

PETER JONES

SPECIAL EVENTS

SUBMISSION INTO THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE TOURISM AND EVENTS SECTOR

From: Peter Jones Special Events Pty Ltd (PJSE)

PJSE pre Covid-19 at 13 March 2020

- 8 staff
- 45 events annually
- Turnover average \$6M
- Engaged up to 15 subcontractors on every event – ranging from
 - audio/visual specialists
 - casual event staff , in some cases 300 on one event
 - caterers
 - entertainers
 - florists
 - risk assessor
 - security personnel
 - stage managers
 - stylists
 - themeing suppliers

PJSE had operated the same way for 29 years, with a similar number of events every year.

PSE post Covid-19 at 13 March 2021

- 3 staff – all on JobKeeper
- 1 event since 13 March, 2020
- Turnover \$230,000 approximately, which equates to a 96% drop
- Subcontractors – only engaged for 1 event

Key issues relating to the decimation of our business

- Inability to meet due to venue closures and limitation on guests being able to attend
- Lack of client confidence to run events, even though restrictions are slowly being lifted –
 - Threat of border closures
 - Current restrictions on events that do not seem to apply to other areas of gatherings, ie shopping centres and night clubs

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- General government reluctance to understand the needs of the industry

What is being asked:

- Immediate financial grants for those businesses who can show that they will be solvent and profitable when the industry returns to at least 90% capacity.
- Confidence that snap lockdowns will not be required as the vaccine roll out continues.
- Relaxation of current rules that:
 - reflect what the other States have; and
 - are realistic to ensure business confidence.