

### Victorian Premier announces 'modest easing' of lockdown restrictions as 70 per cent first dose target reached

The Victorian Premier has today [announced](#) 'new freedoms' and a 'modest easing' of current lockdown restrictions in **Metropolitan Melbourne and Ballarat** from **11:59pm Friday 17 September 2021**. It is understood that a **further announcement** regarding current restriction levels may be made when the '**roadmap out of lockdown**' is announced on Sunday.

Accordingly, within **Metropolitan Melbourne and Ballarat**, there will broadly remain five reasons for people to leave their home:

- getting necessary goods or services
- care or other compassionate reasons
- exercise (which will increase to **4 hours** per day), and which will be expanded to include **outdoor social interaction**
- authorised work and permitted education if it can't be done from home
- to get vaccinated at the nearest possible location (and other specified reasons).

The travel limit on exercise and accessing necessary goods or services will increase from 5 kilometres to **10 kilometres from home** – or the closest location (if not within the ten kilometre radius).

As part of the announcement, the Victorian Premier released an updated [Table of Restrictions](#) providing further detail on the changes.

Members are reminded that the following automotive industry businesses can continue to operate under current COVIDSafe settings within **Metropolitan Melbourne and Ballarat** as **authorised providers and workers**:

- Petrol stations, including a petrol station that sells groceries
- Vehicle and mechanical repair services
- Contactless 'Click and collect/deliver' services
- Emergency repair workers
- Roadside assistance services
- Ancillary and support businesses, where necessary for the operations of an authorised provider
- Administrative services provided by an employer to enable its employees to work from home – e.g. payroll and IT services
- Truck stops and roadhouses, but not the provision of seated dining or shower facilities to persons who are not transport, freight or logistics drivers.

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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Industrial Relations | OHSE