



New South Wales

Public Health (COVID-19 Public Events) Order 2020

under the

Public Health Act 2010

I, Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health and Medical Research, under section 7 of the *Public Health Act 2010*, make the following Order.

Dated 15 March 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Hazzard', written in a cursive style.

Minister for Health and Medical Research

Explanatory note

The object of this Order is to deal with the public health risk of COVID-19 and its possible consequences by giving a Ministerial direction that a person must not hold a public event at which there are, or are likely to be, 500 people or more in attendance at any one time.

Section 10 of the *Public Health Act 2010* creates an offence if an individual fails to comply with a direction with a maximum penalty of imprisonment for 6 months or a fine of up to \$11,000 (or both) plus a further \$5,500 fine each day the offence continues. Corporations that fail to comply with a direction are liable to a fine of \$55,000 and \$27,500 each day the offence continues.

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1 Name of Order

This Order is the *Public Health (COVID-19 Public Events) Order 2020*.

2 Commencement

This Order commences on 16 March 2020.

Note. This Order commences at the beginning of 16 March 2020. See section 24 of the *Interpretation Act 1987*.

3 Definitions

(1) In this Order—

the Act means the *Public Health Act 2010*.

Note. The Act and the *Interpretation Act 1987* contain definitions and other provisions that affect the interpretation and application of this Order.

(2) Notes included in this Order do not form part of this Order.

4 Grounds for concluding that there is a risk to public health

It is noted that the basis for concluding that a situation has arisen that is, or is likely to be, a risk to public health is as follows—

- (a) public health authorities both internationally and in Australia have been monitoring international outbreaks of COVID-19, listed in the Act as Novel Coronavirus 2019,
- (b) COVID-19 is a potentially fatal condition and is also highly contagious,
- (c) a number of cases of individuals with COVID-19 have now been confirmed in NSW, as well as other Australian jurisdictions.

5 Direction of the Minister

- (1) The Minister directs that a person must not hold a public event at which there are, or are likely to be, 500 persons or more in attendance at any one time.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, this direction does not prevent—
 - (a) the ordinary conduct of a court, or
 - (b) the ongoing, day to day provision of educational services in educational institutions (being schools, universities, TAFE establishments and educational colleges), or
 - (c) the ongoing provision of transport services, or
 - (d) workers attending a workplace.
- (3) An event is a *public event* even if entry to the event requires the purchase of a ticket or the payment of an entry fee.

- (4) In this clause—
event includes any sporting, musical, cultural, entertainment, political or religious event or any festival.

6 Repeal of Order

This Order is repealed at the beginning of 14 June 2020.