

## **UPDATE: COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND LOCKDOWNS ACROSS AUSTRALIA**

**Current COVID-19 restrictions are in place across Australia, including most major cities. As this situation is developing rapidly, this information is current as of 12:00pm on Wednesday 30 June 2021, however we will endeavour to update members as soon as possible if there are any changes.**

### **NT: Alice Springs to go into 3-day Lockdown**

Alice Springs area is to go into lockdown from 1pm today, Wednesday 30 June. All in the area must stay at home and you are only permitted to leave your home for the following five reasons.

1. Medical treatment including Covid testing or vaccination.
2. For essential goods and services like groceries.
3. For work that is considered essential.
4. For one hour of exercise a day with one other person or the people that you live with, no further than 5km from your home.
5. to provide care and support to a family member or person who cannot support themselves.

For everyone in the lockdown area, masks must be worn if you leave your place of residence.

If you leave your place for one of the five reasons you must wear a mask.

Automotive is considered an essential, critical service and can be permitted to operate as vehicle repair and mechanical services, including roadside assistance. Distribution of automotive products, other than retail stores, are also considered essential at this time. Customers are permitted to access your business as it is an essential service, however businesses are advised there may be constraints on demand.

All other businesses, including retail outlets will be closed. [More information click HERE](#)

### **Update: South Australia Pre-Emptive Restrictions – Masks Now Recommended**

As of 28 June 2021, South Australia has introduced state-wide restrictions due to concerns around the rapid spread of COVID-19. On 30 June, at the increase of cases, the Premier has requested masks in public indoor spaces, and to social distance in the workplace. He has also suggested if you can work from home, you should.

[Please ensure your COVIDSafe plan, or voluntary COVIDSafe plan is up to date.](#)

### **Perth and Peel Areas 4-day Lockdown**

As of 12:01am Tuesday, 29 June a lockdown has been introduced for the Perth metropolitan area and Peel region until 12.01am on Saturday, 3 July 2021.

Masks are mandatory inside and in public outdoor areas. Stay at home orders are in place, so you must work from home, and facilitate employees working from home, as much as reasonably possible.

You are required to stay home unless you need to:

- work because it's not possible to work from home.

- shop for essentials like groceries, medicine and necessary supplies, including click and collect, within 5km from your home or closest practicable location
- attend to medical or health care needs including emergencies, compassionate requirements and looking after the vulnerable;
- exercise with a maximum of two adults from the same household (children under 18 years are not counted), limited to one hour per day within a 5km radius from home, and masks must be worn, except for vigorous exercise.
- receive a COVID-19 vaccine, or
- leave due to an emergency (e.g. emergencies, fleeing domestic violence).

**Automotive service and repair and automotive parts supply is an essential service** and can continue to operate, however retail must move to **click and collect only**. Businesses are advised to social distance and wear masks where reasonably possible. Essential services must still facilitate work from home of their employees if possible, this includes admin staff.

In this time limit public access to shared spaces and enforce hygienic practices and contactless payments and key handovers where possible. Be prepared for cancellations and we recommend you contact all customers booked in during the lockdown to confirm their appointments. You may also get an increase of bookings as people look to service their cars while confined to their immediate areas.

It is mandatory for particular businesses and venues to maintain a contact register by collecting contact details of patrons attending their premises, including customers, staff, contractors and visitors. A list of [businesses can be found HERE](#).

To assist WA has created the SafeWA app, for more information on creating a business account and using the app, [click HERE](#)

### Queensland Three- Day Lockdown

A 3-day lockdown for South East Queensland, Townsville (including Magnetic Island) and Palm Island has been announced, effective 6pm Tuesday 29 June until 6pm Friday 2 July.

The following areas are affected:

- City of Brisbane
- City of Gold Coast
- City of Ipswich
- Lockyer Valley Regional Council
- Logan City
- Moreton Bay Region
- Noosa Shire Council
- Redland City
- Scenic Rim Regional Council
- Somerset Regional Council
- Sunshine Coast Regional Council
- Townsville City
- Palm Island Aboriginal Shire

If you are in an impacted area listed above will need to stay home except for essential purposes. For our AAAA members – this will mean customers and staff are unable to leave home except for essential work.

According to the QLD Government, businesses in the automotive industry are deemed essential by virtue of not being included as a restricted business, activity or undertaking, and can remain open following the usual COVID- safe procedures. All automotive businesses are allowed to remain open, this includes automotive workshops, retail, distribution and manufacturing, however if you are able to work from home, you must. You are also required to facilitate work from home situations for your employees where possible, such as admin or office settings.

If you have bookings for safety related mechanical repair, we recommend that you ensure contract tracing is in place, you are limiting customer contact as much as possible (sign template on AAAA website) and that all customer-facing workers are wearing masks indoors where possible. If you are in an impacted area or have been in an impacted area at any time since 1am AEST 29 June 2021 You must carry a face mask at all times when you leave home, unless you have a lawful reason not to. You must wear a mask in indoor public spaces. Masks do not need to be worn in some in workplaces where it is not safe to do so, or where you can physically distance at all times.

All businesses must use a COVID Safe Checklist, in replacement of a COVID Safe Industry Plan. You can [view it HERE](#).

The use of the Check In Qld app will be mandatory for a large number of new businesses to collect contact information from 8 July. [Click here for more information](#).

## Darwin Lockdown

The COVID-19 lockdown across the Greater Darwin Area has been extended until 1pm on Friday 2 July 2021. This includes the Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield Council areas, and Wagait and Belyuen Shires.

Automotive is considered an essential, critical service and can be permitted to operate as vehicle repair and mechanical services, including roadside assistance. Distribution of automotive products, other than retail stores, are also considered essential at this time. Customers are permitted to access your business as it is an essential service, however businesses are advised there may be constraints on demand.

All other businesses, including retail outlets will be closed.

People are only permitted to leave home for the following five reasons:

1. To receive health care or attend medical appointments. Including to get the COVID-19 vaccine
2. To undertake shopping and get necessary goods and services. Supermarkets will stay open, so there is no need to stock up on groceries.
3. To exercise for up to one hour a day within 5km of your home and only with members of your household or one other person.
4. To undertake essential work. If you can work from home – you must work from home.
5. In case of an emergency or if there is family violence or to provide essential care to a loved one or dependent.

For everyone in the lockdown area, masks must be worn if you leave your place of residence. [More information click HERE](#).



## NSW Lockdown Information

From 6pm on Saturday 26 June 2021, Stay-at-home orders apply to Greater Sydney including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour until **11.59pm on Friday, 9 July 2021**.

Automotive is considered an essential service, including retail at this time, therefore all automotive businesses are permitted to continue operating, and customers are allowed to access the services of automotive businesses as well. Employers must allow an employee to work from home if it is reasonably practicable to do so. If you cannot work from home and you go to your workplace, you must wear a face mask, even if you can social distance, unless exempt. You must wear a face mask at indoor non-residential premises in NSW, at all times.

### [APPLY NOW: Small business fees and charges rebate](#)

If you are a sole trader, the owner of a small business or a not-for-profit organisation in NSW, you may be eligible for a small business fees and charges rebate of \$1500. This rebate helps businesses recover from the impacts of COVID-19 and encourages growth by reducing the cost of running a business. Eligible businesses or not-for-profits only need to apply for the rebate once, but can submit multiple claims until the full value of \$1500 is reached. [CLICK HERE](#) or more information.

### [Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment](#)

The Australian Government's Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment is a lump sum payment to help you during the 14 days you need to self-isolate, quarantine or care for someone. If you need longer-term help, you may be eligible for other payments.

The Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment is for people living in NSW who cannot earn an income because they must self-isolate, quarantine or care for someone who has COVID-19.

[More information can be found here.](#)

### [COVID-19 Disaster Payment](#)

The COVID-19 Disaster Payment will be available on 1 July 2021 for eligible people in a Commonwealth-declared COVID-19 hotspot in Sydney.

*More information will be available soon.*

## Reminder: Victoria Restrictions are Still in Place

The stay-at-home directive across Victoria is no longer in place. As from Thursday, 24 June 2021, however masks are still required indoors, except at your home or if a lawful exception applies.

Workplaces, like offices, can increase to 75% capacity or 30 people, whichever is greater.

Automotive may continue to operate as per usual with the above in mind and you must continue to stay COVIDSafe in the workplace.

There are a range of templates and posters, including door signs for businesses closed to public access during lockdown, on our website behind the member portal.

Please contact us at AAAA if you have any questions, or email [advocacy@aaaa.com.au](mailto:advocacy@aaaa.com.au)