

Office of Local Government



COVID-19 COUNCIL UPDATE

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Tuesday 1 September 2020

Increased mobility on NSW-Victoria border

Key changes will be made to ease restrictions on the NSW-Victorian border to help residents and local businesses operate as Victoria continues to battle COVID-19.



A single border region will be reinstated that extends to around 50 kilometres on either side of the border.

A new permit will allow a resident within the border region to enter NSW for the following:

- To obtain necessary goods or services
- For care or other compassionate reasons, and
- To attend work or obtain educational services (where it is not reasonable for the person to work or obtain educational services from their state of residence).

A border region resident who is a NSW resident:

- Is authorised to enter Victoria only for the reason allowed in the permit, and
- Must not travel to any part of Victoria that is outside of the border region or is a COVID-19 area of concern.

A border region resident who is a Victorian resident:

- Is authorised to enter and remain in NSW only for the reason allowed in the permit
- Must not travel to any part of NSW that is outside of the border region, and
- Must not enter NSW if the resident had travelled in Victoria in a restricted area (which is currently Greater Melbourne) or a COVID-19 area of concern in Victoria within the previous 14 days.

The new border region and 'border region resident' permit will come into effect at 12:01am on Friday September 4.

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

Funding boost to help domestic violence victims

NSW domestic and family violence services experiencing increased demand as a result of COVID-19 can now apply for a share of \$9 million in Federal Government funding.



The COVID-19 Sexual, Domestic and Family Violence Grant Program offers one-off grants between \$20,000 and \$150,000 to eligible services.

To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- Provide a direct and frontline service to people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, sexual, domestic and family violence, or provide services or programs for perpetrators, as part of their overall service delivery model, and
- Be established in NSW and operational.

Eligible applicants may include not-for-profit organisations including community organisations and/or faith based organisations.

The announcement follows the \$21 million investment in frontline domestic violence support services delivered by the Federal and NSW governments in May.

Grant applications are now open and will close on September 23.

To apply, [click here](#) and complete the online application form via the SmartyGrants portal.



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 toolkit](#)

The Department of Customer Service has prepared a toolkit for councils regarding the [Victoria-NSW border closure](#).

[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](#)
- [The latest Public Health Order](#)

[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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