

# Office of Local Government



## COVID-19 COUNCIL UPDATE

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17 July 2020

### COVID-19 restrictions to be tightened across NSW

The NSW Government will tighten COVID-19 restrictions around “higher risk” indoor activities as the pandemic enters a new phase of community transmission.

From 12:01am next Friday (July 24) the following rules will be in force in NSW:

- Compliance measures previously in place for pubs will be extended to restaurants, bars, cafés, and clubs. This includes limiting group bookings to a maximum of 10 people; mandatory COVID-Safe plans and registration as a COVID-Safe business; and a digital record must be created within 24 hours.



- Weddings and corporate events will be limited to 150 people subject to the four square metre rule and registration as a COVID-Safe business. Strict COVID-Safe plans must be in place and high-risk activities including singing and dancing must not occur, and
- Funerals and places of worship will be limited to 100 people, subject to the one person per four square metre rule and a COVID-Safe business registration.

The rules on gatherings remain the same, with up to 20 guests inside the home and 20 people for gatherings in a public place. However, as the home is a high transmission area, the NSW Chief Health Officer **strongly recommends** a COVID-Safe precautionary approach of limiting visitors to the home to 10 people as a general principle.

Please click [here](#) for the full list of compliance regulations.

Council officers, NSW Police, Liquor & Gaming inspectors and NSW Health officials are carrying out inspections across the State to ensure COVID-Safe plans are being followed. Fines and penalties apply.

Information is being continuously updated on the latest COVID-19 case locations [here](#), and includes advice on what to do if you've been in these areas.

For the latest information about COVID-19 visit [nsw.gov.au](https://nsw.gov.au).

## OLG COVID-19 council survey

The Office of Local Government (OLG) thanks all councils who completed the OLG COVID-19 survey, which has now closed.

The survey has been an extremely useful tool, gathering information from councils on issues and questions and enabling OLG to seek advice from relevant agencies in relation to the COVID-19 response.

Specifically, information from the survey has guided the development of



Government responses in a number of areas, including caravan parks, community sport, the use of council facilities, and continued delivery of services.

This has ensured that the needs of councils have been considered by agencies as new public health orders have been developed, and as restrictions have been relaxed.

OLG will continue to use this form of information gathering in the future as a feedback has been invaluable and made a difference.

In the meantime, councils are reminded to continue to work with their Council Engagement Managers to progress questions or issues regarding the Government's COVID-19 response.

OLG sits on the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) and has a direct relationship with each of the key agencies involved in this work. OLG has received positive feedback from these agencies about this way of operating and how it ensures coordinated information and quick, accurate, and relevant responses to questions from the sector.



## 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](#).

### [Local Government Toolkits](#)

The Department of Customer Service has prepared toolkits for councils regarding the [Victoria-NSW border closure](#) and [COVID Safe recovery](#).

### [Holiday destination assets for download](#)

A range of information and social media assets for NSW holiday destinations are available for download [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](#).

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 the NSW Government, NSW Health, Commonwealth Government, Commonwealth Department of Health, and NSW Office of Local Governme websites.

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