



Northern Territory of Australia

*Public and Environmental Health Act 2011*

## **COVID-19 Directions (No. 36) 2021: Directions for Major Public Events**

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 52 of the *Public and Environmental Health Act 2011* (the **Act**), consider it necessary, appropriate or desirable to take action to alleviate the public health emergency in the Territory, declared by instrument entitled "Declaration of Public Health Emergency", dated 18 March 2020 (the **public health emergency declaration**), by making the following directions:

### **Part 1 Preliminary matters**

- 1 These Directions take effect at 9 am on 12 July 2021 and remain in force while the public health emergency declaration is in force.

*Note for direction 1*

*These Directions will remain in force during any subsequent extensions of the duration of that declaration, which may be made under section 50(2) of the Act.*

- 2 In these Directions:

**COVID-19 event safety plan** means the plan prepared under direction 5.

**COVID-19 safety supervisor** means the person designated under direction 10.

**major public event** means an event or public gathering referred to in direction 3.

**major population centre** means the following areas:

- (a) Municipality of Darwin;
- (b) Darwin Waterfront Precinct as specified under section 4 of the *Darwin Waterfront Corporation Act 2006*;
- (c) Municipality of Palmerston;
- (d) Municipality of Litchfield;
- (e) Town of Katherine;
- (f) Town of Tennant Creek;
- (g) Town of Alice Springs.

**organiser**, in relation to a major public event, means:

- (a) the person who is responsible for organising the major public event; or
- (b) if that person cannot be identified – the person in charge of or apparently in charge of the major public event.

**QR code**, see direction 15(a).

**Territory Check In application** means the application developed by the Northern Territory for contact tracing purposes and known as the "Territory Check In application".

- 3 These Directions apply to any event or public gathering that is ticketed or open to the public at a private location or a public place and:
  - (a) if the event is located inside a major population centre – is expected to have more than 500 people in attendance; or
  - (b) if the event is located outside a major population centre – is expected to have more than 100 people in attendance.
- 4 To avoid doubt, these Directions do not limit a right under section 71(1) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cth).

## **Part 2 COVID-19 event safety plan**

- 5 The organiser of a major public event must prepare a COVID-19 event safety plan, in a form approved by me, before holding the event.

*Note for direction 5*

*The COVID-19 event safety plan may include measures to protect persons attending the event and may require the collection of contact information from those persons.*

- 6 The COVID-19 safety plan must be submitted to the Agency.
- 7 The organiser of a major public event must not hold the event without prior approval from me of the COVID-19 event safety plan submitted by the organiser for the event, unless the event is:
- (a) located inside a major population centre and is expected to have less than 1 000 people in attendance; or
  - (b) located outside a major population centre and is expected to have less than 500 people in attendance.
- 8 The organiser of a major public event must ensure that the event complies with:
- (a) if the event requires my approval – the approved COVID-19 event safety plan and any conditions on the approval; or
  - (b) if the event doesn't require my approval – the submitted COVID-19 event safety plan.
- 9 A copy of the COVID-19 event safety plan must be provided to an authorised officer on request by the officer.

## **Part 3 COVID-19 safety supervisor**

- 10 The organiser of a major public event must designate a person as the COVID-19 safety supervisor for the event.
- 11 The COVID-19 safety supervisor must implement, on behalf of the organiser, any of my COVID-19 Directions made under section 52 of the Act that apply in relation to the event and:
- (a) if the event requires my approval – the approved COVID-19 event

safety plan and any conditions on the approval; or

(b) if the event doesn't require my approval – the submitted COVID-19 event safety plan.

12 A person must not be designated as a COVID-19 safety supervisor unless the person has the skills and knowledge to implement the COVID-19 event safety plan.

13 Evidence of the skills and knowledge of the COVID-19 safety supervisor must be given to an authorised officer on request by the officer.

*Note for direction 13*

*The evidence can be given to the authorised officer either orally or in writing.*

14 The holding of a major public event is subject to any further direction from me, including a direction to cancel the event, regardless of whether I have approved a COVID-19 event safety plan for the event.

#### **Part 4 Contact information**

15 The organiser of a major public event must:

(a) apply for a quick response matrix barcode (a **QR code**) for the Territory Check In application for the event; and

(b) display the Territory Check In application QR code prominently at each entrance to the event.

*Note for direction 15*

*A business that sells food or beverages at a major public event is not required to collect contact information at the major public event under my COVID-19 Directions (No. 35) 2021 (as amended from time to time) or any Directions that replace and substantially correspond to those Directions.*

16 The organiser of the major public event must use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that each member of the public who enters the event, at the time of entry, checks in using the Territory Check In application.

17 If a member of the public is unable to use the Territory Check In application for any reason, the organiser of the major public event must make reasonable endeavours to collect the following contact information from the member:

- (a) the member's first and last name;
- (b) a telephone number, address, email address or other means to contact the member;
- (c) the date and time the member enters the event.

*Examples for direction 17(b)*

- 1 *A person with no telephone could give the telephone number of a friend or relative.*
- 2 *A person experiencing homelessness could give the place where they can be found.*

18 The contact information collected under direction 17 must:

- (a) be kept for 28 days from the time of its collection; and
- (b) be secured against access by any person for any purpose other than contact tracing under this Part; and
- (c) not be disclosed, except to an authorised officer when requested for contact tracing purposes.

19 During the 28-day period, access to the information must be provided to an authorised officer on request by the officer.

20 At the end of the 28-day period, the information must be destroyed in a manner that prevents any recovery.

21 A member of the public must, on entering the event:

- (a) check in using the Territory Check In application; or
- (b) if the member is unable to comply with paragraph (a) – give the member's contact information to the organiser of the major public event in accordance with direction 17.

- 22 The member of the public is not required to comply with directions 21 if another member has checked in or provided contact details under directions 24 or 25.
- 23 The organiser of a major public event is not required to collect contact information from staff or other persons who:
- (a) are known to the organiser; and
  - (b) work at the event.

*Example for direction 23*

*Other persons would include St John employees or volunteers providing first aid and health services at the event.*

- 24 In the case of a family, one adult member of the family may check in using the Territory Check In application or provide the contact information under direction 17 on behalf of immediate family members.

*Examples for direction 24*

*Immediate family members include a spouse, de facto spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent or sibling.*

- 25 In the case of a group of children, one adult accompanying and responsible for the children may check in using the Territory Check In application or provide the adult's contact information under direction 17 on behalf of the group.

*Example for direction 25*

*A teacher taking a group of school children on a trip can check in or provide the teacher's contact information on behalf of the whole group.*

## **Part 5 Directions for participants**

- 26 A participant who intends to attend a major public event is subject to any further direction from me, including a direction to submit to a COVID-19 testing procedure prior to the event.
- 27 A person must not attend a major public event if:
- (a) the person is within a class of persons determined by me from time to time and published on the website [coronavirus.nt.gov.au](https://www.coronavirus.nt.gov.au); or
  - (b) the event is an event determined by me from time to time and

published on the website coronavirus.nt.gov.au.

## **Part 6      Revocation and transitional matters**

- 28    My COVID-19 Directions (No. 57) 2020 are revoked.
- 29    A COVID-19 event safety plan submitted to the Agency or approved by me under my COVID-19 Directions (No. 57) 2020 is taken to be a COVID-19 event safety plan prepared and submitted to the Agency or approved by me, as the case may be, under Part 2 of these Directions.

### *Notes for these Directions*

- 1      *Section 56 of the Act provides for an offence for failing to comply with a direction given by me under section 52(3) of the Act.*
- 2      *The maximum penalty for this offence is 400 penalty units.*
- 3      *A person is not guilty of this offence if the person has a reasonable excuse.*
- 4      *An infringement notice may be given for failing to comply these Directions with a fine equal to 32 penalty units for an individual and 160 penalty units for a body corporate.*

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Chief Health Officer

Dated