

Office of Local Government



COVID-19 COUNCIL UPDATE

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28 December 2020



Government announces New Year's Eve arrangements
and updated restrictions for Greater Sydney

The NSW Government has outlined arrangements for a COVID-Safe New Year's Eve fireworks and updated its advice on COVID-Safe restrictions for the Northern Beaches and Greater Sydney.

Residents of Greater Sydney are being urged to watch the fireworks on TV.

The following arrangements will be introduced from midnight tonight (December 28):

For New Year's Eve celebrations:

- The CBD frontline worker fireworks vantage point offering is cancelled. Frontline workers will be offered another opportunity in 2021
- Hospitality venues will remain open but must adhere to the one person per four square metres rule
- **Council events may continue but they must be controlled and seated with no mingling, and record keeping requirements must be strictly adhered to, and**
- A short, seven-minute fireworks display will continue at midnight.

Unless you have a New Year's Eve Pass through Service NSW, you will not be able to enter designated zones around Circular Quay, North Sydney and the City.

For the Northern Beaches peninsula zone (North of Narrabeen Bridge, and east of the Baha'i Temple), the following rules apply until January 9:

- The health situation remains volatile and the current restrictions will remain in place to suppress community transmission
- However, indoor and outdoor gatherings will be allowed for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day but will be restricted to five visitors in total from within your zone (and includes at homes)
- Current arrangements allowing five people to gather outdoors (not at homes) for exercise and recreation, from within the same zone, continues, and
- No restaurants, cafes, pubs or clubs (except for takeaway) will be permitted to open, including for New Year's Eve.

For the remainder (southern zone) of the Northern Beaches, the following rules apply until January 2:

- The health situation remains volatile and the current restrictions will remain in place to suppress community transmission
- However, indoor and outdoor gatherings will be allowed for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day but will be restricted to 10 visitors in total from within your zone (and includes at homes)

- Current arrangements allowing 10 people to gather outdoors (not at homes) for exercise and recreation, from within the same zone, continues, and
- No restaurants, cafes, pubs or clubs (except for takeaway) will be permitted to open, including for New Year's Eve.

For Greater Sydney, Central Coast and Wollongong the following rules apply:

- Gatherings in the home remain at 10 visitors in total (including children), and
- Outside gatherings (such as picnics) will be restricted to 50 people in total (down from 100).

For regional NSW there is no change to current arrangements.

NSW Health is urging the community to continue to follow COVID-Safe practices, stay at home if unwell and get tested, wear a mask and follow good hand hygiene and physical distancing.

More information in relation to New Year's Eve will be available later today on www.nsw.gov.au.



Information and resources

[Guidelines for COVID Safe workplaces](#)

Safety plans for a range of businesses and organisations can be found [here](#), and those in the sport and recreation sector [here](#).

[COVID-19 resources in community languages](#)

Councils are encouraged to share through their channels a pack containing translated downloadable resources. The pack can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

[Quicklinks](#)

Councils can access the latest information and resources about COVID-19 on the [NSW Government](#), [NSW Health](#), [Commonwealth Government](#), [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), and [NSW Office of Local Government](#) websites.

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