
Guidance for construction sites

MANAGING A COVID-19 POSITIVE CASE

Follow the site's [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#)

Workers should notify the site owner if they test positive.

In the event of a positive case, all reasonable action should be taken to follow the COVID-19 Safety Plan and general health advice. It is not essential to make contact, but specialist advice may be sought from the local Public Health Unit (ph: 1300 066 055). Any instructions given by the Public Health Unit must be complied with.

Sites should:

- identify contacts through the use of team bubbles and tracing cards (where in use)
- identify other sites visited by the worker
- notify SafeWork NSW or ComCare as relevant
- advise staff, visitors and contractors of the situation, and identify symptoms of COVID-19 that they should monitor for
- maintain the privacy and confidentiality of the person diagnosed
- commence infection control measures.

Decision to stay open, or close then reopen

A site does not necessarily have to close following detection of a confirmed case on the premises. Unless instructed to close by NSW Health, the site owner determines whether to stay open, or to close the site then reopen, based on:

- whether the premises will need to be closed to undertake appropriate cleaning¹
- any advice provided by the Public Health Unit, but only if advised that a public health risk assessment has been undertaken by the Public Health Unit
- the owner being satisfied there is no ongoing risk, having taken all reasonable steps in accordance with their COVID-19 Safety Plan, and generally available health advice (e.g. are systems in place to identify and isolate all contacts of the worker? Have workers complied with those systems?)
- whether there is sufficient staff available (who are not close contacts and not needing to self-isolate) to remain operational.

¹NSW Health does not require that a specialist cleaning company be used. All areas used by any suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 should be cleaned and disinfected.