

Office of Local Government



COVID-19 COUNCIL UPDATE

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17 September 2020

Restrictions eased for NSW-Victoria border residents

Restrictions on the NSW-Victorian border have been eased from today (September 17) to allow border region residents to travel within the border region for any reason with a current permit.



Those that have a border region resident permit that was current at 12.01am on Thursday, September 17 will have it automatically considered a new border region resident permit with the new conditions, and it will continue to be valid until the permit's date of expiry.

The border region will also be expanded to include some areas around Pleasant Hills, Lockhart, Benalla, Bright and Mount Beauty. To find out which areas fall within the border region, please [click here](#).

Victorian residents will also no longer be obliged to comply with the stay-at-

home directions imposed in regional Victoria while in NSW or be restricted to entering NSW for a “permitted purpose”.

For more information on the current NSW-Victoria border restrictions, please [click here](#).



NSW Government forms outdoor dining taskforce

A new taskforce is bringing NSW Government agencies together to activate the State’s outdoor hospitality spaces, making approvals for alfresco dining and drinking easier and faster.

The taskforce will include representatives from:

- NSW Health
- Liquor & Gaming NSW
- The Office of Local Government
- The Office of the Small Business Commissioner
- NSW Police
- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Transport for NSW, and
- NSW Food Authority.

Representatives on the taskforce will work closely with local government to streamline existing legislation, as councils have the lead role in identifying the right spaces and considering their use within frameworks for public safety and amenity.

Councils should contact their Council Engagement Manager if they have any questions or requests for more information about the taskforce.

Check-in app now available for businesses and customers

Councils are reminded that the Service NSW app now features a COVID Safe Check-in tool to provide customers with a safe and contactless way to check in at venues across NSW.

Registered COVID Safe businesses can now be issued a unique QR code which customers can scan using their Service NSW app.



It offers customers a contactless, hygienic method of checking in to businesses so they can be contacted in the event of an outbreak.

Checking-in through the updated Service NSW app automatically captures the date, time and location of the check-in, and securely stores them for 28 days for the sole purpose of COVID tracing.

An FAQ regarding the check-in process can be found [here](#).

A COVID Safe Check-in information pack for stakeholders can be found [here](#).



Information and resources

[Guidelines for COVID Safe workplaces](#)
Safety plans for a range of businesses and organisations can be found [here](#), and those in the sport and recreation sector [here](#).

[Beach management and COVID-19](#)

For information on the role of councils in relation to beach management amid COVID-19 please [click here](#).

[Job Retention Allowance payment applications](#)

Councils can still apply for the Job Retention Allowance payment of \$1,500 per fortnight, per eligible employee. Find out how in this [circular](#).

[Together against COVID-19](#)

A pack outlining strategy, plans, and controls for communication to build social cohesion as the COVID-19 crisis evolves can be found [here](#).

[Stakeholder toolkit in community languages](#)

Downloadable translated resources and direct links to information on how to stay COVID Safe in the community and specific resources for businesses can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Detailed OLG guidance to councils

Councils can access detailed guidance on:

- [Local government legislative amendments](#)
- [Local government economic stimulus package](#)

Quicklinks

Councils can access the latest information and resources about COVID-19 on the [NSW Government](#), [NSW Health](#), [Commonwealth Government](#), [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), and [NSW Office of Local Government](#) websites.

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