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|  | COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) |

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|  | | Wednesday 27 January 2021 |
| Please find below a selection of recent legislation changes relating to COVID-19 and communications for workplaces from key safety and environmental regulators in Australia and New Zealand.  This update is intended to be provided on a weekly basis.  *Please note:* The legislation in this update was current at time of release. Legislation around COVID-19 is being frequently updated and revoked. The URLs provided may no longer be maintained by the relevant legislation website, after the release date. | | |
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|  | Legislation changes | |
| Commonwealth  * [Biosecurity (Human Biosecurity Emergency) (Human Coronavirus with Pandemic Potential) (Emergency Requirements - Incoming International Flights) Determination 2021](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00061) - implements additional public health measures regarding face masks, COVID-19 testing and close contacts, and applies to international flights commencing outside Australia from 22 January 2021. * [Biosecurity (Human Coronavirus with Pandemic Potential) (Preventative Biosecurity Measures - Incoming International Flights) Determination 2021](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00062) - implements additional public health measures regarding face masks, COVID-19 tests and close contacts, and applies to international flights commencing outside Australia from 22 January 2021. * [Child Care Subsidy Amendment (Coronavirus Response Measures No. 1) Minister’s Rules 2021](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00055) - amends the *Child Care Subsidy Minister’s Rules 2017* to ensure that payments made by Victoria to kindergarten providers do not reduce the hourly rate of Child Care Subsidy that individuals are entitled to.  ACT  * [Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Hotspots) Emergency Direction 2021 (No. 8)](https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2021-40/current/PDF/2021-40.PDF) - replacesthe *Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Hotspots) Emergency Direction 2021 (No. 7)* and gives directions regarding travel from interstate hotspots into the ACT to alleviate the emergency as declared in the *Public Health (Emergency) Declaration 2020*. * [Public Health (Mandatory Face Masks - Canberra Airport and Domestic Flights) Emergency Direction 2021](https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2021-38/current/PDF/2021-38.PDF) - requires persons to wear a face mask at Canberra airport, and while on a domestic commercial aircraft into and out of Canberra airport, at all times unless an exemption applies. * [Taxation Administration (Payroll Tax - Businesses Not Permitted to Operate) COVID-19 Exemption Scheme Determination 2021](https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/View/di/2021-10/current/PDF/2021-10.PDF) - follows on from the operation of the *Taxation Administration (Payroll Tax - Businesses Not Permitted to Operate) COVID-19 Exemption Scheme Determination 2020* to provide payroll tax exemption to eligible employers until 30 June 2021. * [Taxation Administration (Payroll Tax) COVID-19 Exemption Scheme Determination 2021](https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/View/di/2021-11/current/PDF/2021-11.PDF) - extends the operation of the *Taxation Administration (Payroll Tax) COVID-19 Exemption Scheme Determination 2020* until 30 June 2021.  SA[COVID-19 Emergency Response Modification of Public Finance and Audit Act 1987 Expiry Notice 2021](https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/public/documents/gazette/2021/January/2021_004.pdf#page=10) - notifies the expiry of Clause 4 of Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020*.  * [COVID-19 Emergency Response Provisions Applying to Commercial Leases - Regulations Expiry Notice 2021](https://governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/sites/default/files/public/documents/gazette/2021/January/2021_004.pdf#page=10) - notifies the expiry of Section 7 of Part 2 of the *COVID-19* *Emergency Response Act 2020.*  [Emergency Management (Cross Border Travel No 30) (COVID-19) Direction 2021](https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/347499/Emergency-Management-Cross-Border-Travel-No-30-Direction-2021.pdf) - replaces the *Emergency Management (Cross Border Travel No 29) Direction 2021*, prohibits certain persons from entering South Australia, and directs certain persons to quarantine, submit to COVID-19 testing and wear face masks.[Emergency Management (Public Activities No 18) (COVID-19) Direction 2021](https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/documents/emergency-directions-covid-19/Emergency-Management-Public-Activities-No-18-Direction-2021.pdf) - imposes principles and rules relating to certain activities involving members of the public, and management of places in which these activities occur, to minimise the spread of COVID-19.[Emergency Management (Residential Aged Care Facilities No 23) (COVID-19) Direction 2021](https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/347501/Emergency-Management-Residential-Aged-Care-Facilities-No-23-Direction-2021.pdf) - prohibits the entry of persons into residential aged care facilities except in certain circumstances, and requires such facilities to adopt a Workforce Management Plan and COVID-19 Infection Control Plan, among other things.TAS[Direction Under Section 16 - Arrival Requirements for Certain Travellers into Tasmania No. 4](http://www.gazette.tas.gov.au/editions/2021/january_2021/22055_-_Gazette_20_January_2021.pdf#page=7) - requires certain travellers arriving in Tasmania to undergo clinical assessments and testing to manage the threat of COVID-19.  * [Direction Under Section 16 - Isolation No. 4](http://www.gazette.tas.gov.au/editions/2021/january_2021/22055_-_Gazette_20_January_2021.pdf#page=8) - requires persons diagnosed with COVID-19 to isolate according to the Direction. * [Direction Under Section 16 - Quarantine No. 2](http://www.gazette.tas.gov.au/editions/2021/january_2021/22055_-_Gazette_20_January_2021.pdf#page=9) - requires certain identified contacts and close contacts to be tested and to quarantine according to the Direction.  VIC  * [Stay Safe Directions (Victoria) (No 11)](https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/stay-safe-directions-victoria-no-11-22-january-2021-covid-19-pdf) - replaces the *Stay Safe Directions (Victoria) (No 10),* clarifies the requirement to wear coverings when visiting hospitals and increases the daily private social gathering limit from 15 to 30 persons - came into force at 11.59 pm on 22 January 2021. * [Victorian Border Crossing Permit Directions (No. 4)](https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/202101/Victorian%20Border%20Crossing%20Permit%20Directions%20%28No%204%29%20-%2022%20January%202021%20signed.pdf) - replaces the *Victorian Border Crossing Directions No. 3* and makes minor changes to current border crossing restrictions - came into force at 11:59 pm on 22 January 2021.  WA[Public Health (Notifiable Infectious Disease) Order (No. 3) 2020](https://www.slp.wa.gov.au/gazette/gazette.nsf/searchgazette/46CD9B3E557116E448258663007F5F6C/$file/Gg017.pdf#page=6) - declares COVID-19 to be a notifiable infectious disease and an urgently notifiable infectious disease under Section 90(2) of the *Public Health Act 2016*.NZ  * [COVID-19 Public Health Response (Air Border) Order (No 2) 2020 - Designation of Specified Places](https://gazette.govt.nz/assets/pdf-cache/2021/2021-go205.pdf?2021-01-22_15%3A14%3A27=) - replaces the *Designation of Specified Places - COVID-19 Public Health Response (Air Border) Order (No 2) 2020* and designates a list of countries or regions as specified places under Clause 4 of the *COVID-19 Public Health Response (Air Border) Order (No 2) 2020*. * [Exemption of Persons from Clause 8(2B) of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Air Border) Order (No 2) 2020](https://gazette.govt.nz/assets/pdf-cache/2021/2021-go222.pdf?2021-01-26_10%3A13%3A02=) - exempts certain classes of persons returning to New Zealand, who have met specified criteria, from Clause 8(2B) of the *COVID-19 Public Health Response (Air Border) Order (No 2) 2020*. | | |
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|  | From the regulators | |
| AustraliaComcare: [Transitioning to the Usual Workplace as COVID-19 Restrictions Ease](https://www.comcare.gov.au/about/news-events/news/transitioning-to-the-usual-workplace-as-covid-19-restrictions-ease)  * Department of Health: [Mobilising Australia’s COVID-19 Vaccine Workforce](https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/mobilising-australias-covid-19-vaccine-workforce) * Therapeutic Goods Administration:   + [COVID-19 Vaccine: Provisional Registrations](https://www.tga.gov.au/covid-19-vaccine-provisional-registrations)   + [ICMRA Statement for Healthcare Professionals: How COVID-19 Vaccines Will Be Regulated for Safety and Effectiveness](https://www.tga.gov.au/icmra-statement-healthcare-professionals-how-covid-19-vaccines-will-be-regulated-safety-and-effectiveness)   + [TGA Grants Additional Provisional Determination for a COVID-19 Vaccine](https://www.tga.gov.au/tga-grants-additional-provisional-determination-covid-19-vaccine)   + [TGA Provisionally Approves Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine](https://www.tga.gov.au/media-release/tga-provisionally-approves-pfizer-covid-19-vaccine)  ACTACT Government:[Commercial Tenancies Relief Supports Hundreds of Businesses Impacted by COVID-19](https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/open_government/inform/act_government_media_releases/rattenbury/2021/commercial-tenancies-relief-supports-hundreds-of-businesses-impacted-by-covid-19)  * + [More Support for Canberra’s Tourism Industry](https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/open_government/inform/act_government_media_releases/barr/2021/more-support-for-canberras-tourism-industry)  QLDBusiness Queensland: [Greater Brisbane Restrictions Eased](https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/covid-19-restrictions/current)The Queensland Cabinet and Ministerial Directory: [Greater Brisbane Restrictions Set to Ease](https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/91322)TAS  * King Island Council: [No Government Quarantine Facilities on King Island](https://kingisland.tas.gov.au/no-government-quarantine-facilities-on-king-island/)  VICVictorian Government: [More Victorians in the Home and Fewer Red Zones](https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/more-victorians-home-and-fewer-red-zones)WAWestern Australian Government:[COVID-19 Coronavirus: Controlled Interstate Border - Updated 22 January 2021](https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/covid-communications/covid-19-coronavirus-controlled-interstate-border)[NSW and Queensland Move to ‘Low Risk’](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/announcements/nsw-and-queensland-move-low-risk)NZMinistry of Health: [Update on UK and SA Variants in Managed Isolation](https://www.health.govt.nz/news-media/news-items/update-uk-and-sa-variants-managed-isolation)New Zealand Government:[COVID-19 Vaccine Slated for Possible Approval Next Week](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/covid-19-vaccine-slated-possible-approval-next-week)[Pre-departure Testing Extended to All Passengers to New Zealand](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/pre-departure-testing-extended-all-passengers-new-zealand)[Voluntary Saliva Testing Offered to Quarantine Workers from Monday](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/voluntary-saliva-testing-offered-quarantine-workers-monday)Other  * World Health Organisation: [Statement to the 148th Executive Board by the Chair of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response](https://www.who.int/news/item/19-01-2021-statement-to-the-148th-executive-board-by-the-chair-of-the-review-committee-on-the-functioning-of-the-international-health-regulations-(2005)-during-the-covid-19-response) | | |
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| That completes this edition of the COVID-19 update. The next update will be released on Wednesday 3 February 2021. | | |
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