

From: Craig Gillis
Sent: Thursday, 16 December 2021 1:57 PM
Subject: Public Health Order

Dear Pastors and Church Leaders,

It is wonderful news that the Victorian State Government has lifted restrictions on attendance for worship services with regards to any cap or vaccination status of those attending. However, please do be sure to abide by the attached Mandatory Vaccination Order (no.1), as was published today. This Order commences at 11:59:00pm on 15 December 2021 and ends at 11:59:00pm on 12 January 2022.

From this it has now become clear that all appointed volunteers in the local church must be fully vaccinated to undertake their responsibilities.

From the attached document, please note the following:

- 7. *If a worker is, or may be, scheduled to work outside the worker's ordinary place of residence after the commencement of this Order, the employer of the worker must collect, record and hold vaccination information about the worker. (see page 6)*

- As such the local church must sight and keep a record of COVID vaccination information of appointed volunteers in order for them to perform their responsibilities.

- Attached you will find a template for keeping records of your appointed volunteer's vaccination status.

- 10.(1) *An employer of a worker must not permit a worker to work for that employer outside the worker's ordinary place of residence if that worker is unvaccinated or partially vaccinated. (page 6)*

10. (2) *For the purposes of subclause 10(1), if an employer does not hold vaccination information about a worker, the employer must treat the worker as if the worker is unvaccinated. (page 6)*

- As such any appointed volunteer who has not provided proof of vaccination must not lead out in their appointed responsibilities.

- It is an offence to not comply with this state government public order. (see page 10)
- Worker categories include: Professional services, Religious Worker, Social and Community Service Worker (see page 12)
- *Worker means a person identified in Column 1 of Schedule 1, whether paid or unpaid ... (see page 15)*
- *Religious worker*
For the purposes of this Order:
 - (1) *religious worker means a person who works at or in connection with a place of worship, but does not include a person who:*
 - (a) *conducts services of public worship and acknowledgments of faith;*
 - (b) *performs marriages, funerals and special memorial services according to tradition and ecclesiastical and civil law;*
 - (c) *visits members of the community in their homes, hospitals and other institutions to provide advice and religious comfort for the purpose of end of life faith reasons;*
 - (2) *place of worship has the same meaning as in the Heritage Act 2017. (see page 26)*

- This identifies that pastors employed to undertake the specific responsibilities noted above are exempt from vaccination mandate.

Thank you for ensuring that you act in accordance with the Victorian State Government mandate.

Regards,

Pr Craig Gillis

CONFERENCE SECRETARY

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From: Craig Gillis <CraigGillis@adventist.org.au>

Sent: Sunday, 19 December 2021 8:31 AM

Subject: FW: Public Health Order

Dear Pastors,

It would seem that some of our pastors did not receive this correspondence when it was sent out last Thursday. I do apologise.

It relates to those individuals who have been appointed by your church nominating committees to various roles, and need for them to be fully vaccinated in order to fulfil their functions in person, as per state government mandate issued 15 December.

Regards

Pr Craig Gillis

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