



Members Respond to the Coronavirus Challenge

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What's the biggest work/COVID-19 challenge you're facing this week?

This week's challenge is around preparing for the return of our people into our offices. Establishing the new workplace guidelines, prioritising how we do this safely and building people's confidence in their ability to come back.

What's the current situation in your city relative to opening non-essential businesses?

With Australia's successful management of "the curve" the government is now focusing on repairing economic damage and has announced that they are looking to ease restrictions. They have asked businesses to prepare to get people back to work, with social distancing measures.

How do you think COVID-19 will bring about permanent changes in corporate real estate and workplace strategy?

At least in the immediate future there will be many changes, although some may be temporary, to meet the social distancing measures required to safely return people into their workplaces, whilst Covid-19 still remains.

Prior workplace strategies and more traditional CRE models are definitely up for review, as technology has successfully enabled many businesses to have majority of their workforce working outside of their office environment. It does significantly challenge any prior hesitation to remote working.

It will therefore encourage businesses to better leverage their workplaces by understanding the value that their unique workplace brings. The opportunity to put the employee at the centre of the design to ensure longer term CRE strategy success is great outcome to the Covid-19 challenge.