

30 June 2022

# Guidelines for COVID-19 safe events

Contains legal requirements to manage  
COVID-19 safety at large events and music events

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## PART A Issuing statement and version notes

### Issuing statement

I, Dr Mark Veitch, being and as the Director of Public Health, acting pursuant to section 184 of the *Public Health Act 1997*, hereby:

- (1) issue these Guidelines, being the *Guidelines for COVID-19 Safe Events* and
- (2) determine that these Guidelines come into effect on and from 1 July 2022.

Dated this 30 June 2022



**Dr Mark Veitch**  
Director of Public Health

### Version notes

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 30 June 2022 | First version of the Guidelines.                           |
|              | This Guideline replaces <i>Management of events No 1</i> . |

## PART B Introduction

### Content of guidelines

These Guidelines set out when and how the risk of transmission of COVID-19 at large events and music events must be managed.

### Legal framework

The Director of Public Health has issued a public notice under section 40 of the *Public Health Act 1997* (the Act) declaring that COVID-19 is a notifiable disease.

Guidelines are issued under section 184 of the Act and they contain legal requirements. The Director may issue guidelines relating to any matter under the Act.

Not complying with guidelines is an offence under section 184 of the Act and penalties may apply.

## PART C Definitions

A word or phrase appearing in *italics* in these Guidelines has the meaning given to it in the table below. A word or phrase used in these Guidelines and defined in the Act has the meaning given to it in the Act.

Word or phrase	Definition
<i>Act</i>	<i>Public Health Act 1997</i>
<i>COVID-19</i>	means the coronavirus disease formerly identified as “2019 novel coronavirus”, an acute respiratory illness in humans caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2
<i>Director of Public Health</i>	means the Director of Public Health appointed under the <i>Public Health Act 1997</i>
<i>event</i>	means a planned gathering of persons at a premises to which a <i>large event</i> or a <i>music event</i> in this Guideline applies
<i>Event COVID-19 safety plan</i>	means a safety plan, for an event, that is in the form approved by the Director of Public Health
<i>large event</i>	means an event where there are 5 001 or more <i>participants</i> at the event, or expected at the event, at any one time
<i>music event</i>	means an event where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) 2 001 or more <i>participants</i> are at the event, or expected at the event, at any one time; and</li> <li>(B) <i>participants</i> are primarily attending the event to – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(I) listen to one or more musical performers, or musical ensembles, at the event; or</li> <li>(II) dance to music, whether live or pre-recorded, played at the event; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>(C) the listening to music performed, or the dancing by <i>participants</i>, at the event is the primary focus of the event; and</li> <li>(D) <i>participants</i> at the event are not required, or expected, to be seated for the majority of the event; and</li> </ul>

	(E) the event is held over a period of at least 4 continuous hours
<i>organiser</i>	in relation to an event, organiser means the person named in the Event COVID-19 safety plan as being responsible for the event and any penalties that may apply for failing to comply with this Guideline
<i>participant</i>	<p>participant means a person attending an event who is not one of the following persons:</p> <p>(A) a person who is employed or engaged to work at the event and is at the event as part of his or her employment or engagement;</p> <p>(B) a person who is employed or engaged by the person who operates the premises where the event occurs, and is at the event as part of his or her employment or engagement;</p> <p>(C) a person providing a service, or to assist a person providing a service, for the purpose of the event, including persons performing or assisting in the provision of religious services or funeral services.</p>

## PART D      Application of Guidelines – large events and music events

### When to manage COVID-19 safety at events in accordance with this Guideline

- (1) The threat to public health posed by COVID-19 must be managed in accordance with this guideline at the following events:
  - (a) a *large event*; and
  - (b) a *music event*.

### How to manage COVID-19 safety at events

- (2) Before a *large event* or a *music event* occurs, the *organiser* of the event must:
  - (a) develop and implement an *Event COVID-19 safety plan* for the event; and
  - (b) provide the information required in the *Event COVID-19 safety plan* including:
    - (i) *event details*;
    - (ii) the name and contact details of the *organiser*;
    - (iii) the name and contact details of a responsible person during the event if different to the *organiser*;
    - (iv) a site map;
    - (v) venue details;
    - (vi) expected *participant* numbers;
    - (vii) expected numbers, roles and training of workers, staff, volunteers, performers and contractors;
    - (viii) physical and digital forms of communication;
    - (ix) *participant* management to reduce overcrowding and points of congregation;
    - (x) cleaning and hygiene;
    - (xi) managing COVID-19 in the event of an outbreak at the event;
    - (xii) any other matter the Director considers relevant; and
  - (c) submit the *Event COVID-19 safety plan* by email in respect of the event for approval no less than 30 business days before the event start date; and
  - (d) obtain approval of the *Event COVID-19 safety plan* from the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, for the event.

- (3) The organiser of an event must present the *Event COVID-19 safety plan* for the event if requested to do so by a police officer, an authorised officer under the Act or an inspector under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012*;
- (4) The Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, may:
  - (a) approve an event if requested to do so by the person organising the event; and
  - (b) impose such conditions on the event, if any, that the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, considers appropriate to manage a threat, or likely threat, to public health at the event; and
  - (c) if appropriate to manage a threat, or likely threat, to public health,
    - (i) refuse to approve an event under paragraph (4)(a); or
    - (ii) rescind an approval given under paragraph (4)(a); or
    - (iii) impose, vary or revoke a condition, under paragraph (4)(b), in respect of an event

## Compliance with the Guidelines

- (5) In accordance with s184(5) of the Act any Agency, public authority or person must comply with the Guidelines.
- (6) Prescribed offences and penalties apply for failing to comply with a Guideline:
  - (a) Penalty Infringement Notice – 1 penalty unit
  - (b) Penalty, Fine not exceeding – 50 penalty units.



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