

BULLETIN

Occupational Health, Safety and Environment Unit



Reference No: easing of COVIDSafe/dh-6-21

Date issued: 24/06/2021

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 24 June 2021. The full list of changes is contained in the updated [Table of Restrictions](#) released by the Victorian Government. In summary, all automotive business workplaces in both Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria may continue to operate subject to the following applicable COVIDSafe requirements:

Face coverings

Must continue to be carried at all times and **worn indoors** unless an exception applies and is **recommended** outdoors where 1.5 metres physical distancing is unable to be maintained.

Density quotients

Density quotients in shared spaces and publicly accessible areas at the work premises will remain at **1 person per 4 square metres in Metropolitan Melbourne** and move to **1 person per 2 square metres in Regional Victoria**, subject to the following:

- **Food and drink facilities** (e.g., roadhouses) - will be able to provide seated dining service with a maximum patron cap in Metropolitan Melbourne of 300 people per venue (no cap in Regional Victoria). **Venues can have up to 25 patrons before the density quotient applies** – with venues in Regional Victoria able to operate with the density quotient of 1 person per 2 square metres if they have a **COVID Check-in Marshal** (otherwise 1 person per 4 square metres applies). Venues of less than 600 square metres in **Metropolitan Melbourne** will also be able to operate with the density quotient of 1 person per 2 square metres (or cap of 150 patrons, whichever is the lesser) if they have a **COVID Check-in Marshal**.
- **General retail – Venues can have up to 25 patrons before the density quotient applies** – with venues in Regional Victoria able to operate with the density quotient of 1 person per 2 square metres if they have a **COVID Check-in Marshal** (otherwise 1 person per 4 square metres applies).
- **Office work environment** - will be able to have a 75% return (or up to 30 people if total workplace is 40 or less) in both **Metropolitan Melbourne** and **Regional Victoria**.

QR Code Requirements

The electronic record keeping requirements through **Victorian Government QR Code Service** will continue to apply. 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** (see below for current exemptions), 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, workplaces that are currently exempt from having to comply with the QR Code record keeping requirement include:

- 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.

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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