

12 June 2020

Dear proprietor and industry partners

### **Easing of COVID-19 restrictions to commence 12 noon 19 June 2020**

Due to the strong support of and proactive compliance with the Public Health Directions to date by business and our community there will be a further easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with initial information on what business can expect to see outlined in the next Public Health Direction to support forward planning.

Today the ACT Government and ACT Chief Health Officer announced that in-line with Step 2.2 of [Canberra's Recovery Plan](#), as of **12 noon on Friday 19 June**, the following changes will come into effect:

- There will no longer be a limit on household visitation.
- All public gatherings (except for the hospitality sector) will be set at one person per 4 square metres for each indoor and outdoor space, up to a maximum of 100 people (including staff, trainers and spectators).
- For the hospitality sector (cafes, restaurants, bars, pubs and clubs) gatherings will be set at 100 patrons for each indoor or outdoor space, or one person per 4 square metres, whichever is lesser. This limit excludes staff.
- Bars, pubs and clubs will be able to serve patrons alcohol in groups of up to 10 patrons per booking or table without serving a meal. Patrons are to be seated.
- Full-contact training for sport, dance and martial arts is now allowed, as is circuit training.
- The following can **open**, observing the one person per 4 square metre rule for up to 100 people (including staff) per indoor or outdoor space:
  - Cinemas and movie theatres,
  - Indoor amusement centres, arcades, outdoor and indoor play centres; and
  - Betting agencies such as Tabcorp, but not gaming machines.
- Further **ease of measures**, observing the one person per 4 square metre rule for up to 100 people (including staff) per indoor or outdoor space for:
  - Gyms, health clubs, fitness or wellness centres, yoga, barre, pilates and spin facilities, boot camps and personal training,
  - Swimming pools,
  - Community sport and organised sporting activities,
  - Outdoor amusements and attractions,
  - Dance classes,
  - Choirs, bands and orchestras,
  - Weddings and funerals,

- Personal services (beauty and nail salons, tattoo and body modification, tanning, waxing, spa and massage parlours),
- Community and youth centres,
- Caravan parks, campgrounds and camp sites; and
- Places of worship and religious ceremonies.

Prior to the Public Health Direction commencing next week, more specific information (through another letter/email) will be provided to key regulated industries further advising of changes and responsibilities. We anticipate this will be provided next Friday 19 June 2020, once the Health Direction is signed.

Further information is available on the ACT Government's [COVID-19 website](#).

It's important to note that these changes do not take effect **until 12 noon 19 June 2020**. Until this time, the existing Public Health Direction remains in effect and businesses, industry and community must comply with that direction. Proactive and random checks by compliance officers from Access Canberra, the Health Protection Service as well as ACT Policing will continue to support compliance and community safety.

**Note: non-compliance with the public health directions can result in regulatory action and serious penalties apply.**

We would also like to take the opportunity to remind relevant businesses of the requirement to have a *COVID Safety Plan*. Plans are being checked through compliance activities and are mandatory through the Public Health Direction. Failure to have a COVID Safety Plan may result in regulatory action for non-compliance. Further information [can be found here](#).

Please continue to visit the [COVID-19 website](#), including the [Business Hub](#), which has key information for business, industry and other groups. A [Business Resource Kit](#) is also available to support you.

Your ongoing cooperation and proactive compliance with the Public Health Direction is greatly appreciated as we work to support our community's safety and Canberra's recovery from COVID-19.

Yours sincerely



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