

Greetings all.

In these uncertain times CICA is committed to providing updates on the restrictions and exemptions applicable to the Rental Hire Sector and the Construction Sector which greatly affect how our members go about their work. As of Saturday 8 August the following [changes](#) will need to be adopted by all Melbourne construction sites.



More information is now available on the definition of Large and Small scale construction sites along with the permitted personnel quantities and exemptions.

**All sites will:**

Have a [High Risk COVIDSafe Plan](#) in place that is regularly updated. Where practicable, COVIDSafe Plans should be designed with input from employees and their representatives.

Allow no more than one worker per four square metres of enclosed workspace.

**All employees, supervisors and on-site specialists will be:**

- prohibited from car-pooling to and from work
- be required to inform their employer if they share accommodation with anyone working at another high-risk workplace
- required to limit movement between multiple sites and observed enhanced PPE and hygiene measures if working between sites.

In the [Bulletin 272](#), I stated that Mobile Crane operators and crew fell under the owner Rental and Hire Sector and were not limited to remain on a single site for the duration of Stage 4 Lockdown while servicing the construction sector.

Further clarifications in the latest updates have indicated Mobile Crane Operators and Dogman are considered [Specialised Contractors](#) not 'baseline workers' and are limited to attending 1 construction site per day and 3 construction sites per week.

This means that cranes sent out in excess of these new limits must have the appropriate operator rotations and applicable cleaning and hygiene measures taken.



**Construction of critical and essential infrastructure is not subject to business operating reductions. It means:**

- a) construction or maintenance (including civil works and building activities) of critical and essential infrastructure that is urgently required for the purposes of sustaining human health, safety and wellbeing, regardless of whether those activities are privately or publicly funded.
- b) activities prescribed by government from time to time as "State Critical Infrastructure Projects"
- c) construction and maintenance for the purposes of national security and defence; and
- d) activities deemed by Government to have satisfied (a) and endorsed by the Chief Health Officer on a case by case basis.

The expectation is that very few activities will meet the above tests. Project proponents can contact [COVID-19Team@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19Team@ecodev.vic.gov.au) to apply for a determination by the Chief Health Officer.

There are going to be some mobile crane job sites that appear to fall outside the definitions of:

- Early stage residential land development sites
- Small scale construction sites
- Large-scale construction sites
- Critical Essential Infrastructure

We have heard from the government a consistent theme of restricting movement of people to slow the contact spread of COVID19. We recommend applying the same limitations of 1 site per day and 3 separate sites per week crew rotations if possible or contacting the above link for further clarification on the restrictions or obligations that may apply to that site or job.