

# A Framework for COVID-19 Safe Events and Activities in Tasmania

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December 2020

Version 2.0

## Introduction

The Tasmanian Government has implemented a range of strategies to prevent the importation and spread of COVID-19 in the community.

While protecting the community, these restrictions have had a significant impact on a number of key sectors particularly the events sector.

Events often involve gatherings in large numbers, with a high density and free mixing of people, and are considered high risk activities in the context of COVID-19 if a positive case is at the event.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to supporting event organisers while ensuring the safety of the community.

This Framework was developed by the Tasmanian Government (State Control Centre, Communities, Sport and Recreation, Arts Tasmania, Events Tasmania, WorkSafe Tasmania and Public Health Services) in consultation with the sport, arts and events and tourism sectors.

## Restrictions

As a community, we are all learning how to live with COVID-19 for the foreseeable future. The threat from this virus will remain until a vaccine becomes available. This means that whilst we have been able to return to doing some things as normal there are behaviours and some restrictions that we will need to maintain over the medium to long term.

Large events with free movement of people present a high risk, due to the potential consequences if a person with COVID-19 is in attendance. The large numbers of people in attendance, crowding and queuing, proximity of people, mixing of diverse groups and activities undertaken such as dancing and singing also contribute to the risk profile of large events.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the viability of large events proceeding has been restricted by gathering limits, stay at home directions and other activity specific restrictions within premises.

Such restrictions are likely to remain in place for some time, depending on the risk COVID-19 presents. It is important that we develop a set of expectations so the event sector can plan for future events, and implement innovative solutions to mitigate COVID-19 risk, for events in the medium term to long term.

As at 1 December 2020 the Tasmanian Public Health Directions on gatherings restrict numbers of people to 250 indoors and 1000 outdoors, with a minimum of 2 square metres required per person, this includes staff, volunteers, players and performers. Events which are within these restrictions are not subject under this Framework, but organisers should note that other limitations may be imposed by Public Health Directions.

- From 21 December 2020, indoor cinemas and theatres may host up to 75% of seated patron capacity, unrestricted by the density requirements, up to a maximum of 250 persons, without application or approval.
- From 1 January 2021, the Government has announced that outdoor seated sporting venues can host up to 75% of seated patron capacity, subject to the limits and requirements of this Framework and outlined below. This is subject to the issue of a Public Health Direction.
- From 1 February 2020, the Government has announced that indoor cinemas and theatres seeking to seat more than 250 persons, can do so with approval, up to a maximum of 75% of seated capacity. This may mean that events held at those venues will become Level Two

events for the purposes of this Framework. This is subject to the issue of a Public Health Direction

These restrictions are reviewed regularly to ensure they are proportionate to the risk posed by COVID-19 and effective in mitigating those risks.

Directions under the *Public Health Act 1997* have been made to implement this Framework.

## Tasmania's events

Tasmania features a range of cultural festivals, markets, performances and world-class or community sporting events as part of its annual calendar, which deliver significant economic and cultural benefits to the State. Events contribute to the State's sense of community and promote visitation into the regions.

Although there is not a simple definition of what an event is, this Framework is not intended to apply to private gatherings including for example, weddings and birthday parties. It is also not intended that the Framework will apply to organised gatherings, for example regular club meetings. However, under the Framework faith-based organisations and theatres for example can apply for approval to have increased patron numbers than are permitted under the current Directions.

Events also support the Tasmanian brand and tourism industry, and prior to the impacts of COVID-19, people travelling from interstate and overseas to attend events and festivals in Tasmania made a significant contribution to Tasmania's economy.

Tasmania hosts a range of events of varying size and focus, which are held across the seasons and based in all regions of Tasmania. Large multi-day events include Festivale, V8 Supercars, Agfest, Dark Mofo, Australian Wooden Boat Festival, Sydney-Hobart Yacht Race Village, Festival of Voices, Cygnet Folk Festival, 10 Days on the Island, the Unconformity and performance seasons. Single day events include AFL and cricket matches, other local, regional and State sporting competitions and events, concerts, performances and commemorative days including Anzac Day. A range of markets are held regularly including Salamanca Market, Bream Creek Market, Harvest Market Launceston, and food markets including Franko Street Eats, and the Hobart Twilight Market.

Prior to COVID-19, Tasmania's aim to build a strong events sector and to become the boutique events capital of Australia supported the Tasmanian Government's goal of attracting 1.5 million visitors to the State annually.

## Purpose of this Framework for COVID-19 Safe Events in Tasmania

The purpose of this Framework is to outline the thresholds, principles and requirements to assist event organisers to identify and manage the risk of COVID-19 for a range of event and activity types in a diverse range of settings.

To ensure compliance with the measures, event organisers will need to develop innovative ways of delivering COVID-19 safe events. This means that events will be delivered in a different way than they were prior to the impacts of COVID-19.

### Objectives

The key objectives of this Framework are to:

- Outline the public health considerations and requirements for planning events;
- Support event organisers to plan and hold COVID-19 safe events;

- Enable the community to safely engage in COVID-19 safe events; and
- Support the social and economic recovery of the community by supporting Tasmania's vibrant and unique events.

The Framework is consistent with World Health Organization, Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, and Public Health Services advice, noting this advice can change and is regularly reviewed. The Framework applies to public events and activities.

## Assessing the Public Health Risk

In determining the types of events and activities that can occur safely in Tasmania, Public Health Services is constantly reviewing the presence of COVID-19, locally, nationally and internationally and are guided by a range of factors including:

- Local case numbers and levels of community transmission;
- Risk of disease importation from domestic or international locations;
- The type of public health measures currently in place in Tasmania, and nationally, and level of compliance with measures;
- The capacity of the Tasmanian health system to detect and manage COVID-19 cases;
- The capacity of public health authorities to contact trace close contacts; and
- Evaluation of risk factors associated with the event such as: venue, crowd density, mixing, activities undertaken and duration.

The Director of Public Health will issue Directions under the *Public Health Act 1997* to manage the mixing and movement of people at events. Key public health thresholds will include:

- Gathering limits;
- Density limits;
- Seated capacity limits;
- Collection and retention for 28 days of patrons' contact details to support contact tracing;
- Free moving event capacity limits; and
- Management of events across multiple sites.

## Guiding principles and considerations for event organisers

There are a number of public health principles and considerations that will be relevant in planning, managing and delivering an event.

- **Ability to maintain physical distancing between patrons:** Physical distancing (1.5 metres) reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19. The key considerations are the number limits (as specified at each level), the density limit (two square metres of space per person) and the 50 per cent of seated capacity limit. The requirement to maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres applies where practicable, and it is acknowledged that it will not be practicable to implement physical distancing in some settings, for example in seated stadiums.
- **Gathering sizes and density limits:** Understand, manage and anticipate your crowd size (including staff, volunteers, contractors, spectators and participants). For free moving events, maximum capacity including density limits will need to be managed, for the duration of the event.
- **Nature and duration of event:** The longer individuals are in contact, and the closer the contact is, the greater the risk of COVID-19 transmission. For example seated events are

lower risk than free moving events, because these events involve less mixing of people. This is reflected through the difference in the number of people permitted for seated events versus free moving events, at each of the levels.

- **Event venue:** Outdoor venues are lower risk for transmission of COVID-19 than indoor venues, provided physical distancing and hygiene measures are observed. This is reflected through the difference in the number of people permitted for indoor versus outdoor events at each level.
- **Ability to trace patrons:** As a condition of entry, all events must record contact details for attendees to ensure they can be contacted if a person who attended the event later tests positive for COVID-19. If the event is not ticketed/booked, then event organisers will need to implement an alternative mechanism to record the contact details of patrons in attendance. Contact details must be retained and accessible for 28 days.
- **Other considerations:** may include management and access to alcohol and the health and age of patrons attending the event, noting that existing management strategies will exist for these risks in an event context.

The initial decision by event organisers to proceed with, restrict, modify, postpone, or cancel an event should be based on compliance with current COVID-19 related Directions under the *Public Health Act 1997* and the outcome of a detailed risk assessment.

## Key requirements for events

When planning for events, organisers and venue managers should:

- Ensure compliance with Public Health Directions;
- Develop an appropriate Events COVID-19 Safety Plan including risk assessment for the event to address all identified risks regardless of the event size or type;
- Put all required standard public health measures in place:
  - Messaging that people must stay at home and not attend the venue or event if sick, and should get tested;
  - Messaging to reinforce physical distancing at the event;
  - Hygiene requirements (hand washing facilities and guidance, and advice on cough hygiene and respiratory etiquette);
  - Regular venue cleaning and disinfecting;
  - Density limits;
  - Restrictions on crowd numbers;
  - Management of queues; and
  - Maintaining a list of contact details for every person, or group of people, that attend (or each booking).
- Put any additional measures in place, if required by Public Health Services.
- Plan for how they will modify or cancel the event, if required due to COVID-19 risk changes.
- All events are required to prepare an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan, using the WorkSafe Tasmania template. For Level Two events, the organiser must submit the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan to Business Tasmania which will coordinate assessment by either the Department of Communities or Department of State Growth, as relevant. For Level Three events, the organiser must submit the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan event to Business Tasmania which will coordinate approval through Public Health Services.

Where an event organiser is holding a series of events over a season, with similar characteristics, for example a season of theatre shows or a number of Surf Life Saving events, one Events COVID-19 Safety Plan may be submitted to seek assessment for the series of events. Event organisers should include details on the number of separate events to be held during the season in the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan.

### *Other requirements*

Event organisers will also be required to obtain any permits, licences, and approvals ordinarily required in order to conduct their event, which should be undertaken concurrently with submission of their event for assessment or approval. While multi-day events can occur, events organisers should note that events where patrons stay on site increase the risk of transmission and must address this risk and appropriate mitigation strategies. An example of very high risk events would be an event is where patrons camp overnight at a multi-day concert, and organisers should not expect an event of that type would be approved under this Framework.

However this Framework is a living document, and will be reviewed over time as the Directions that establish the requirements for mass gatherings and events are updated to reflect the changing COVID-19 situation in Tasmania. Changes to Directions may therefore impose more stringent measures, or ease restrictions, as relevant in the circumstances.

Event organisers must be aware that the Director of Public Health may effect changes to the Public Health Directions at any time, to reflect the current COVID-19 risk profile. Throughout the planning process and in the lead up to the event, organisers should be mindful of any potential changes to Directions which may require them to modify, postpone or cancel the event. Event organisers can keep up to date by regularly visiting the Tasmanian Government Coronavirus website at <https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/>.

## Our Approach to conducting COVID-19 Safe events in Tasmania

The table below summarises the key elements of the Framework for COVID-19 Safe Events and Activities in Tasmania. It includes public health thresholds, principles and considerations to inform decision making. The Framework outlines key requirements depending on the event type and size and provides a range of supporting tools to assist event organisers to conduct COVID-19 safe events.

Table I. Summary - Framework for COVID-19 Safe Events and Activities in Tasmania.

<b>FRAMEWORK FOR COVID-19 SAFE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN TASMANIA</b>			
<b>PURPOSE:</b> to outline the thresholds, principles and requirements to assist event organisers to identify and manage the risk of COVID-19 for a range of event and activity types in a diverse range of settings.			
<b>APPLIES TO:</b> all public events and activities.			
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH THRESHOLDS:</b> Directions under the <i>Public Health Act 1997</i> implement:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gathering limits;</li> <li>• Density limits;</li> <li>• Seated capacity limits;</li> <li>• Free moving event capacity limits; and</li> <li>• Management of events across multiple premises.</li> </ul>			
<b>PRINCIPLES &amp; CONSIDERATIONS:</b>		<b>KEY REQUIREMENTS:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical distancing;</li> <li>• Gathering sizes and density limits;</li> <li>• Nature and event duration;</li> <li>• Venue type;</li> <li>• Contact details for patrons; and</li> <li>• Others as required.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events COVID-19 Safety Plan for events including risk assessment;</li> <li>• Public Health required standards;</li> <li>• Contingency plans; and</li> <li>• Assessment and approvals for Level 2 and 3 events.</li> </ul>	
<b>SUPPORTING TOOLS:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WorkSafe Events COVID-19 Safety Plan template;</li> <li>• Events Tasmania <i>Guidance on managing events and activities in a COVID-19 environment</i>;</li> <li>• State Growth guidance on <i>Supporting the Cultural and Creative sectors through COVID-19</i>; and</li> <li>• Public Health Directions.</li> </ul>			
<b>CAPACITY LIMITS</b> – all subject to density limits of 2 square metres of space per person			
Level One	<i>Free moving and mixing:</i> Not applicable (see the existing gathering limits of 250 people indoors and 1,000 people outdoors).	<i>Seated:</i> Indoor: max. 500 people Outdoor: max. 2,000 people	<i>Combination:</i> Event with multiple separate areas or sites, max. of 2,000 people.
Level Two	<i>Free moving and mixing:</i> Indoor: max. 500 people Outdoor: max. 2,000 people	<i>Seated:</i> Indoor: max. 1,000 people Outdoor: max. 5,000 people	<i>Combination:</i> Event with multiple separate areas or sites, max. of 5,000 people.

Level Three	<p><i>Free moving and mixing:</i> Indoor: max. 1,000 people Outdoor: max. 5,000 people</p>	<p><i>Seated:</i> Indoor: max. 2,000 people Outdoor: max. 10,000 people</p>	<p><i>Combination:</i> Event with multiple separate areas or sites, max. of 10,000 people.</p>
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## Event types, characteristics and conditions

### Level One Events

Required to complete an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan and implement the required public health measures.

<p><b>Description</b></p> <p><i>All limits are maximum permitted at this level and, except where indicated, subject to density limits.</i></p> <p><i>For free moving events, the maximum capacity applies at a point in time, meaning that patrons can come and go at different times throughout the event.</i></p>	<p>1. <i>Free moving and mixing events:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not applicable, as indoor events with a max. 250 people, and outdoor events with a max. 1,000 people can occur under existing gathering limits outside of this Framework.</li> </ul>
	<p>2. <i>Seated spectator events – seated patrons can occupy up to 50 per cent of seated capacity of the venue:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor: max. 500 people (including patrons, staff and performers) subject to density limits.</li> <li>• Outdoor: max. 2,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers) subject to density limits.</li> </ul>
	<p>3. <i>Seated spectator events in indoor cinemas and theatres or outdoor sporting venues – seated patrons can occupy up to 75 per cent of seated capacity of the venue</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor cinemas and theatres with specific approval: max. 500 people (including patrons, staff and performers).</li> <li>• Outdoor sporting venues: max. 2,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers).</li> </ul>
	<p>4. <i>Combination events:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Event with multiple separate areas or sites, max. of 2,000 people in total.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Examples</b></p>	<p>1. A seated outdoor sporting event of up to 2,000 people subject to density limits, or of up to 2,000 people at 75 per cent capacity.</p>
	<p>2. A seated indoor musical or theatre performance of up to 500 people in a 1,000 seat venue, or an outdoor seated concert of 2,000 people, subject to density limits.</p>
	<p>3. With approval, an indoor theatre performance of up to 500 persons at 75 per cent capacity.</p>
	<p>4. A film festival held across multiple separate sites, including an indoor theatre with 250 people and two separate outdoor</p>



	premises, one with 1,000 people and the other with 750 people, meeting the maximum total of 2,000 people.
Risk Profile	Generally the risk profile of Level One Events is lower and can be managed by event organisers complying with required standards outlined in the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan.
Additional requirements	Not required.
Governance/Assessment	<p>Level One events must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan and ensure it is available for inspection upon request.</li> <li>• Identify a Responsible Person within the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan for the event, who is responsible for providing patron contact details to Public Health Services in the event that contact tracing is required after the event.</li> <li>• Events seeking to host up to 75% of seated capacity in an indoor cinema or theatre above 250 persons must ensure the venue has had approval to do so.</li> </ul>

## Level Two Events

Required to complete an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan, implement the required public health measures and submit the Safety Plan to Business Tasmania for assessment.

<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>All limits are maximum permitted at this level and, except where indicated, subject to density limits.</p> <p>For free moving events, the maximum capacity applies at a point in time, meaning that patrons can come and go at different times throughout the event.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Free moving and mixing events:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor: max. 500 people</li> <li>• Outdoor: max. 2,000 people</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <i>Seated spectator events – seated patrons can occupy up to 50 per cent of seated capacity of the venue:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor: max. 1,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers)</li> <li>• Outdoor: max. 5,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers)</li> <li>•</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <i>Seated spectator events in indoor cinemas and theatres or outdoor sporting venues – seated patrons can occupy up to 75 per cent of seated capacity of the venue</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor cinemas and theatres with specific approval: max. 1,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers).</li> <li>• Outdoor sporting venues: max. 5,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers).</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. <i>Combination events:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Event with multiple separate areas or sites, max. of 5,000 people in total.</li> <li>• Consideration may be given to allowing one event to be held across multiple sites, each with up to 5,000 people, where the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan demonstrates that the event has been designed to minimise the risk of mixing of people between the physically distinct sites (i.e that the event will be held across multiple, geographically distant sites that are not easily accessible within walking distance).</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An indoor market of up to 500 people or an outdoor concert or running event of up to 2,000 people.</li> <li>2. A seated indoor musical or theatre performance of up to 1,000 people at 75 per cent capacity, or an outdoor seated spectator sport of 5,000 people at 75 per cent capacity.</li> <li>3. A large film festival held on one site with two separate indoor theatres of 1,000 people and one outdoor seated theatre with 3,000 people, which reaches the maximum of 5,000 people total on one site.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Risk Profile</b></p>	<p>Generally the risk profile of Level Two Events is moderate and oversight from the relevant Tasmanian Government department (through submission to Business Tasmania) is required to ensure</p>

	risks have been adequately addressed in the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan.
Additional requirements	<p>To be advised by Public Health Services, if required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The event must have an assessed Events COVID-19 Safety Plan.</li> </ul>
Governance/Assessment	<p>Level Two events must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Register the event through Business Tasmania and receive an assessment before the event can take place;</li> <li>• Submit an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan to Business Tasmania for assessment, which identifies a Responsible Person for the event; and</li> <li>• Ensure the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan is available for inspection upon request.</li> <li>• Events seeking to host up to 75% of seated capacity in an indoor cinema or theatre above 250 persons must ensure the venue has had approval to do so.</li> </ul>

## Level Three Events

Required to complete an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan, implement the required public health measures and submit the Safety Plan to Business Tasmania, which will coordinate with the Director of Public Health for approval.

<p><b>Description</b></p> <p>All limits are maximum permitted at this level and subject to density limits.</p> <p>For free moving events, the maximum capacity applies at a point in time, meaning that patrons can come and go at different times throughout the event.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Free moving and mixing events:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor: max. 1,000 people</li> <li>• Outdoor: max. 5,000 people</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <i>Seated spectator events – seated patrons can occupy up to 50 per cent of seated capacity of the venue:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor: max. 2,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers)</li> <li>• Outdoor: max. 10,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <i>Seated spectator events in indoor cinemas and theatres or outdoor sporting venues – seated patrons can occupy up to 75 per cent of seated capacity of the venue</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor cinemas and theatres with specific approval: max. 2,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers).</li> <li>• Outdoor sporting venues: max. 10,000 people (including patrons, staff and performers).</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. <i>Combination events:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Event with multiple separate areas or sites, max. of 10,000 people in total.</li> <li>• Consideration may be given to allowing one event to be held across multiple sites, each with up to 10,000 people, where the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan demonstrates that the event has been designed to minimise the risk of mixing of people between the physically distinct sites (i.e that the event will be held across multiple, geographically distant sites that are not easily accessible within walking distance).</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Examples</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An indoor trade exhibition of 1,000 people or an outdoor concert or mass participation running event of 5,000 people;</li> <li>2. A seated ticketed outdoor event, with up to 75 per cent of seated capacity for example 10,000 people at a cricket match; and</li> <li>3. A large agricultural show with four separate areas of 2,500 people established on one site, which reaches the maximum of 10,000 people in total.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Risk Profile</b></p>	<p>These events are associated with the highest level of risk and due to the very large number of attendees, a case arising from such an event could have severe consequences. In addition to the measures the organisers undertake to implement in their Events</p>

	COVID-19 Safety Plan, as part of the requirement to seek approval, the Director of Public Health may impose a requirement for the event to comply with additional risk mitigation measures.
Additional requirements	To be advised by Public Health Services on a case by case basis. The event must have an approved Events COVID-19 Safety Plan.
Governance/Assessment	Level Three events must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Register the event through Business Tasmania and receive an assessment before the event can take place;</li> <li>• Submit an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan, which identifies a Responsible Person for the event. Business Tasmania will coordinate approval from the Director of Public Health; and</li> <li>• Ensure the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan is available for inspection upon request.</li> <li>• Events seeking to host up to 75% of seated capacity in an indoor cinema or theatre above 250 persons must ensure the venue has had approval to do so.</li> </ul>

## Registration process

The Director of Public Health has requested that event organisers register Level Two and Three events and activities, to ensure that:

- organisers can be contacted immediately if circumstances change or if a person who attended is identified as a COVID-19 case following the event; and
- police, emergency and health services are aware of the number and magnitude of upcoming events and can allocate resources accordingly.

Event organisers should use the registration portal, which is available through the Business Tasmania website at [www.business.tas.gov.au/eventsframework](http://www.business.tas.gov.au/eventsframework).

## Supporting tools

### *WorkSafe Events COVID-19 Safety Plan*

The WorkSafe Events COVID-19 Safety Plan template allows event organisers to identify and implement measures to manage the risks. The template is flexible, and can be adapted to each specific activity and venue.

### *COVID-19 Return to Play Plan*

The COVID-19 Return to Play Plan outlines how sporting organisations will safely resume activities in a COVID-19 environment. Sports and clubs that plan to conduct events outside of usual match day arrangements covered by their Return to Play Plan are required to prepare the WorkSafe Events COVID-19 Safety Plan template for each different event.

However if an event is to be repeated multiple times throughout a season, the organiser can submit one Safety Plan for the series of events, by including details on the number of separate

events in the season at the *Other Matters* section on page 14 of the WorkSafe Events COVID-19 Safety Plan template.

### *Guidance on Managing Events and Activities in a COVID-19 Environment*

Guidance on Managing Events and Activities in a COVID-19 Environment has been developed to support organisers in taking a measured approach to planning events and activities in an environment impacted by COVID-19.

### *Supporting the Cultural and Creative sector through COVID-19*

The Supporting the Cultural and Creative sector through COVID-19 document provides detailed guidance to the creative sector to assist with planning for COVID-19 safe cultural events.

## Timing for plan assessment

Event organisers of Level Two and Level Three events need to submit the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan through Business Tasmania for assessment. It is the responsibility of the event organiser to factor these timeframes into their planning, in determining how far in advance of the event they will need to submit the Safety Plan for assessment.

Event organisers will receive a response from Business Tasmania within 21 days of submitting an Events COVID-19 Safety Plan for a Level Two or Level Three event, unless further information is required. Event organisers should expect to receive feedback on the Events COVID-19 Safety Plan and may need to make changes to it to demonstrate appropriate risk assessment.

If an event organiser needs to amend the details of an event after receiving confirmation of assessment from Business Tasmania, they must contact Business Tasmania as soon as possible and submit an amended Events COVID-19 Safety Plan for assessment.

## Contacts

### **Business Tasmania**

[www.business.tas.gov.au/eventsframework](http://www.business.tas.gov.au/eventsframework); Phone: 1800 440 026

## Resources

The following documents have been considered, and have informed the development of this framework:

- [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) statement on very high risk environments](#)
- [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) statement on the safe return of crowds to stadiums, arenas and large theatres](#)
- [How to use WHO risk assessment and mitigation checklist for Mass Gatherings in the context of COVID-19](#)
- [Mass Gathering risk assessment COVID-19: key considerations](#)
- [Decision tree for risk assessment for mass gatherings](#)
- [COVID Safety Guidance: Events](#) in Western Australia
- [Industry Framework for COVID Safe Events in Queensland](#)
- [Activities and gatherings](#) in South Australia