**Hi. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I work with Uniting (Vic Tas Ltd.) Today is 24th June 2020 and I am sharing with you some updates around restrictions and changes to the ease of restrictions. In this audio clip I will talk about protocols to be followed in social gathering and places of worship in light of COVID19.**

**Social gatherings**

The decision to reduce the number of people who can attend public and private gatherings is based on data showing an increase in the number of household contacts spreading COVID-19 among extended family groups.Home gatherings are restricted to 5 visitors; visitors include family members who don’t live in your house. The restrictions on home gatherings are being driven by infections within families. Transmission of the COVID-19 infection is happening inside people’s homes.

Homes are different to public settings in that people may be less likely to observe physical distancing, while other safeguards like regular cleaning are not in place.

The Victorian Government has said to avoid and cease travel to and out the areas where there are higher numbers of COVID-19 cases.

Under current arrangements, you can have up to 5 visitors, in addition to the normal residents of the household. Babies and children are counted in the total person limit. Your home includes indoor and outdoor areas of the house.

If you are visiting someone's home, you should ensure appropriate physical distancing by keeping at least 1.5 metres between you and others who are not from your household and practice good hygiene. If you or your friends, family or partner are feeling unwell you should not visit anyone or have visitors at your home.

In a public place, you can organise a public gathering of no more than 10 people. The 10 person limit includes members of your household, however if more than 10 people ordinarily live together they can meet in a public place as a household.

**Religion and Ceremony**

* Places of worship can open for private worship or small religious ceremonies for up to 20 people, plus the minimum number of people reasonably required to perform the service or ceremony. The one person per four-square metres rule needs to be followed.
* Up to 20 people, in addition to the celebrant and couple being married, can attend a wedding. The one person per four-square metres rule needs to be followed.
* If a wedding is in a home, it will be limited to the members of the household plus a maximum of five visitors, plus the celebrant. If a wedding ceremony is in a restaurant or café, the group maximum is 20, plus the celebrant and the couple.
* Up to 50 people can attend a funeral, plus the person leading the funeral and other funeral staff. The one person per four-square metres rule needs to be followed.
* If a funeral is in a home, it will be limited to the members of the household plus five visitors, plus the funeral staff. If a funeral is held in a restaurant or community facility the group maximum is 50, plus the funeral staff, however a wake or other gathering following a funeral would be limited to a maximum of 10 people.

**Shopping and retail**

* Beauty therapy, tanning, waxing, nail salons, spas, tattoo parlours and massage parlours can continue to stay open with up to 20 patrons – the four square metre rule will apply to the publicly accessible parts of the venue, and a distance of 1.5metre should be maintained between customers.
* Market stalls may continue to stay open – the four square metre rule applies to indoor markets and a distance of 1.5metre should be maintained between people who do not live in the same household.
* Other retail outlets may continue to operate; the four square metre rule applies to customers, and a distance of 1.5m should be maintained between people who do not live in the same household.
* Auction houses can have up to 20 customers per venue.
* Real estate auctions and inspections can take place with up to 50 people.
* TAB standalone and KENO facilities can open subject to the four square metre rule.
* Venues must maintain the four square metre rule and ensure patrons can keep at least 1.5 metres apart.