



CONVERSATION GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 has been both a health and an economic crisis. Working people have always known that to have a strong economy with secure jobs, workers need to be safe and healthy. It shouldn't be a choice between jobs or health, both are essential. Australia has significantly slowed the spread of COVID-19 but to do so, thousands of workplaces had to close, and millions of workers were stood down or had to work from home.



Over the coming weeks, thousands of workplaces will begin to reopen.

A second wave of the pandemic is a real possibility.



Rigorous workplace health and safety is the key to avoiding a second wave.

Ongoing social distancing and well-functioning workplace health and safety in workplaces will help protect workers, help guard against second wave infections, and, where outbreaks do occur, stop workers being put at further risk.



COVID aware workplaces are where Union members have the power to put in place protections for all workers.

This must include those of us in casual, insecure work. Leaving anyone vulnerable and exposed adds to the threat of the virus spreading.

CAN YOUR WORKPLACE MEET THESE CRITERIA?

1. If you think you or a close contact has been exposed to COVID, do you have access to paid leave to be tested and rehabilitate if needed?
2. Can you get to work and from work while maintaining physical distancing?
3. Can you stay at least 1.5 metres away from everyone while working?



AND THESE ONES AS WELL?

4. Is your workplace clean and hygienic?
5. Do you have all the safety and protective equipment and training you need?
6. Is your mental health being looked after by your employer?
7. Has your employer consulted with your union about the best way to keep everyone safe?
8. Has your employer provided training and education to identify and deal with COVID risks?

“Being a union member means a right to a safe workplace.”

Visit

covidaware.australianunions.org.au

to complete a comprehensive checklist to assess your workplace.