



Dear Colleagues,

This afternoon Premier Daniel Andrews announced changes to Melbourne and Regional Victoria's restrictions to help stop the spread of COVID-19. The Minister, Ben Carroll and the Department of Transport also called a tele-conference with all the public transport operators to outline the changes and work through our questions.

At this stage, some of the detail is still to be finalised, however we expect to hear more about what this means for our passengers and our workplaces in the coming days.

Key information for **Melbourne**:

- From 6pm tonight, Sunday 2 August, Victoria will enter a **State of Disaster**. This is in addition to the current State of Emergency and will give the police additional powers to enforce restrictions.
- From 6pm tonight, Melbourne will also move to **Stage 4 restrictions** with new time, distance and gathering limits for exercise and shopping.
- A **curfew** will be put in place from **8pm to 5am** every night, starting tonight. During this time, the only reasons to leave home will be work, medical care and caregiving.
- From **Wednesday 5 August**, all **school year-levels** will return to remote and flexible learning. Onsite learning will still be available for children of permitted workers, although this will be tightened. Specialist schools will remain open.
- From Thursday, those same rules will apply to **kinder and early childhood education** services.
- **Face coverings** continue to be compulsory.
- These changes will be in place for at least the next six weeks until **Sunday 13 September**.

Key information for **Regional Victoria**:

- From 11:59pm on Wednesday, regional Victoria will return to **Stage 3 "Stay at Home" restrictions**.
- **Face coverings** are now compulsory.

What does this mean for Metro Trains?

We can confirm that the Night Network will be suspended, and public transport services will be reduced during curfew hours (8pm – 5am). We are working through exactly what this means and how we can implement these changes quickly.

If you are rostered on to work tonight, please proceed as planned. Your leaders will provide further information as soon as possible in the coming days.

The Department of Transport is also working at pace to provide us with messaging for our passengers. As soon as we have this information, we will ensure this is communicated to you.

The Premier will make a further announcement tomorrow about what this means for workplaces.

More information and support

This continues to be a difficult and unpredictable time for everyone – please take care and look after yourselves.

Please remember that there is support for you.

- Our **Employee Assistance Program** is a free and confidential service available to all employees and immediate families. You can access it by calling 1800 808 374 or texting 0439 449 876. People managers can also access the Manager Support Program on 1800 505 015 for confidential support.
- The [Department of Health and Human Services \(DHHS\) website](#) is your first port of call for accurate and up-to-date information.
- The DHHS Coronavirus hotline – 1800 675 398 – is open 24 hours, 7 days a week.
- [Metro's Coronavirus website](#) has information relevant to our team including health and wellbeing resources.

I'll be in touch as we hear more tomorrow.

Take care,

Raymond

