

Temporary changes to NCAT operations

Effective date: 16 December 2020

Replaces: Message from the President, 30 November 2020 - Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Tribunal is monitoring the Commonwealth and State Governments' announcements and health advice relating to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Hearings

In an endeavour to contain the effects of COVID-19 and keep the Tribunal operational as much as possible, the following temporary procedures have been implemented. The primary aim is to remove the need for parties to physically come to the Tribunal.

The Tribunal (comprising the four Divisions and the Appeal Panel) is conducting all stages of its hearings by phone, audio-visual link or on the papers. This arrangement will continue until further notice and is dependent on social distancing requirements, including the requirement to maintain 1.5 metres between people.

No face-to-face hearings will be conducted without prior approval of the President.

All matters are currently being listed and heard typically by phone or audio-visual link however hearings may not be within the usual timeframes.

In the [Consumer and Commercial Division](#) priority is being given to:

- [Tenancy matters](#)
- Other urgent matters that arise in the following circumstances:
 - to address an imminent danger to a person's health or welfare;
 - to prevent unauthorised work being carried out;
 - to prevent property being damaged; or
 - where a lessee may be locked out of a retail shop or residential premises.

Attending NCAT registries

Please try to avoid attending the NCAT registry in person. Do not attend if:

- If you have had close contact with **someone diagnosed with or suspected or confirmed as having Coronavirus (COVID-19)** in the last 14 days **DO NOT ATTEND NCAT**
- If you are feeling unwell and experiencing any of the following symptoms - fever, cough, sore throat or shortness of breath **DO NOT ATTEND NCAT**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



NCAT
NSW Civil &
Administrative
Tribunal

Registrars/Sheriff officers may deny entry or request any person to leave a building.

NSW Health advise that people should **stay at home if they are feeling unwell.**

For the latest updates from NSW Health visit their [website](#).

The Hon Justice Lea Armstrong
President

16 December 2020