



4 May 2020

## Update on the conduct of Religious Services and live streaming

Please find an excerpt from the Prime Minister's media statement of 3 April 2020.

### ***Religious Services***

*Churches and other places of worship, will be considered places of work so that services can be live streamed to the community. This will ensure that religious services, including Easter services, remain accessible to congregations. National Cabinet agreed that providing access to services is important for a sense of continuity and social connection.*

*Services may be conducted and live streamed providing only essential staff are present, the venue/facility remains closed to the public, and social distancing principles are adhered to.*

Although the Prime Minister's statement made explicit reference to church services, we have been advised that the guidelines refer to all places of worship. Any temples wishing to conduct religious services, must use the minimum number of participants required to deliver and live stream the service, which may include a Sangha member or members, attendants, videographer and sound recordist.

On this basis, it appears likely, **but is to be confirmed**, that temples will be able to live stream Vesak ceremonies with a number of Sangha in attendance (but no members of the public). We are seeking clarification from the Victorian Government on this matter and will advise accordingly.

The full statement by the Prime Minister can be found here:

<https://www.pm.gov.au/media/update-coronavirus-measures-030420>