

Media Release

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier



Thursday, 19 March 2020

HOTLINE HELP FOR BUSINESSES DEALING WITH COVID-19 IMPACTS

The Andrews Labor Government today launched a hotline for businesses dealing with the significant challenges posed by the COVID-19 outbreak.

The pandemic is creating issues for businesses large and small who are facing a downturn in trade, bans on events and restrictions on indoor gatherings, as well as challenges in dealing with employee safety and entitlements.

Given the rapidly changing nature of the crisis, businesses need quick access to accurate information on how to keep their workplace safe, and advice on how to plan to deal with the current situation and anticipate likely developments.

Businesses across the state can now access information on dealing with COVID-19 by calling the Business Victoria hotline on 13 22 15.

Operators calling the hotline will be able to get information about support services, including those available through Business Victoria, which offers mentoring to help operators develop business continuity and recovery plans.

The hotline will provide the latest information on the response to COVID-19 and how this affects businesses, including how to access financial support available through the national stimulus package.

In addition to calling the Business Victoria hotline, business operators can also find information at business.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Premier Daniel Andrews

"The COVID-19 outbreak is hurting Victorian businesses and an important way that we can help is by giving them access to the information they need to make key decisions."

"This dedicated hotline will help businesses of all sizes get the facts and connect them with support services so they can best weather this storm."

Quote attributable to Minister for Small Business Adem Somyurek

"Small businesses make an enormous contribution to the economy and to the communities they serve."

"We are listening to small businesses and I will be meeting with my small business advisory council and multicultural business council to gain further insights into the challenges at hand."