

Dear Colleagues,

In response to the evolving pandemic situation, the **Acting Premier James Merlino** has just announced significant changes to Victoria's COVID-19 restrictions.

This includes a 7-day circuit-breaker lockdown designed to keep everyone safe.

From 11.59pm tonight (Thursday):

- there will be five reasons to leave home:
 - \circ shopping for food and supplies,
 - \circ authorised work;
 - o exercise; for up to two hours and with one other person;
 - \circ care and caregiving, and;
 - to get a COVID-19 vaccination.
- Public transport remains an essential service and a type of authorised work;
- Exercise and shopping will be limited to five kilometres from home; shopping is also limited to one person per day, per household.
- Face masks will also need to be worn inside and outdoors everywhere except your own home.
- Private and public gatherings will not be permitted;
- Childcare and kinder will remain open, but schools will need to close other than for the children of authorised workers.

The Acting Premier's latest statement, including a table of restrictions, is attached to this message.

Metro continues to be guided by the latest public health advice and strong COVIDSafe measures remain in place across our network and workplaces. I urge you to continue practising good hygiene and safe behaviours, get tested if you have symptoms, and keep across the latest public health information as it comes to hand.

I want to thank all our frontline colleagues, who are keeping our passengers and projects supported through this challenging time.

For colleagues working in offices – if you can work from home, you must work from home. This means our workforce bubble model will be on hold until further notice.

More information and support

Please note that the current public health advice will continue to change as the situation develops. The latest information will be made available at <u>coronavirus.vic.gov.au</u>, including a list of exposure sites.

The Acting Premier reiterated the importance of the vaccine roll-out this morning.

"If you're eligible, get vaccinated. Make your plan today. If someone you love is eligible, make a plan together. Do it for yourself. Your family. Your friends. Your community. Whatever your motivation – please do it.

- Acting Premier James Merlino

Information around booking vaccine appointments, and eligibility under the current roll-out, can be found at <u>coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment</u>

While I understand today's news will naturally cause some anxiety, it's important that we continue to live our Metro values and take care of ourselves and each other. Please stay connected with your one-up leader and remember that additional support is always available.



- 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 leaders can also access the **Manager Support Program** on 1800 505 015 for confidential support.

As **One Team** we will keep Melbourne moving and help our city through this challenge.

Stay safe and take care.

Raymond

