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URGENT COVID-19 UPDATE PUBLIC HEALTH (COVID-19 TEMPORARY MOVEMENT AND GATHERING RESTRICTIONS) AMENDMENT (No.13) ORDER 2021

Members are advised that the NSW State Government yesterday, issued a new Health Order (HO) regarding the wearing of face masks.

The HO contains a Direction from the Minister for Health and Medical Research that a person relying on a limited exemption for not wearing a face mask must:

- “(a) carry –*
 - (i) relevant evidence that the person has the physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, that makes wearing a fitted face covering unsuitable, and*
 - (ii) evidence of the person’s name and the address of the person’s place of residence, and*
- (b) produce the relevant evidence for inspection by, and give a copy of the relevant evidence to, a police officer if requested to do so by the police officer, and*
- (c) produce the evidence of the person’s name and the address of the person’s place of residence to a police officer for inspection if requested to do so by the police officer.”*

The HO defines ‘relevant evidence’ in relation to a physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, that makes wearing a fitted face covering unsuitable means –

- “(a) medical certificate or other written evidence signed by a registered health practitioner or a registered NDIS provider confirming-*
 - (i) the person has the physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, and*
 - (ii) the physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, makes wearing a fitted face covering unsuitable, or*
- (b) a statutory declaration by the person that-*
 - (i) the person has the physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, and*
 - (ii) the physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, makes wearing a fitted face covering unsuitable.”*

Download a copy of [Health Order No.13](#) here.