



## Policy document

# 'COVID Safe' entry to Independent Planning Commission spaces

The Independent Planning Commission has established 'COVID Safe' conditions of entry to Commission spaces.

**For the wellbeing of the community, Commissioners and staff, everyone entering our offices (or any other space being used by the Commission, including all premises where public hearings and meetings are held) is asked to practise social distancing and hand sanitisation and not attend events in person if feeling unwell.**

### Who does this policy apply to?

This policy applies to **all people** who attend a **Commission space**.

'**All people**' includes Commissioners, Commission staff, contractors, applicants and their representatives and members of the public attending as observers or to give submissions.

'**Commission space**' means:

- the offices of the Independent Planning Commission; or
- any physical space where the Commission is conducting its business (including any part of a public hearing, a public meeting, a site inspection or locality tour or a stakeholder meeting).

### What does this policy require?

All people attending a Commission space must:

- comply with all current orders under the *Public Health Act 2010*;
- comply with all directions by Commissioners or Commission staff to comply with any current NSW Government guidance regarding COVID-19 safety while at the Commission space (directions may include to wear a fitted face covering, sanitise hands, maintain a safe distance or leave the Commission space if necessary);
- comply with any rules made by the person controlling the premises (for Commission spaces outside of the Commission's offices);
- not attend a Commission space in person if they:
  - are feeling unwell with any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, loss of taste or smell or shortness of breath; or
  - have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last seven days; or
  - have had close contact with a person who has had COVID-19 in the last seven days; or
  - are waiting for a COVID-19 test result; or
  - are otherwise required to self-isolate.

The terms **'fitted face covering'** has the meanings given to it in the current orders under the *Public Health Act 2020*.

### **What happens if I do not follow this policy?**

The Commission's aim is to maintain 'COVID Safe' conditions of entry that are consistent with NSW Government rules and guidelines and adapted to the Commission's processes.

In the interests of protecting all participants in the Commission's processes present at a Commission space, people who do not follow this policy's requirements may be:

- refused access to the Commission space; or
- required to leave the Commission space.

### **Does this affect my ability to make a submission to the Commission?**

The Commission recognises the importance of encouraging and promoting community participation in our decision-making processes. We acknowledge that in protecting the more vulnerable members of the community, our 'COVID Safe' conditions of entry might prevent some stakeholders attending Commission events in person.

However, all interested individuals and groups can continue to make submissions in writing and/or by participating remotely via electronic means (teleconference or videoconference) in our scheduled public hearings and meetings.



#### **For more information**

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**> HELP US STAY COVID SAFE**

