

SA COVID-19 TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Meeting 12: 29 May 2020

Actions:

Reference	Action
4.9	Paper to be presented at the next meeting identifying simpler thresholds to be satisfied by jurisdictions to end requirement to quarantine on arrival in SA.
5.2	Crown Solicitor invited to attend next meeting as a guest and discuss consequences of any change to emergency declaration.
6.4	CE DHW to speak to Zoos SA and confirm no exemption to current Direction

Outcomes:

Reference	Action
6.3	Any exemption to allow the zoo greater patron limits would be considered by 19 June.

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

- 1.1 All members present.

2. Exemptions procedures

- 2.1 Members discussed the revised approach to compassionate exemptions for onward overseas travellers that had been developed by CE DHW and State Coordinator. The Committee noted the new template would formalise and clarify communications between jurisdictions.
- 2.2 Members noted that in addition to our own process, a paper would be put to AHPPC by SA and Victoria to formalise the process on a national basis.

3. Draft forward work plan

- 3.1 The Committee discussed the need to prepare for Step 3 and Step 4.
- 3.2 The Committee reflected that it would be desirable for those things to be as nationally consistent as possible, especially with respect to the activities that will not recommence even in Step 4, and that Step 4 would be a consistent, long term state until such time as a vaccine is available.

- 3.3 The Committee discussed likely items for Step 4 national approach to include large mass gatherings and major events, nightclubs, cruise ships and international borders.
- 3.4 The Commissioner noted the risk of sending restricted activities like nightclubs into less controlled underground/black market environments.
- 3.5 The Committee discussed the distinction between micro distancing (eg keeping 1.5 m apart) and macro distancing, which is the mobility and circulation of people in society as a whole, and whether an adequate mitigation other than restricting activities available could be found to ensure macro distancing.
- 3.6 The Committee discussed whether any further expertise was required to better assess risk profiles and agreed that the balance between public health, economic and social, and enforcement elements would be difficult to source and the best expertise was already represented on the Committee.

4. SA border closures future arrangements

- 4.1 The Committee discussed the tabled paper
- 4.2 The Committee noted that both the performance of other jurisdictions, and the performance in SA were variables that would need to be accounted for.
- 4.3 The Committee noted that the risk stratification presented in the paper was too complicated, and the thresholds set needed to be much simpler, and should be two conditions: a condition for SA performance and a condition for jurisdiction performance.
- 4.4 The Committee discussed that those thresholds should capture a range of numbers, not just a hard cap, and needed to be able to be understood by the public at large and commercial operators.
- 4.5 The Committee discussed that breach of those thresholds should trigger a review rather than an implied closure, as there may be manageable spikes or clusters which do not reflect overall jurisdictional performance and risk of transmission.
- 4.6 The Committee discussed that application of this approach may result in a travellers from some jurisdictions being allowed to move freely into SA without quarantine, while travellers from other jurisdictions would still be required to quarantine. This may be especially the case for jurisdictions with permeable domestic borders.
- 4.7 The Committee noted that interstate tourists spend more than local tourists.
- 4.8 The Committee noted the strong community sentiment on relaxing quarantine requirements for domestic travellers, and the need for clear communications about why we need to start allowing more domestic travel, and about our willingness to tolerate a manageable number of cases so long as outbreaks were controlled.
- 4.9 **Action: Paper to be presented at the next meeting identifying simpler thresholds to be satisfied by jurisdictions to end requirement to quarantine on arrival in SA.**

5. Emergency declaration and emergency management arrangements

- 5.1 The Committee discussed the emergency management options, and the need for legal opinion on the intended and unintended consequences of any change to the emergency management declaration.
- 5.2 **Action: Crown Solicitor invited to attend next meeting as a guest and discuss consequences of any change to emergency declaration.**

6. Any other business

- 6.1 The Committee noted discussions between SA Health and the Zoo about safe patron numbers noting that their venue is large, outdoors, and people are mobile not static (ie walk through the zoo, rather than stay seated in one location).
- 6.2 The Committee considered whether any exemption to allow the zoo to exceed 80 patron per premises venue limit was warranted.
- 6.3 The Committee agreed this could be contemplated in tandem with the “large rooms” consideration to be resolved by 19 June, and accordingly that the Direction would apply to the zoo as drafted.
- 6.4 **Action: CE DHW to speak to Zoos SA and confirm no exemption to current Direction**