**Live Performance Australia – Member News**

**18th March, 2020**

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Member Advice Update #8**

* Government directives banning mass gatherings of 100 people or more
* ACCC advice on event and travel cancellations due to COVID-19
* Travel restrictions

Government directives banning mass gatherings of 100 people or more

On 18 March 2020, the Prime Minister announced a ban on non-essential gatherings of 100 people or more in indoor areas. The ban remains at 500 people or more for non-essential gatherings in outdoor areas.

The Prime Minister indicated the government is working through the practical implications of and guidance for indoor mass gatherings of less than 100 people and outdoor mass gatherings of less than 500 people.

This ban is effective immediately. Legal enforcement of those measures are being put in place by the states and territories.

Further updates will be provided when we have more information.

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ACCC advice on event and travel cancellations due to COVID-19

The ACCC has issued [advice for consumers and businesses on their rights and obligations](https://www.accc.gov.au/consumers/consumer-rights-guarantees/covid-19-coronavirus-information-for-consumers) if events, flights or travel services are cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), or if people wish to cancel their travel plans.

If events, flights or other travel services such as cruises are cancelled, the ACCC expects refunds or other remedy such as a credit note or voucher will be offered in most circumstances.

However, if the event, flight or travel service is cancelled due to government restrictions, consumer rights under the consumer guarantees may be impacted. In these situations consumers may be entitled to a refund under the terms and conditions of their ticket, or potentially may make a claim under a travel insurance policy.

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Travel restrictions

On 18 March 2020 the Australian Government announced new [travel restrictions](https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/news-and-updates/coronavirus-covid-19):

* all Australians are advised to not travel overseas at this time. This is the highest advice level (level 4 of 4)
* if Australians are already overseas and wish to return to Australia, it is recommended they do so as soon as possible by commercial means. These restrictions came into effect effectively and are indefinite.

The following [restrictions](https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/news-media/current-alerts/novel-coronavirus), announced on 15 March 2020, continue to apply:

* all travellers to Australia will be required to self-isolate for 14 days
* a ban on cruise liners from foreign ports arriving at Australian ports for 30 days.

**Evelyn Richardson**
LPA Chief Executive