



DPC20/1756  
B906088

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[www.dpc.sa.gov.au](http://www.dpc.sa.gov.au)

Mr Chris Picton MP  
Member for Kaurna  
9/760 Grand Boulevard  
SEAFORD MEADOWS SA 5169

Sent by email: [shadowhealth@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:shadowhealth@parliament.sa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Picton

### Freedom of information (FOI) application

I refer to your request received by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) seeking access under section 13 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act) to:

*All State Crisis Centre briefing emails sent from 'DPC:State Crisis Centre' with the subject commencing as 'State Crisis Centre - SEC Briefing - COVID-19. Date range: 01/09/2020 to 09/12/2020*

Under the Act, an agency has 30 days to respond to a freedom of information request. As DPC did not respond to your request within the time frame required, the department is deemed to have refused you access to all documents relevant to your application. However, I have determined to process the request as if the statutory time frame had been met.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of my determination.

A total of four documents were identified as answering the terms of your application and I have determined to release as follows:

- I grant you access in full to two documents, copies of which are enclosed, and
- I grant you access in part to two documents, copies of which are enclosed.

Please refer to the attached schedule that describes each document and sets out my determination and reasons in summary form.

**Documents released in full**

Documents 2 and 3

**Documents released in part**

Documents 1 and 4

Sections of these documents contain information relating to the personal affairs of a third party, namely a mobile phone number. Under clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 to the Act, information is exempt if releasing it would involve the 'unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person'. I have considered that the application of clause 6(1) requires two elements, one that the information contains the personal affairs of that person; and secondly that disclosure would be unreasonable and contrary to public interest. I have determined that this information falls within the category of 'personal affairs' as listed under section 4(1) of the Act, thereby meeting the first elements of this clause. Further, I have considered whether the disclosure of this information would be unreasonable. In doing so, I have considered the relevance of this information to the public and the likelihood as to whether the person in question would consent to disclosure. I have concluded that this information was likely obtained in confidence and through measures which would otherwise make it unavailable to the public. I have considered the factors in favour of public interest and determined that these factors are outweighed by the need to maintain personal confidentiality in this instance. Therefore, I have determined that this information meets the requirements of clause 6(1) and is thereby exempt pursuant to this clause.

**Exemptions**

***Clause 6 – Documents affecting personal affairs***

*(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead)*

**FOI Disclosure Log**

In compliance with Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045 - *Disclosure Logs for Non-Personal Information Released through Freedom of Information* (PC045), DPC is now required to publish a log of all non-personal information released under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*.

In accordance with this Circular, any non-personal information determined for release as part of this application, may be published on the DPC website. A copy of PC045 can be found at the following address: <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars> Please visit the website for further information.

**Right to internal review**

If you are aggrieved with this determination, you have a right to apply for internal review under subsection 29(1) of the Act. Pursuant to subsection 29(2), your application must:

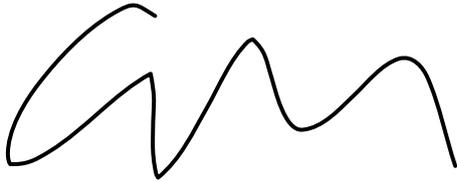
- be in writing
- be addressed to the principal officer, and

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- be lodged at an office of DPC, or emailed to [DPCFOIUnit@sa.gov.au](mailto:DPCFOIUnit@sa.gov.au) within 30 days after the day on which you receive this letter or within such further time as the principal officer may allow.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Denise Cranwell, Freedom of Information Officer, on telephone 8429 7312, or via email at [denise.cranwell@sa.gov.au](mailto:denise.cranwell@sa.gov.au).

**Yours sincerely**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of connected loops and curves, representing the name Eamonn Maloney.

Eamonn Maloney  
**Accredited Freedom of Information Officer**  
Office of the Chief Executive  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

09/02/2021

**Attachment(s):**

- Schedule of documents
- Documents for release

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**SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS DPC20/1756**

Freedom of information application from Chris Picton MP seeking access to *All State Crisis Centre briefing emails sent from 'DPC:State Crisis Centre' with the subject commencing as 'State Crisis Centre - SEC Briefing - COVID-19. Date range: 01/09/2020 to 09/12/2020*

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Document description</b>	<b>Exemption clauses</b>	<b>Released (part/full/refused)</b>
1.	16/11/2020	Email - State Crisis Centre - SEC Briefing – 16 November 2020	6(1) personal affairs	Release in part
2.	18/11/2020	Email - SEC Briefing Report 18 November 2020 – COVID-19		Release in full
3.	19/11/2020	Email – COVID Briefing Thursday 19 November 2020		Release in full
4.	20/11/2020	Email - State Emergency Centre briefing: 20 November 2020	6(1) personal affairs	Release in part

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**Cranwell, Denise (DPC)**

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**From:** DPC:State Crisis Centre  
**Sent:** Monday, 16 November 2020 6:34 PM  
**To:** Westenberg, Greg (Health); Morcombe, Courtney (DPC); Gorvett, Jon (DPC); McDowell, Jim (DPC); Lloyd-Wright, Alison (DPC); Ambler, Ruth (DPC); Hurn, Ashton (DPC); Ali, Jehad (DPC); Armanas, Paul (DPC); Hooper, Sam (DCS); Green, Robyn (DPC); DPC:State Crisis Centre  
**Subject:** State Crisis Centre - SEC Briefing 16 November 2020

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Good afternoon

Following is a brief report from the State Emergency Centre briefing held today on the current COVID 19 situation in South Australia. The SCC will provide a short update after each SEC briefing. Briefings are expected to occur daily this week.

**1) Situation:**

A significant cluster outbreak of COVID-19 has occurred in the metropolitan Adelaide region which has now been linked to a large family unit in the northern suburbs.

The first confirmed case was identified following the presentation of an elderly woman to the Lyell McEwin Hospital on Saturday 14 November. While the initial source of the infection was not clear, subsequent family testing and contact tracing has identified connections to the Adelaide CBD 'Medi-hotel' on Waymouth Street, where one family member works as a cleaner. Two security guards from the same Medi-Hotel have also tested positive. SA Health has indicated some cases were 'highly positive', indicating a potential super-spreader event. The cluster currently numbers 17.

SA Health is conducting rigorous contact tracing around the movement of the affected family members, including within the Yatala Labour Prison, hospital intensive care units and aged-care facilities, where members of the family also worked. All contacts are being traced back to 31 October 2020.

**2) Impacts:**

In excess of 200 potential contacts from the Lyell McEwin Hospital who were present when the first case presented are now in quarantine, as are a significant cohort of 'Medi-hotel' security guards who attended a personal protective equipment training session with infected cases last week. In addition, over 90 South Australia Police officers and a small number of Health workers are also in isolation or quarantine.

The state's testing regime has been expanded rapidly and facilities are reporting high numbers of people seeking tests. Additional resources required to assist with demand and the potential for mobile testing sites being explored.

Several schools in the immediate vicinity of the outbreak, including Mawson Lakes School and Preschool and Thomas Moore School, have been closed for cleaning.

Correctional Services are implementing COVID19 plans to manage the impacts of a staff member testing positive and a prisoner from another facility being present at the ED where the first patient tested positive.

Five incoming international flights have been cancelled, and further impacts are expected.

### 3) Emerging Issues/Actions

SA Health has requested additional support to run the State Control Centre and undertake contact tracing. The Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment is working to identify available resources to assist, which may have some impact for some government agencies. Additional support has also been sought to staff the SEICCC, which is experiencing an unprecedented number of calls. Currently, only 50% are being answered. Additional call centre staff are being recruited.

DPC-ICT is working to procure a contact tracing application for use in licensed venues, however this will not be ready until 4 December 2020.

Workers in an impacted meat processor have also been placed into mandatory quarantine.

The next briefing of the State Emergency Centre will be held at 1300 17 November 2020. SEC briefings will be held at 1300 hours until further notice.

The State Crisis Centre will remain on watch until further notification from the SEC. Updates will be provided following each SEC briefing.

#### State Crisis Centre

##### Clare Speechley

Principal Policy Officer  
Security and Emergency Management  
Intergovernmental and Diplomatic Relations  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

6(1) Personal affairs

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Government of South Australia  
Department of the Premier  
and Cabinet



The Department of the Premier and Cabinet acknowledges and respects Aboriginal people as the state's first people and nations, and recognises Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of South Australian land and waters.

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**Cranwell, Denise (DPC)**

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**From:** DPC:State Crisis Centre  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 November 2020 5:05 PM  
**To:** Westenber, Greg (Health); Morcombe, Courtney (DPC); Gorvett, Jon (DPC); McDowell, Jim (DPC); Lloyd-Wright, Alison (DPC); Ambler, Ruth (DPC); Hurn, Ashton (DPC); Ali, Jehad (DPC); Armanas, Paul (DPC); Hooper, Sam (DCS)  
**Cc:** DPC:State Crisis Centre; DL:DPC Security and Emergency Management  
**Subject:** SEC Briefing report 18 November 2020 - COVID 19

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Good afternoon,

Summary of the SEC briefing provided below.

Important links for reference:

- COVID Directions: <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/response>

# State Emergency Centre Briefing (COVID-19) #41

## 1) Situation:

Significant restrictions across the whole state will come into effect from midnight today. They are broader than those previously implemented in March and are likely to cause significant stress in the community.

As at 1400 Wednesday 18 November 2020, the Control Agency indicated another three cases in the Adelaide cluster, and 7 suspected cases.

All positive cases so far have been identified possible contacts and have been in quarantine. Links between all cases are clear.

The replication cycle appears to be three days and therefore the six day lockdown is based on two replication cycles.

We are in the fourth generation of community transmission.

People will be restricted from going outside of their homes – only one person per household will be able to leave the home each day, but only for specific purposes. Masks need to be worn in public.

## 2) Impacts:

Testing is being prioritised to those directed to take a test by CDCB (including asymptomatic persons) and everybody who is symptomatic. Asymptomatic persons with no potential link to cases (worried well) are asked to not seek testing.

Testing of staff and prisoners at Yatala has been completed with no positive cases at this point.

Most of the visitors to the Lyell McEwin Emergency Department have been contacted and have tested negative. The doctor who treated the index case is in quarantine and has become symptomatic today.

SAAS has lost some staff through necessity to isolate at home but are currently managing staffing impacts.

A number of schools are involved with selective testing being done. All schools in the state will be closed for the next six days.

Closures will also include all non-essential businesses, including take-away food, hospitality, retail businesses (except supermarkets and petrol stations), construction, outdoor sports and elective surgery. Personal exercise outdoors will also not be permitted.

## 3) Emerging Issues/Actions:

The COVID-19 hotline is still experiencing a high volume of calls. Questions should be directed to the [sa.gov.au](http://sa.gov.au) website.

Traffic Management around testing sites needs to be extended further to cope with the queues and traffic impacts.

There are concerns regarding overcrowding in SAHA tenancies and an increase in the number of rough sleepers, particularly in parklands in Adelaide. Lakeview Transitional Accommodation Centre in Port Augusta is currently at capacity and cannot be utilised for those who cannot return to country due to APY Lands closure.

There are expected to be periods of hot weather over the next six days, with the potential for thunderstorms on Sunday. This has implications for people isolating in areas of high bushfire risk and for people queuing for testing. Public messaging will be issued to advise of precautions and proposed actions in the event of a bushfire.

SEC briefings will be held daily at 1300 hours until further notice.

**For more information**

**State Crisis Centre**

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

**Phone:** (08) 8226 1981

**Email:** [dpcstatecrisiscentre@sa.gov.au](mailto:dpcstatecrisiscentre@sa.gov.au)

Authorised by Robyn Green, Director, Security and Emergency Management

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**Cranwell, Denise (DPC)**

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**From:** DPC:State Crisis Centre  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 November 2020 3:11 PM  
**To:** Westenberg, Greg (Health); Morcombe, Courtney (DPC); Gorvett, Jon (DPC); McDowell, Jim (DPC); Lloyd-Wright, Alison (DPC); Ambler, Ruth (DPC); Hurn, Ashton (DPC); Ali, Jehad (DPC); Armanas, Paul (DPC); Hooper, Sam (DCS)  
**Cc:** DPC:State Crisis Centre; DL:DPC Security and Emergency Management  
**Subject:** COVID Briefing Thursday 19 November 2020

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**Not for further distribution**

Good afternoon,

Key points from the State Emergency Centre briefing held at 1pm today are below.

In addition, the State Crisis Centre can confirm that SA Government is engaging with the supermarket and telecommunication sectors via the National Coordination Mechanism.

## State Emergency Centre Briefing (COVID-19)

### Situation

South Australia has entered a six-day period of significant restriction in order to minimise the spread of COVID-19 associated with the Parafield cluster.

There are 23 confirmed cases of COVID-19 attached to the cluster, with a further 17 suspected cases. There have been no additional positive cases since restrictions started.

3900 people are in quarantine across the state, with approximately 300 showing some respiratory symptoms. SA Health notes this represents a smaller percentage of people than they would usually expect to see with respiratory symptoms in the community, and therefore does not anticipate a significant jump in positive cases.

### Impacts

The shift to testing every three days, due to the virulent nature of the strain identified in Adelaide, presents a significant logistical challenge for SA Health. As a large number of people would potentially have been tested before becoming infectious, many will need to be retested within the three day period.

Additional testing sites are being established, and the Victoria Park site will now operate 24/7 from midnight tonight. Other testing sites will remain open until midnight each day. It is anticipated that testing requirements will be considerable in the coming days.

A COMDISPLAN request has been submitted to the ADF for assistance in establishing a pop-up testing site in Smithfield.

Over 150 Department of Correctional Services staff are currently in isolation following the positive case at Yatala Labour Prison, and SA Health will be arranging pop-up testing for those impacted in the coming days.

There is an overwhelming community appetite for information due to the restrictions, particularly regarding school closures, and at present many calls to the SCICCC are unable to be answered. Public Information is working closely with SA Health and others to ensure consistency and timeliness of public messaging.

### Emerging issues

The Victorian Government has notified of some positive wastewater tests in Portland and Benalla in western Victoria, and they believe South Australia is the source. Victoria is closing its border to South Australia for two days from midnight tonight.

SA Health has indicated some current challenges in maintaining normal operations of the two CBD medi-hotels at Peppers and the Stamford, and have received assistance from SAAS to organise food deliveries in the past 24 hours. The ADF has indicated they are training their personnel who will be ready to deploy to the medi-hotels by tomorrow to assist with security.

It is expected that a number of South Australian residents currently in medi-hotels will be permitted to return to their homes to quarantine, however, residents of other states or territories have been told they are unable to return home. SA Health is monitoring the mental health of these people accordingly.

SEC briefings will be held at 1300 hours until further notice.

**For more information**

**State Crisis Centre**

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

**Phone:** (08) 8226 1981

**Email:** [dpcstatecrisiscentre@sa.gov.au](mailto:dpcstatecrisiscentre@sa.gov.au)

Authorised by Robyn Green, Director, Security and Emergency Management



**Government of South Australia**  
Department of the Premier  
and Cabinet



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**Cranwell, Denise (DPC)**

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**From:** DPC:State Crisis Centre  
**Sent:** Friday, 20 November 2020 2:13 PM  
**To:** Westenberg, Greg (Health); Morcombe, Courtney (DPC); Gorvett, Jon (DPC); McDowell, Jim (DPC); Lloyd-Wright, Alison (DPC); Ambler, Ruth (DPC); Hurn, Ashton (DPC); Ali, Jehad (DPC); Armanas, Paul (DPC); Hooper, Sam (DCS)  
**Cc:** DPC:State Crisis Centre; DL:DPC Security and Emergency Management  
**Subject:** State Emergency Centre briefing: 20 November 2020

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Good afternoon all,

Summary of the State Emergency Centre briefing held at 1pm today.

## State Emergency Centre Briefing (COVID-19)

### Situation

Three additional cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in South Australia today, bringing the total number connected to the Parafield cluster to 25. All three are connected to known cases and were already in quarantine.

Over 4,500 South Australians are quarantining and testing across the community remains extremely high, with over 14,000 tests conducted yesterday. SA Health is confident that the current testing rate of 3 people in every 1000 is adequate to detect community transmission.

The Woodville Pizza Shop, Yatala Labour Prison and Dame Roma Mitchell school remain the priority areas for testing and contact tracing. Contact tracing indicates that the number of people connected to the Aquadome in Elizabeth is expected to rise to over 700 requiring quarantine.

SA Health assesses we are ahead of the curve, however, expects the number of positive cases in South Australia to rise further due to retesting of individuals who were not yet infectious when first tested.

### Impacts

The current state-wide restrictions will be eased from 0001 hours, Sunday 22 November, following a change in the risk assessment by SA Health following further investigation of the cases associated with the Woodville Pizza Shop.

The COMDISPLAN for ADF assistance has been approved, and Smithfield Barracks will be used for targeted testing. This information will not be made public. Additional ADF support will also be provided to Adelaide's medi-hotels.

### Emerging issues

The Department of Correctional Services has indicated there are some challenges with the Stay at Home directions for prisoners being released, which occurs on a daily basis. DCS has requested clarity to ensure released prisoners are able to safely travel to their homes across the state.

Consistency in public messaging will be critical following the easing of restrictions. The SEICCC is still reporting an inability to address the total number of calls and enquiries, and messaging through internet and social media is being amplified to account for any shortfall.

The SEC has been stood down on a two-hour recall, if needed.

**Robyn Green**

Director  
Security and Emergency Management  
Intergovernmental and Diplomatic Relations  
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

6(1) Personal affairs

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