

COVID-19 Update - advice on public areas

1 February 2021

After conversations with numerous members, it became apparent that there was uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 Directions, determining that public areas in Strata & Community Titled properties required a COVID-Safe plan and subsequent QR codes and registers.

We lobbied the Government on your behalf to either have this amended or a satisfactory explanation brought forward to you all.

We are pleased to let you know that the COVID-19 Directions have been updated for Public Activities surrounding this issue:

Upon receipt of your letter, I have asked that this matter be clarified as part of an updated Public Activities (COVID-19) Direction.

I can confirm that the current Direction now states the following in relation to fitness and recreation activities:

“For the avoidance of doubt, gyms etc in strata title and community title premises and other locations to which the public does not have access are not captured by the above definition.”

In addition, swimming pools are defined as “swimming or other activities at swimming pools used by the public”.

As such, private swimming pools such as those in strata and community title premises, are not within the scope of this definition.

The department has asked however:

While this means that gyms, pools and similar shared facilities within residential strata community titled buildings are not required to have a COVID-Safe Plan or QR codes, I would encourage the use of Voluntary COVID-Safe Plan.

Voluntary plans do not include any requirements, but do provide useful recommendations on how to operate in a COVID-safe way. Importantly, they also provide a contact tracing QR code that can be used. This QR code is connected to SA Health’s contact tracing area, and therefore allows for the most immediate and safest contact tracing solution. As such, they give these facilities access to the

benefits of a COVID-Safe Plan, without imposing legal requirements that they cannot (and are not required to) comply with.

We hope this provides clarity to members. If you have any further questions, please email admin@strata.community.

Yours faithfully,

Joshua Baldwin
SCA (SA/NT) President