

COVID-19 Compliance Monitoring FAQs for businesses

What is changing?

From 1 July, SA Health and local councils will monitor compliance with the Emergency Management (Public Activities) Direction put in place to manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most people won't notice a change, but some businesses, sports clubs and religious groups may have authorised officers from SA Health or their local council enter their premises to review COVID-19 compliance. Most COVID-19 compliance checks will be conducted at the same time as other compliance checks, such as food safety checks. However, reports of non-compliance may be followed up at any time.

There is still a risk of transmission of COVID-19 in our community. The rules in place for businesses, clubs, religious groups and the general public are designed to keep us safe, and it is essential that measures to reduce risk in the community are maintained. This is an important step in integrating COVID-19 compliance into the new normal for businesses and clubs.

Will all businesses be affected by this change?

Businesses, sports clubs and religious groups in metropolitan or suburban South Australia may have authorised officers from SA Health or their local council enter their premises to review COVID-19 compliance. Local council authorised officers will perform COVID-19 compliance monitoring alongside their other public health duties, such as food safety checks.

South Australia Police (SAPOL) will still support some compliance activities in regional SA, and those linked to licensed premises, tattoo shops, recreational transport, public assemblies and residential gatherings.

SAPOL staff in metropolitan and suburban Adelaide may still be called upon to assist, particularly with supporting compliance among the general public through targeted activities like Operation Trace.

Why is this changing?

While SA Police will retain a key role in COVID-19 compliance, this new arrangement will support SA Police to return critical resources to their other duties to keep our communities safe.

What is the assessment criteria that authorised officers will use?

The assessment criteria aligns with the Emergency Management (Public Activities) Direction.

It includes:

- > Having a COVID Safe Plan on site and following the stated obligations
- > Having COVID SAfe Check-In QR Codes displayed prominently at all entrances
- > Having hard copy contact check-in forms available to customers and supervised
- > Having an identifiable COVID Marshal(s) present
- > Monitoring social distancing in accordance with the COVID Safe Plan.

Will this affect my current COVID Safe Plan obligations?

No. These changes do not cause any changes to the obligations outlined in your COVID Safe Plan.

What happens if my business has been assessed as non-compliant?

Local council authorised officers may leave a card with businesses that have been assessed as non-compliant under any of the assessment criteria. This information will also be reported to SA Health and may be followed up at any time.

How will I know if it is a legitimate authorised officer?

Authorised officers are required to carry identification while performing COVID-19 compliance activities.

Can we be issued a fine for non-compliance?

SA Health, local government and SA Police will continue to take an educational approach to COVID-19 compliance, to encourage and support understanding of compliance in non-compliant organisations. However, fines can be issued for breaches of the [Emergency Management \(Public Activities\) Direction](#).

Where can I find more information about how I can improve compliance in my business?

You can find more information about improving compliance in your business with the Emergency Management (Public Activities) Direction at www.sa.gov.au/COVIDcompliance.

How long will this arrangement remain for?

The new compliance arrangement between SA Health, local councils and SAPOL will be formally reviewed after 6 months or whenever it is deemed necessary due to changing situations.

Who can I contact if I have a question?

- > Email Health.COVIDCompliance@sa.gov.au
- > Call the SA COVID-19 Information Line on 1800 253 787
- > Visit www.sa.gov.au/COVIDcompliance