

Victorian Building and Construction Industry Coronavirus (COVID-19) Agreed Guidelines (Revision 14) Explanatory Note - 1 September 2021

Revision 14 of the Building and Construction Industry COVID-19 Guidelines are issued as of today's date and take effect immediately. Consistent with current Department of Health Directions, the following are the major updates:

- 1. Emphasis on Vigilance and Compliance – transmissibility of Delta**
Many people may not experience the common symptoms of the new Delta variant of Coronavirus (they are asymptomatic) so this makes it even more important to be vigilant in complying with these Guidelines and Government directions, for example wearing face masks, observing hygiene and physical distancing.
(Section 2.2)
- 2. Screening Workers Coming to Site**
Stressing the importance of screening workers before they arrive on site, we note the importance of keeping screening and movement records for verification by Dept Health if required, in addition to the QR Code service.
(Clause 3.2)
- 3. Temperature Testing**
Large scale construction sites are now required to have a program of temperature testing of workers entering sites.
(Section 3.2.4)
- 4. Face Masks**
Just keep them on!
Indoors, Outdoors and when travelling to work on Public Transport.
(Section 3.11)
- 5. COVID Marshals**
It is now mandatory for COVID Marshals on Large Scale Construction projects/sites.
(Section 3.14)
- 6. Minimise leaving site once at work**
As an additional precautionary measure, workers are requested to minimize leaving site during working hours for any reason. This includes leaving site to purchase meals for smoko or lunch breaks – workers are encouraged to bring meals to work or if not possible, sending a limited number of persons off site.
No Car Pooling, save for travelling with apprentices.
(Sections 3.15)
- 7. Asymptomatic Testing**
Government agencies and/or Industry parties may introduce voluntary asymptomatic COVID-19 testing programs on an industry or site basis. Consequent upon the new and more transmissible Delta variant, workers are encouraged to participate in these programs.
(Section 4.3.1)