

Statement

The Hon Dan Andrews MP
Premier



Tuesday, 7 July 2020

STATEMENT FROM THE PREMIER

2020 has not been the year any of us wanted.

Cancelled events. Plans put on pause. Uncertainty about what the future holds.

And I guess that's why so many people want to pretend this is over.

Others don't have that luxury. In the last 36 hours we lost two more Victorian lives to this deadly virus. We don't yet know their names, their stories or the circumstances in which they died.

All we do know is that – except for the company and compassion of the medical staff who cared for them – they would have died alone.

No family. No friends. No holding hands. No goodbyes. Denied the last quiet moments that we all hope for.

That's how dangerous and infectious this disease is.

Thankfully, it's a fate that most Victorian families have not been asked to endure. And I think, for some, that's led to a creeping complacency.

But although today it's someone else – tomorrow it could be you, or me.

I know a lot of people aren't scared because this feels like something happening to other people in other parts of the world. But you should be scared of this. I'm scared of this. We all should be.

Yesterday, we reached a grim new milestone, the most cases in a single day. Today, we surpassed it.

It's clear we are on the cusp of our second wave – and we cannot let this virus cut through our communities.

It's why based on the advice of the Chief Health Officer, Stage 3 "Stay at Home" restrictions will be reinstated across metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire from 11:59pm on Wednesday 8 July.

For six weeks, and if you live in these areas, there'll be only four reasons to leave your home:

Shopping for food and essential items. Care and caregiving. Daily exercise. Work and study – if you can't do it from home.

Otherwise: Stay home. Stay home. Stay home. In case it needs repeating, stay home. We are fighting a global and deadly pandemic.

This Stay at Home direction will apply to your principal place of residence – that means no escaping to holiday homes.

And because we need to limit the spread of the virus across our state, there will only be three reasons to cross the border of these metropolitan areas: Shopping for food and essential items. Care and caregiving. Work and study – if you can't do it from home.

Unless you're a local, that means no fishing trips at Lakes Entrance. No four-hour hikes in the Grampians.

Businesses in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire will also return to Stage 3 restrictions.

Restaurants and cafes will return to takeaway and delivery services only. Beauty and personal services will need to close. Entertainment and cultural venues will need to close. Community sport will need to stop.

I know just how tough this will be for these businesses and for their workers. I promise, we'll have more to say shortly about support to help get you through.

I also understand six weeks might feel like an eternity. But it's the time our health experts tell us they need to really get on top of this thing.

Many parents, teachers and students will be worried about what happens with the school year. I can confirm that all Year 11 and Year 12 students in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire will go back to school for Term 3 as planned, along with our special schools.

For students Prep to Year 10, we're going to extend the school holidays by one week, so we can get more advice from our health experts. But I want to be upfront and let parents know that a return to remote learning for these kids is a possibility, if that's what they tell us is safest.

For people who live in regional Victoria, where case numbers remain low, current restrictions will remain the same for now.

We've talked about this virus being like a public health bushfire. By putting a ring around metropolitan Melbourne, we're essentially putting in place a perimeter to protect regional Victorians.

This is not where any of us wanted to be, but we have to face the reality of our situation. To do anything else would have deadly consequences.

I don't take this step lightly. And I know just how deeply frustrating this is for everyone.

But I'm asking you, please talk to your families. Talk to your friends. Talk to your neighbours. Talk to your communities.

This isn't over. And until there is a vaccine or a drug or a cure, there is no such thing as "normal".

For every restriction that you break and all the health advice that you ignore – the consequence may be someone's life.

Now more than ever, we need Victorians to play their part. Lives are counting on it.

List of restricted LGAs

Banyule	Hume	Moreland
Bayside	Kingston	Mornington Peninsula
Boroondara	Knox	Nillumbik
Brimbank	Manningham	Port Phillip
Cardinia	Maribyrnong	Stonnington
Casey	Maroondah	Whitehorse
Darebin	Melbourne	Whittlesea
Frankston	Melton	Wyndham
Glen Eira	Monash	Yarra
Greater Dandenong	Moonee Valley	Yarra Ranges
Hobsons Bay	Mitchell Shire	

SUMMARY OF RESTRICTIONS – RETURN TO STAGE

3 11:59PM 8 JULY 2020



- New Directions will commence at **11:59PM on Wednesday 8 July** and continue for **six weeks to 11:59PM on Wednesday 19 August**.
- The area returning to Stage 3 'Stay at Home' restrictions is comprised of the 31 metropolitan Melbourne local government areas (LGAs) and the Mitchell Shire LGA.
- The metropolitan Melbourne LGAs are: Banyule, Hume, Moreland, Bayside, Kingston, Mornington Peninsula, Boroondara, Knox, Nillumbik, Brimbank, Manningham, Port Phillip, Cardinia, Maribyrnong, Stonnington, Casey, Maroondah, Whitehorse, Darebin, Melbourne, Whittlesea, Frankston, Melton, Wyndham, Glen Eira, Monash, Yarra, Greater Dandenong, Moonee Valley, Yarra Ranges, Hobsons Bay.
- The 'Detention' direction currently applied to nine public housing towers in Flemington and Kensington will be lifted and replaced with the 'Stay at Home' direction as per the rest of metropolitan Melbourne when the Chief Health Officer advises it is safe to do so.
- Changes include hygiene measures, record keeping, density and physical distancing requirements. Final changes subject to advice of the Chief Health Officer.

RESTRICTIONS APPLYING TO METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE AND MITCHELL SHIRE LGA

METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE AND MITCHELL SHIRE LGA FROM 11:59PM WEDNESDAY 8 JULY

Reasons to leave your house	Change <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay at Home, except for four reasons: necessary goods or services; work and education if necessary; medical care or compassionate reasons; exercise and recreation.• Exemptions include visiting a person with whom you are in an intimate personal relationship, including outside metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire LGA. Cannot leave restricted areas for exercise or recreation.
Gatherings of people	Change <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Private: no visitors.• Public: up to 2 people or household members only.
Employer obligations	No change <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work from home: Must not allow employees to work from workplace if reasonably practicable to work from home
Schools	Change <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 11 and 12s and Year 10s doing VCE, and special schools to return next Monday 13 July for the start of Term 3.• Extension of pupil free days for one week for Prep-10.
Sporting activities	Change <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community sport: cannot be held in restricted area, and people who live in restricted area cannot participate.• Indoor sport and recreation: closed.• Outdoor sport: only allowed to exercise, or sporting activities such as fishing, golf, boating, tennis, surfing and drive range shooting with one other person or household members, provided 1.5 metre distance can be maintained.• Outdoor sporting facilities: closed, except for facilities where public gathering and physical distancing limits can be adhered to and there is no use of shared equipment or communal facilities (e.g. tennis courts, golf courses).• Swimming pools: closed.• Playcentres: closed.• Playgrounds: closed.

**METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE AND MITCHELL SHIRE LGA
FROM 11:59PM WEDNESDAY 8 JULY**

**Shopping,
retail and
personal
services**

Change

- Restaurants and cafes: take away only.
- Pubs, bars, clubs, nightclubs: closed, bottle shop and take away only.
- Food courts: closed.
- Beauty and personal care services: closed, apart from hairdressers.
- Saunas and bathhouses: closed.
- Auction houses: operate remotely.
- Real estate auctions and inspections: operate remotely, and inspections by appointment.
- Markets stalls: stalls can operate for provision of take away food and drink only.
- Markets and shopping centres: open, subject to density quotient, but people can only visit for necessary goods and services.
- Other retail: open, subject to density quotient, but people can only visit for necessary goods and services.

Entertainment

Change

- Libraries and community venues: only to host an essential public support service, or a wedding or funeral.
- Galleries, museums, zoos: closed.
- Outdoor amusement parks and arcades: closed.
- Indoor cinemas: closed.
- Drive-in cinemas: closed.
- Concert venues, theatres, auditoriums: closed.
- Arenas and stadiums: closed.
- Casinos and gaming: closed.
- Brothels, strip clubs and sex on premise venues: closed.

Ceremonies

Change

- Religious ceremonies and private worship: broadcast only.
- Weddings: up to 5 people (couple, two witnesses and celebrant).
- Funerals: up to 10 people, plus those conducting the funeral.

Attending a wedding or funeral is a permitted reason to leave home

Travel

Change

- Travel within Victoria outside restricted areas: allowed for work, education (if necessary), necessary good and services and care/compassionate purposes only.
- Holiday accommodation and camping: closed except for residents, emergency accommodation, or work purposes.
- Second place of residence – You cannot visit second place of residence outside restricted area with limited exceptions (e.g. emergency or maintenance; shared custody; to stay with intimate partner who does not live with you).

People on holidays can complete their holiday. **From 11.59PM on 8 July, people cannot travel for a holiday.**

RESTRICTIONS APPLYING TO REGIONAL VICTORIA OTHER THAN MITCHELL SHIRE LGA

REGIONAL VICTORIA FROM 11:59PM WEDNESDAY 8 JULY

Reasons to leave your house	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Stay safe”: Can leave premises for all purposes, subject to: work from home if you can; and higher education students: learn from home if you can. • Cannot enter restricted areas except for necessary purposes (necessary goods or services; work and education if necessary; medical care or compassionate reasons). • Exemptions include visiting a person with whom you are in an intimate personal relationship.
Gatherings of people	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private: Household plus 5 visitors . • Public: Up to 10 people.
Employer obligations	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work from home: Must not allow employees to work from workplace if reasonably practicable to work from home.
Schools	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face to face learning for all year levels.
Sporting activities	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community sport: Contact competition for 18 and under; non-contact competition for adults; contact sport for adults not allowed. • Indoor sport and recreation: up to 20 people per space, with a maximum group of 10 per group (if over 18), no group limit if group is all under 18. • Outdoor sport and recreation: allowed for groups. Up to 20 people per group. • Swimming pools: open, with up to 20 patrons per pool, no lane limits. • Playcentres: open, with up to 20 people per space, and up to 10 people per group if over 18, no group limit if group under 18. • Playgrounds: Open. <p><i>Obligation on businesses outside of metropolitan Melbourne to check identification as part of records requirement and refuse service to those who reside in metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire LGA.</i></p>
Shopping, retail and personal services	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restaurants and cafes: up to 20 patrons per separate space, maximum group of 10. • Pubs, bars, clubs, nightclubs: up to 20 patrons per separate space, maximum group of 10. • Food courts: closed. • Beauty and personal care services: Up to 20 patrons per premises. • Saunas and bathhouses: closed. • Auction houses: allowed for up to 20 people. • Real estate auctions and inspections: allowed for up to 20 people. • Markets and shopping centres: open, subject to density quotient. • Other retail: open, subject to density quotient. <p><i>Obligation on businesses outside of metropolitan Melbourne to check identification as part of records requirement and refuse service to those who reside in metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire LGA.</i></p>

**REGIONAL VICTORIA
FROM 11:59PM WEDNESDAY 8 JULY**

<p>Entertainment</p>	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libraries and community venues: open for up to 20 people per indoor space. • Galleries, museums, zoos: Open, with a maximum of 20 people per space. • Outdoor amusement parks and arcades: open, subject to density quotient only. • Indoor cinemas: open, with a maximum of 20 patrons per cinema. • Drive-in cinemas: open, provided patrons don't sit outside their car . • Concert venues, theatres, auditoriums: open, with a maximum of 20 seated patrons per theatre. Theatres with multiple seating tiers may seat 20 people per tier. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arenas and stadiums: closed, except for professional sport. • Casinos and gaming: closed. • Brothels and sex on premise venues: Closed. • Strip clubs: open, up to 20 customers per space with a group maximum of 10 people. <p><i>Obligation on businesses outside of metropolitan Melbourne to check identification as part of records requirement and refuse service to those who reside in metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire LGA.</i></p>
<p>Ceremonies</p>	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious ceremonies and private worship: up to 20 people per indoor space. • Weddings: up to 20 people, plus the celebrant and the couple. If held in a private residence, the limit of 5 visitors plus the household members applies. • Funerals: up to 50 people, plus those conducting the funeral. If held in a private residence, the limit of 5 visitors plus the household members applies. <p><i>Obligation on businesses outside of metropolitan Melbourne to check identification as part of records requirement and refuse service to those who reside in metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire LGA.</i></p>
<p>Travel</p>	<p>No change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel within Victoria: allowed (other than travel to restricted areas for non-necessary purposes). • Holiday accommodation and camping: open, with a maximum of 20 people per group. • Ski accommodation: Group booking cap of 20 applies. Bedrooms cannot be shared between bookings. If only communal facilities available, then max 20 people allowed at the accommodation. <p><i>Obligation on businesses outside of metropolitan Melbourne to check identification as part of records requirement and refuse service to those who reside in metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire LGA.</i></p>