

PRACTICE DIRECTION NUMBER 1 OF 2022

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COURT OF QUEENSLAND

COVID-19

1. In light of the prospect of community transmission of the COVID-19 virus, this direction is aimed at ensuring that the Courts, as an essential service, continue to provide access to justice while ensuring the health and safety of all participants.

2. Any practitioner or unrepresented party who is not fully vaccinated (i.e., as recognised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration) or is aware that a client, witness they propose to call or other person attending court with them is not fully vaccinated should:
 - notify the court of that fact via the relevant registry at least 24 hours prior to attending the court building (<https://www.courts.qld.gov.au/contacts/courthouses>); and
 - ensure that the person not fully vaccinated is made aware of the content of this practice direction.Early notification to the relevant registry will permit the court to give proper consideration to any necessary alternative arrangements.

3. Subject to the direction of the presiding judge, all persons entering a court building should wear a face mask at all times while in the court building, other than when speaking in court.

4. All persons entering a court building should:
 - check in when entering the court building and again before entering individual courtrooms which have separate QR codes, using the 'Check in Queensland App';
 - practise safe distancing.



Chief Judge BG Devereaux SC
15 February 2022