



# Office of Local Government



## COVID-19 COUNCIL UPDATE

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22 January 2021

### Australia Day council events FAQs

Councils are reminded that exemptions to the [Gathering and Movement Public Health Order](#) will apply to all council Australia Day events and citizenship ceremonies **held outdoors** on January 26. For more information on the exemptions [click here](#).



## Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

The below FAQs have been developed by the Office of Local Government and NSW Health to help councils plan and manage their Australia Day events.

### Which safety plan for Australia Day events under the local council exemption should be used?

Councils are advised to use the [general COVID safety plan for outdoor events](#) under the exemption.

The safety plan checklists for outdoor controlled events, outdoor musical performances and major recreation facilities includes matters that are not required for events held under the exemption.

### How do you obtain a Service NSW QR code?

You must develop a safety plan and register as a COVID safe business on the NSW Government website to obtain a Service NSW QR code. For more details [click here](#).

Other types of electronic registration do not require registering as a COVID safe business.

### What if an Australia Day event exceeds 500 persons?

If a council Australia Day event exceeds 500 people the exemption does not apply and councils must comply with applicable Order requirements.

Outdoor Australia Day events that feature more than 500 people should comply with Order requirements for controlled outdoor events, such as outdoor musical performances.

### What about indoor Australia Day events?

The exemption does not apply to indoor events.

Indoor Australia Day events, regardless of the number of attendees, should

comply with Public Health Order requirements and safety plans applicable for the premises used, such as function centres, community halls, cinemas and theatres, and major recreation facilities.

### **What requirements apply to other facilities within Australia Day events, like food and drink vendors?**

To comply with the Order, and other premises and events within the Australia Day event, premises should have safety plans.

Any mobile or temporary food and drink vendors do not need a separate safety plan or electronic registration system if they are take-away only (i.e. no dine-in customers).

But if they have dedicated seating or an area for eating and drinking, a safety plan must be developed and registered, electronic registration implemented, and masks worn by public facing staff.

## **Information and resources**

The following links can assist councils:

Australia Day events  
QR codes  
Public Health Orders



NSW Health has provided a range of materials in relation to the wearing of face masks. Councils are encouraged to use these materials in their local communities.

The following materials are available:

- Posters and signage
- Mandatory mask wearing - social media tiles and factsheets
- Do's and don'ts of mask wearing - poster, social media tile - do's, social media tile - don'ts
- How to wear a mask safely - videos

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