



TED O'BRIEN MP

Federal Member for Fairfax

Q&A on Support for Businesses

Here are some of the questions my office is being asked on the latest announcements.

Is the new COVIDsafe mobile app worth downloading?

Yes. The Federal Government launched the app yesterday. The more people who download it, the safer the community will be and the stronger the case to start lifting restrictions. For more details read [here](#).

Is it true that restrictions are being lifted?

Only partially. The Queensland Premier announced yesterday that from midnight Friday 1 May, people will be able to leave their homes for recreation (including going for a drive, riding a motorbike, jetski or boat, visiting a national park or having a picnic) and for non-essential shopping. All other restrictions remain in place.

What are the National COVID-19 safe workplace principles?

The National Cabinet has agreed to 10 "COVID-19 safer workplace principles" which can be summarised as:

1. All workers have the right to a healthy and safe working environment
2. The COVID-19 pandemic requires a uniquely focused approach to work health and safety (WHS)
3. Risk assessments must be carried out and control measures must be implemented
4. Social distancing and hygiene measures must be adhered to
5. WHS practices must align to the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee's advice
6. Workplaces must be ready to respond immediately, appropriately, effectively and efficiently to COVID-19 cases.
7. A consistent national approach is required.
8. Safe Work Australia (SWA) will provide a central hub of WHS guidance and tools.
9. The hub will be used by states and territories to help them fulfil their statutory WHS function.
10. The National COVID-19 Coordination Commission will work with SWA, jurisdictions and authorities

More information on National COVID-19 safe work principles is available [here](#).

What's the latest update regarding the rules for JobKeeper payments?

The Treasurer has announced further clarification on eligibility rules, including:

- An alternative test for 'decline in turnover' for special purpose entities where staff are not employed by the operating entity
- A 'one-in, all in' principle – i.e. all eligible employees must be included in the scheme
- Charities (other than schools & universities) permitted to exclude government revenue from turnover tests
- Full time 16-17 years old students rule – i.e. not eligible if financially dependent

Further information is available [here](#).

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