



**Media Release – For immediate release**

**11 March 2020**

## **Live performance and COVID-19**

Australia's live performance industry is paying very close attention to the evolving situation around the spread of COVID-19 both in Australia and overseas.

LPA Chief Executive Evelyn Richardson said the health and well-being of patrons and performers at live performance events remains the top priority for producers, promoters, venue operators and event organisers.

"At this stage, the advice of the Commonwealth's Chief Medical Officer is that there is no material risk associated with attending a public gathering.

"Obviously, people who have been in COVID-19 affected countries, or have had contact with a confirmed case or are unwell should stay away from public gatherings, but otherwise it should be safe to attend.

"We'll continue to follow that advice, and many of our live performance events are proceeding on that basis, including upcoming festivals such as Bluesfest," Ms Richardson said.

"If and when the official advice changes, we will work closely with health authorities to respond to their advice."

Ms Richardson said she was aware of decisions to cancel or postpone events in Australia and overseas.

"Each promoter or event organiser will need to make a decision on their event and circumstances and we respect those decisions, although we will always start from the position of what the official health advice says," Ms Richardson says.

"It remains safe to attend a live performance, and I encourage all Australians to continue to make the most of our dynamic, diverse and vibrant live performance sector."

***ENDS***

### **Media contact**

Susan Fitzpatrick-Napier  
DMG USA/Australia  
Office: +1 61 2 8218 2144  
susan@dmgpr.com

Join the conversation on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



## About LPA

Live Performance Australia (LPA) is the peak body for Australia's live performance industry. Established over 100 years ago in 1917 and registered as an employers' organisation under the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, LPA has over 400 Members nationally. We represent commercial producers, music promoters, major performing arts companies, small to medium companies, independent producers, major performing arts centres, metropolitan and regional venues, commercial theatres, stadiums and arenas, arts festivals, music festivals, and service providers such as ticketing companies and technical suppliers. Our membership spans from small-medium and not-for-profit organisations to large commercial entities.

LPA has a clear mandate to advocate for and support policy decisions that benefit the sustainability and growth of the live performance industry in Australia.