

Victorian Government: Return to Stage Three Lockdown - Metropolitan Melbourne, Mitchell Shire Council

On Tuesday 07 July, Premier Daniel Andrews announced the Victorian Government's response to the continued increase in community transition, of COVID-19 across Metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire Council.

From 11:59pm Wednesday, 8 July - Metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire Council will return to Stage Three restrictions until August 20, 2020. These restrictions allow for only four reasons to leave the house:

1. Shopping for food or other essential items.
2. To provide care giving, for compassionate reasons or to seek medical treatment.
3. For exercise (outdoor exercise only, only within Metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire Council, with only one other person or members of your household).
4. Work or study if you cannot work or study from home.

Additional restrictions have also been put in place:

- Households cannot have visitors to their homes - except for caregiving or compassionate reasons or for receiving services. Exemptions include visiting partners in relationships.
- Individuals can no longer visit friends and family who live at another household, except for caregiving or compassionate reasons or providing services.
- Individuals must not travel except for one of the four reasons outlined above.

Under Stage Three restrictions. The following will be closed:

- Community Sport
- Indoor and recreational sport
- Beauty Care
- Food courts
- Galleries, museums, and Zoos
- Amusement parks and Arcades
- Concert venues
- Gyms
- Swimming pools
- Cinemas
- Theatres
- Gambling facilities
- Play Centres

The following business and facilities will remain open:

- Supermarkets/markets (*subject to density requirements*)
- Retail stores (*subject to density requirements*)
- Hairdressers

Outdoor sport is allowed in groups of no more than two with appropriate social distancing, these include:

- Golf/driving range
- Fishing
- Boating
- Tennis
- Surfing



Gatherings

Gatherings of up to two people can be made outside of households, or for exercise purposes.

Hospitality

Cafes, restaurants, pubs, and clubs will be open for takeaway only.

Schools

School holidays will be extended for a week for all students, with the exception of VCE students and for specialist schools.

VCE students and students from specialist schools will return from Monday, 13 July for face to face study. All other year levels will return the following week, to primarily remote learning for the duration of the renewed lockdown.

Ceremonies

Religious ceremonies and private places of worship will be closed to the public and operate via broadcast.

Weddings will be permitted with up to five people (couple, two witnesses and celebrant).

Funerals will be permitted with up to ten people, plus those who conduct the service.

Travel

Holiday accommodation and camping will be closed, with the exception of residents, emergency accommodation and for work purposes.

Those within the restricted areas must remain in their principle residents. You cannot visit an additional resident with the exceptions of emergencies, maintenance, shared custody or to visit a partner who does not live with you.

Real Estate

Real Estate auctions and inspections are to take place remotely or by appointment only.

Grants for Local Businesses

Local businesses trading in these regions may be provided with an initial \$5000 in dedicated support if they were previously eligible for the Business Support Fund grant or a payroll tax refund.

Airports

Premier Daniel Andrews has made requests to the Federal Government to extend the diversion of incoming international flights and the quarantine of passengers to other Australian cities. The diversion request was set to end Thursday, 16 July but will be extended pending approval from the Federal Government.

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.

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

For further coverage of Labor Government Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic see Hawker Britton Briefs [here](#). For further coverage of Liberal Government Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic see Barton Deakin Briefs [here](#).