to recommend that changes to restriction levels provide a good opportunity to review your COVIDSafe Plan to ensure it remains current and the 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.

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