

Lockdown restrictions to ease in Regional Victoria

The Victorian Premier has today [announced](#) that with the **exception of Greater Shepparton**, lockdown restrictions within **Regional Victoria** will ease from **11:59pm tomorrow, Thursday 9 September 2021**. Under the eased restrictions for **Regional Victoria**, the **five reasons to leave home and 5km travel limit will be removed** – as will the current **authorised provider and worker requirements** (including work permits). As part of the announcement, the Victorian Premier released an updated [Table of Restrictions](#) outlining the details of the changes.

As a result, all automotive business workplaces in **Regional Victoria**, with the exception of those within Greater Shepparton, will be able to operate subject to the COVIDSafe settings outlined below.

For **Metropolitan Melbourne and Greater Shepparton**, there is **no change** to the current level of restrictions outlined in our previous [Bulletin](#).

Work Permits

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

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 Greater Shepparton, 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.

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