

Dear proprietor and industry partners

Important Update: further pause in commencement of Stage 3 restrictions

As announced by the ACT Government and the ACT Chief Health Officer today, the commencement of Canberra's Recovery Plan Stage 3 restrictions has been put on hold for a further two weeks.

A Public Health Risk Assessment (Check Point) will occur in a week's time which will further inform the timing of future easing of restrictions.

As the ACT Chief Health Officer has advised, the situation in NSW and Victoria continues to be concerning, and uncertainty remains on the full impact of the situation on the ACT. Therefore, a decision has been made to maintain the current public health restrictions.

What does this mean for businesses?

Businesses must continue to comply with the requirements of Step 2.2 of Canberra's Recovery Plan as outlined in the current Public Health Direction: [\(Public Health \(Restricted Activities - Gatherings, Business or Undertakings\) Emergency Direction 2020 \(No 5\)\)](#).

Should business/industry keep preparing for a future change in restrictions?

Businesses can continue to plan for what they need to do in advance of Stage 3, however cannot move to implement arrangements, until Stage 3 takes effect.

Where can I go for more information?

The ACT Government's [COVID-19 website](#) has information for business and industry including a copy of the [Public Health Direction](#) and guidance for business. A [Business Resource Kit](#) is also available to support you.

The Access Canberra Business Liaison Team is available to answer questions or provide advice. The team can be reached on (02) 6205 0900.

Compliance with the Public Health Direction

Compliance with the current Public Health Direction is critical in supporting community safety. Access Canberra, the Health Protection Service and ACT Policing continue to undertake proactive checks at businesses to support compliance and community safety against the current Public Health Direction.

Non-compliance with the public health directions can result in regulatory action and serious penalties may apply.

Particular focus of compliance activities at present is around ensuring business and industry:

- **have a *COVID Safety Plan*, which became a requirement on 6 June 2020**
Further information on *COVID Safety Plans* [can be found here](#). We also strongly encourage you to call the Business Liaison Team if you are struggling to complete one, so we can provide additional guidance.
- **have mandatory signage (hospitality sector) advising of the maximum number of patrons a premise can have under COVID-19 restrictions, which became a requirement on 17 July 2020.**
An information sheet with more information on how to do this calculation is [available here](#). A copy of the signs which you can print, and display with your maximum patron numbers [is available here](#).
- **ensuring venues are abiding by the one person per 4 square metres requirement.**

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

Yours sincerely



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