

## GAMAA 56<sup>th</sup> AGM

The 56<sup>th</sup> GAMAA AGM will be held on Wednesday 26 August 2020 at 2.00pm via Microsoft Teams due to the current COVID restrictions with face to face meetings.

I have sent a Teams Calendar invite to all members but you have not received this invite and would like to attend the electronic meeting please let me know by email : [Jon.onley@aigroup.com.au](mailto:Jon.onley@aigroup.com.au)

### Victoria – COVID Stage 4 - Revised

Ai Group 6 August 2020

The Victorian Chief Health officer has released the **revised** Stage 4 Restrictions for businesses that are effective 11:59pm 5/08/2020

The table has changed from the one released a day or so ago in that it lists only businesses that are Permitted Work Premises. Unless an exception applies, only permitted Work-Places may operate with on-site operations.

The new list only contains a single column of Permitted Work Premises. Any reference to “closed” workplaces has been removed and information about restricted operations or industry specific obligations, such as on construction sites and distribution centres, have not been included.

Unless an exception applies, only Permitted Work Premises are permitted to operate and have employees on-site during the restricted activity period, if it is not reasonably practicable for the employees to work from home. It is not sufficient to be at the workplace only because it is more convenient.

Some sectors that were previously listed as closed or restricted are now included as Permitted Work Premises. It is important to recheck if your sector is allowed to remain open by reviewing the new [list which is available at the DHHS website](#).

Manufacturing sectors that were previously flagged to close or be restricted have been added to the list of Permitted Work Premises, these being:-

- *Manufacturing of metal fabrication products*
- *Manufacturing of food and beverage packaging*
- *Manufacturing of polymer and rubber products*
- *Manufacturing of basic polymers*
- *Manufacturing of other basic chemical products*
- *Manufacturing of primary metal and metal products*

In addition:

- *Manufacturing to support residential building industry has changed to Manufacturing of building supplies to support construction*
- *Medical equipment and PPE including cloth masks has changed to Manufacturing of medical equipment, consumables and personal protective equipment (PPE), including the manufacturing and supply of cloth masks and required raw materials*

The definition of “ancillary businesses” that is a Permitted Work Premise has been clarified to add that “the business cannot operate on-site for any other purpose”.

**A dedicated Industry Coordination Centre has been set up at Business Victoria on 13 22 15 to support businesses and consider ‘grey area’ cases to determine if businesses can safely operate under Stage 4 restrictions. Expect delays**

Members that are allowed to continue to operate as Permitted Work Premises are reminded that:

- They must complete and implement a COVID Safe Plan that is compliant with directions by 11:59 pm on Friday 7 August. A template is available at <https://www.business.vic.gov.au/disputes-disasters-and-succession-planning/covid-safe-business/covid-safe-plan>);
- They must issue all their employees who will be attending a workplace a Worker Permit under the [Permitted Worker Scheme](#);
- If an employee working at a Permitted Work Premises requests, issue an [Onsite Childcare/Kindergarten Permit](#);
- An employee working from home can also apply for a different Childcare Permit in some circumstances;
- The new restrictions clarify that unions are permitted to exercise their rights of entry for WHS purposes.

All the Permits above must be in the prescribed format. Guidance and permit proformas are available at <https://www.business.vic.gov.au/disputes-disasters-and-succession-planning/coronavirus-covid-19/permitted-worker-scheme>



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