



Friday 10th September 2021 (following on from Friday 3rd September, 2021)

COVID-19 UPDATE

R U OKAY?

Life can be challenging under normal circumstances, so the challenges of the last 18 months are causing immense pressure for so many people. Asking for help or talking to a friend does not come easily to everyone. We all have a role to play to ensure that our circle of family, friends & colleagues are ok.

Do you have a feeling that someone you know or care about isn't behaving as they normally would? Perhaps they seem out of sorts? More agitated or withdrawn? Or they're just not themselves. Trust that gut instinct and act on it. Learn more about the signs and when it's time to ask R U OK? here. <https://www.ruok.org.au/signs>

By starting a conversation and commenting on the changes you've noticed, you could help that family member, friend or workmate open up. If they say they are not ok, you can follow the below conversation steps to show them they're supported and help them find strategies to better manage the load. If they are ok, that person will know you're someone who cares enough to ask.

Click on the image to download an easy 4 step guide to help you have the conversation.

I know myself I have sometimes been a little short on patience, even a little short tempered. Just sitting down for a coffee or a chat with someone breaks that cycle and lets you take some me time and refocus. If you yourself need that little time out or just a quick chat, especially about anything retail, why not give one of us at UCB a call. Our field team and office numbers are at the bottom of this update,

Take Care,
Darren Park



Mental Health Resources

- [Black Dog Institute](#) is a free online clinic providing a mental health assessment tool and other support services.
- [Head to Health](#) can help you find digital mental health and wellbeing resources.
- [Lifeline \(13 11 14 - operates 24/7\)](#) provides crisis support and suicide prevention services.
- [RUOK?](#) inspires and empowers everyone to meaningfully connect with people and support anyone who may be struggling with life.
- [ReachOut](#) provides practical tools and support to help young people get through everything from everyday issues to tough times.
- [Kids Helpline \(1800 55 18 00 - operates 24/7\)](#) is a telephone counselling support line for children and young people ages 5 to 25.

Re-opening of the Country

As most states are preparing for the re-opening of the country once we achieve the 80% vaccination targets, it is again the perfect time for all businesses to ensure that your COVIDSafe plans are up to date to reflect the current guidelines & remind your teams of their requirements.

All Members should:

1. Ensure your CovidSafe plan is up to date & in place
2. Revisit Cleaning Schedules in place at the site for Pumps and Internal of shop & high touch areas
3. Ensure Mask usage is being adhered to relevant to your State
4. Ensure appropriate QR Codes are available for customer & staff Check In. Look at implementing a Tablet to record customers details that can't scan QR code, rather than the paper and pen approach.
5. Work with your Staff to ensure that they are comfortable with all of their requirements.
6. Ensure delivery drivers are implementing contactless delivery

VIC Regional Lockdown Lifting

From 23:59 9th September 2021 all of Regional Victoria (**except Greater Shepparton Area**) has had the stay at home orders lifted.

Fuel wholesale and retail impact;

- Car washes allowed to be open (only in regional VIC)
- ACAPMA reminds all operators, particularly retail operators, that as lockdowns lift it is even more important to ensure encouragement of mask wearing and QR Check In for customers on top of the usual cleaning and CovidSafe operations – customers may need gentle reminders to check in or wear their masks after being at home for some time, so ensure signage is posted and staff are providing the gentle reminders

All Victoria Settings;

Table of Restrictions - https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-09/210908%20-%20Table%20of%20Restrictions_0.pdf

Premiers Announcement - <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-restrictions-lift-regional-victoria-0>

NSW Lifting of lockdown in PARTS OF REGIONAL NSW

Parts of Regional NSW will come out of lockdown from 00:01 Saturday 11th September 2021.

The following Regional Local Government Areas **remain** in lockdown;

Bathurst, Bega, Blayney, Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Cabonne, Central Coast, Central Darling, Cessnock, Dubbo, Dungog, Eurobodalla, Forbes, Gilgandra, Goulburn Mulwarre, Kiama, Lake Macquarie, Lithgow, Maitland, Mid-Coast, Mid-Western, Muswellbrook, Narrabri, Narromine, Newcastle, Orange, Parkes, Port Stephens, Queanbeyan-Palerang, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Singleton, Snowy Monaro, Upper Hunter, Walgett, Wingecarribee

Greater Sydney **remains** in lockdown

All other areas of NSW will be coming out of lockdown with some restrictions remaining;

- Up to 5 visitors in home (not including children under 12)
- Up to 20 people can gather outdoors
- Retail open with 4sqm rule

What this means for Fuel Wholesale and Retail

- Masks remain a requirement for customers and staff
- A reminder to all operators, particularly retail operators, that as lockdowns lift it is even more important to ensure encouragement of mask wearing and QR Check In for customers on top of the usual cleaning and CovidSafe operations – customers may need gentle reminders to check in or wear their masks after being at home for some time, so ensure signage is posted and staff are providing the gentle reminders (see UCB website for posters)

For more information see; <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/lockdown-lifted-parts-of-regional-nsw>

NSW

Roadmap out of Lockdown Announced

As the State hits 75.56% first dose and 42.68% double dose the Premier has announced what the restrictions will look like once the magic 70% double dose number

THE FOLLOWING IS A PLAN – THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE TO THE RESTRICTIONS YET!!!! – current estimates predict that NSW will hit the 70% double dose at or around mid October

Once the 70% double dose level has been reached;

- Stay at home orders for Adults (over 16y) will be lifted the Monday after the state of NSW passes 70% double dose of vaccination – BUT – this lifting will ONLY apply to those Adults (over 16y) that have received BOTH doses of vaccine
- Gatherings in a home of up to five visitors where all Adults (over 16y) are vaccinated (where children under the age of 12 do not count in the number of visitors)
- Gatherings of up to 20 people outdoors – for fully vaccinated Adults (over 16y)
- Travel across NSW will be allowed – for fully vaccinated Adults (over 16y)

What this means for Fuel Wholesale and Retail?

- More people on the roads
- Changes to density requirements 4sqm rule
- Even after 70% there will be local area lockdowns or restrictions in responses to case spikes
- Even after 70% masks will still be required in Retail settings for staff and customers
- Fuel Retail continues to be listed as Critical Retail and thus will be able to be accessed by unvaccinated customers

The question of the vaccination status of the workers at retail venues has yet to be clarified, but Dr Chant confirmed in the press conference today stated, when asked if the vaccination requirement applies to workers, that “Yes. All the people at the venues will need to be vaccinated”. The Public Health Orders that will change the settings have not been written yet, so there is not clarity on whether there will be a mandate for workers to be vaccinated in the Orders. ACAPMA is escalating this to the highest levels, but the message to businesses and staff is clear – get vaccinated ASAP!!!

Businesses should be communicating to staff now about vaccination and understanding the potential impact of opening. ACAPMA suggests the first place to start is to survey the staff and establish vaccine status, this will allow rapid response to any vaccine mandates. A sample letter is included below;

Dear [name],

The NSW Premier has outlined the roadmap to coming out of lockdown, and it depends on vaccination. Lockdown will lift based on State double dose vaccination percentages (expected to happen mid October), and freedoms will only apply to those who have received two doses of vaccination.

Dr Chant has indicated that all workers at businesses will need to be fully vaccinated in order to be at work.

At this point the business has not seen the legislation that would make that a requirement, but to ensure that we understand what the situation is in the business, so that we can engage with government and respond to mandates could you please complete the following information and send it back to [name/email] by [deadline];

-Name: _____

-Have you had one dose of vaccine? Yes / No

-Have you had two doses of vaccine? Yes / No

-Do you have a booking for vaccine? Yes / No

- If yes when: _____

- If no why? Medical Exemption / OTHER

-If OTHER please elaborate: _____

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me

For more information see; <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/roadmap-to-freedom-unveiled-for-fully-vaccinated>

Restrictions by State

New South Wales

- General Covid information – <https://www.nsw.gov.au/>

Victoria

- General Covid information – <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>

Queensland

- General Covid information – <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions>

**Stay Safe, Stay Strong
Support Your Local!**

**Sincerely,
Darren Park
CEO, United Convenience Buyers Pty Ltd.**

**#OPEN7DAYS
#HERE4YOU
#SAFETOSHOP**

Business Manager Members

Adam A'Vard - 0428 891 503 - WA.

Belinda Jones - 0434 692 552 - SA, NT.

Jason Achterbosch - 0434 692 677 - Riverina NSW, VIC.

Darren Baillie - 0402 611 826 - Northern QLD.

Ampi Chanthavanheuang - 0499 908 802 - NSW.

Simon Egan - 0438 538 022 - QLD.

Jason Heath - 0487 000 629 - Northern NSW & QLD.

Jacinda Lythgo - 0408 168 632 - VIC & TAS.

Kenneth Ramsay - 0499 770 983 - NSW.

UCB Stores

Suite 103/447 Victoria St, Wetherill Park, NSW, 2164 | Ph: 02 9899 4800

