

May 11, 2020

## Victorian Government's Stage One Easing Framework

On Monday May 11, Premier Daniel Andrews announced the Victorian Government's Stage One Restrictions Easing Framework.

The primary changes will allow Victorians to have up to five guests within a household and for public gatherings outside households of up to ten people.

The Victorian Government's Stage One Easing Framework also covers new allowances for weddings, funerals, religious services, community facilities, the real estate industry, libraries, national and state parks, informal and professional sports, caravan parks and hostels.

The Premier indicated that the State Government is looking to a more expansive reopening in June rather than a tentative reopening for the rest of May. Further easing announcements are expected in the coming weeks and will depend on the rate of community transmission and scale of testing.

The staged easing of restrictions is and will remain consistent with the plans outlined by the national cabinet on Friday, 8 May.

### Stage One Easing Framework

#### **Outdoor Gatherings**

Expanded to ten people. This includes household and non-household members. A person cannot organise or knowingly attend a gathering of more than 10 people.

#### **Indoor Gathering**

Expanded to five visitors at home in addition to the normal residents of a household. The residence includes the outside and inside of the private premises.

#### **Workplaces**

The government is instructing those who can work from home to continue to do so throughout May.

#### **Weddings**

Expanded allowance to ten guests in addition to the marrying parties and the celebrant, for a total of thirteen people.

Weddings will be required to keep records of names and contact details of each guest.

#### **Funerals**

Expanded allowance to twenty mourners indoors. Those required to conduct the funeral are allowed in addition. This allowance is invalid for services held at a private residence.

Expanded allowance of thirty mourners for outdoor funerals. Those required to conduct the funeral are allowed in addition.

Funerals will be required to keep records of names and contact details of each guest.

### **Religious Services and Ceremonies**

Expanded allowance for private worship groups or small religious ceremonies of up to ten people, plus essential personnel required to conduct the service or ceremony.

Services and ceremonies will be required to keep records of names and contact details of each guest.

### **Real Estate Auctions and Open House Inspections**

For auctions, an allowance for ten people - plus the minimum number of personnel required to facilitate the auction, as well as the occupants of the residence.

For inspections, an allowance of ten people plus the minimum number of people reasonably required to facilitate the inspection as well as the occupants of the residence.

### **Community Facilities**

Community facilities include but are not limited to: community centres and halls, youth centres, PCYCs, Community Clubs, Sporting Clubs and RSL clubs.

Community facilities will be permitted to operate for the purpose of hosting an essential public support services or support group. These services and groups can operate in the following conditions:

- No more than ten people are in any given group (not including minimum staff required to operate facility or facilitate the support group).
- Physical distancing standards are maintained.

The following meetings will be permitted:

- Parent groups
- Youth groups
- Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
- Narcotics Anonymous meeting
- Alcohol and drugs, family violence and parenting support groups
- Foodbank

Operators must keep contact list of participants.

### **Local Government Non-Essential facilities and services**

Can be used solely as a venue for essential services or support groups with a maximum of ten people.

Operators must keep contact lists per other operators.

### **National and State Parks**

Will be opened where possible to maintain standard distancing measures. Victorians will be permitted to partake in hiking, fishing, prospecting, diving, boating and other recreational activities independently or in a group of no more than ten people.

No camping is permitted anywhere in national or state parks.

### **Non-Professional Sport and Exercise**

Allowed in the following conditions:

- Independently or in a group of up to 10 people (or people of the same household)
- Takes place outdoors
- The activity is reasonably capable of being done with people spaced 1.5 meters apart
- Reasonable efforts are made to maintain 1.5 meters apart

Any facilitator of activities is required to keep contact lists of participants.

Indoor sport is not permitted outside of households. Indoor sports centres are to remain closed.

### **Boot Camps and Personal Training**

If the sport has an instructor, such as a personal trainer, that person is allowed to participate in addition to the group of ten.

Where possible, participants are instructed to bring personal equipment and a keep high standard of hygiene.

### **Professional Sport**

Professional athletes and support personnel are permitted use of otherwise restricted facilities such as pools, gyms, arenas, and stadiums.

It is conditional that all professional sporting organisations have exclusive use of any facility at the time of use and implement a high standard of hygiene measures.

Management must keep a contact list of all personnel training and engaging in sport together.

### **Caravan Parks and Associated Camping Grounds**

Open for residents, those displaced by bushfires, those without another form of permanent accommodation, as well as Fly In Fly Out (FIFO) and essential workers.

There is a directive to adhere to health advice provided to operators of caravan parks.

Parks are expected to restrict gatherings of more than 10 and remain closed to tourists.



## **Hostels**

Open for accommodation, however any associated restaurants and cafes to maintain current standards or restrictions.

Hostels must limit any gatherings to no more than ten people.

Operators must keep a contact list of all guests.

## **Prevailing Restrictions**

Restrictions, hygiene procedures and social distancing measures remain in place for cafés, restaurants, bars, casinos, gaming venues and hairdressers.

## **Further Information**

For more information, please contact your Hawker Britton consultant, Victorian Director, JP Blandthorn on +61 407 366 304 or Policy and Business Analyst, Raphael Mengem at [rmengem@hawkerbritton.com](mailto:rmengem@hawkerbritton.com).

Further Hawker Britton Occasional Papers on the activities of the Victorian Government are available [here](#).

For further coverage of Labor Government Response Packages to the COVID-19 Pandemic see Hawker Britton Briefs [here](#).

For further coverage of Liberal Government Response Packages to the COVID-19 Pandemic see Barton Deakin Briefs [here](#).