

## COVID-19 update, 4 January 2021

### *Fitted face coverings (masks)*

Masks should be worn in all public corridors and waiting areas within that part of the court building solely occupied by the Supreme Court.

Everyone in a courtroom must wear a mask, unless:

- a) The person concerned is an active participant in the proceedings namely the presiding judge, a practitioner who is responsible for presenting the case in court or a witness giving evidence.
- b) one of the exemptions stated in the Public Health (COVID-19 Mandatory Face Coverings) Order 2021 applies; or
- c) at the discretion of the presiding judge.

### *Jurors and Jury trials*

Jurors are strongly encouraged to wear a mask at all times. Masks will be provided.

### *Supreme Court trials operating from the Downing Centre*

The Chief Judge of the District Court has issued an update concerning procedures that apply for the District Court and Dust Diseases Tribunal. Judges sitting in the Downing Centre should ensure compliance with the District Court protocol, attached.

### *Court staff*

All court staff are strongly encouraged to wear a mask. Masks should be worn when entering a public area of the court.

### *Physical distancing*

Signs on the entry to each Supreme Court courtroom notes the number of people permitted in each courtroom. This complies with the one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> principle and the 1.5m spacing requirement.

### *QR codes*

The Court has placed a QR code on each floor. The codes are prominently displayed as a person exits the public lift and other locations on each floor. The public and legal practitioners are required to 'check-in'. Contactless check-in codes are also available at Hospital Road, King Street and Darlinghurst.