



## COVID-19 UPDATE #21 – OPENING OF NSW WARR OPERATIONS

Following further health advice, the NSW EPA has provided an update on the opening of waste and recycling operations currently closed to the public in NSW.

**All waste and recycling operations, including those open to the public, can recommence. Re-opening should be done in a safe and staged way to protect your community and your staff.**

Waste and recycling operations and facilities that paused activity due to the COVID lockdown restrictions are able to recommence in a safe and staged way, consistent with current health advice and COVID restrictions.

Health advice has now confirmed that accessing household services, including waste and recycling services, is a reason to leave your home. Other organisations which provide circular economy services, such as charitable recyclers, will also have the opportunity to consider recommencing services.

These activities, from both a business/operator and public perspective, will need to adhere to all relevant Public Health Order requirements such as use of QR codes and social distancing.

This means that councils and other operators can recommence business and open to the public as they are ready. Each operator should consider their particular situation when deciding when and how to safely recommence operations.

Some businesses or facilities may choose to limit operations or continue to pause operations while they plan and implement measures, or the local COVID situation eases, to ensure they can operate in a COVID safe way.

The Return and Earn network is open across regional NSW and the network operator TOMRA Cleanaway is developing a plan for a safe and staged re-opening of return points across greater Sydney in the coming weeks.

If you have continued some operations during the lockdown and now wish to recommence public facing activities, please make sure you have an updated COVID-safe plan in place before expanding service provision.

The EPA's summary of actions can be found [here](#), while the re-opening guideline can be found [here](#).

The COVID-19 response is being led by NSW Health based on latest information and health advice. You can find the latest advice on the NSW government COVID-19 website [here](#).

The EPA will continue to provide updates when it has new information, including information specific to the waste and resource recovery sector, on the [EPA website](#).

If you have any concerns about your operations, please contact the EPA Environment Line on 131 555 or email [epa.chiefexecutive@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:epa.chiefexecutive@epa.nsw.gov.au).

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