

DJPR Public Event Observers

The Public Events Framework (PEF) enables event organisers to safely deliver large-scale public events. Under the Framework, Tier 1 and high-risk Tier 2 events must have an approved COVIDSafe Event Plan. To ensure COVIDSafe Event Plans are followed, the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions has established a Public Events Observer Program to observe, record and report compliance.

What do Public Event Observers do?

Public Event Observers attend Tier 1 and high-risk Tier 2 events to:

- observe the delivery and management of events
- help event organisers comply with their approved COVIDSafe Event Plans
- report instances of non-compliance to event organisers
- escalate incidents during the event to Authorised Officers or Victoria Police
- provide post-event intelligence to improve future events and approvals.

Delivering an event safely remains the responsibility of the event organiser. The presence of Public Event Observers does not change this.

The Public Events Observer Program is not an enforcement agency and Public Event Observers will not interact directly with attendees or assist or interfere with the delivery of an event. In addition, observers will not conduct checks or interfere with any (actual or perceived) failure by event organisers to comply with COVIDSafe Event Plans.

Public Event Observers work with Department of Health Authorise Officers and Victoria Police while at public events.

What event organisers can expect from Public Event Observers

A team of two Public Event Observers are deployed to attend public events.

Before an event

The Public Event Observer Supervisor will contact the event organiser to inform them of their presence on site and explain what Public Event Observers do. Arrangements can then be made for any accreditation, access, passes or site briefings.

During an event

Public Event Observers observe how the approved COVIDSafe Event Plan is followed.

They are alert for any non-compliance with COVIDSafe Event Plans and raise their observations with event organisers in real-time.

If there is no action taken by the event organiser, the matter is escalated to Authorised Officers or Victoria Police, if required.

After an event

Public Event Observers complete a Post-Event Report detailing observations and if there were instances of non-compliance during an event.

The information from these reports is distributed to relevant Victorian Government agencies to improve processes and the approval of events in future.