

SA COVID-19 TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Meeting: 10 August 2021

Outcomes:

Reference	Action
4.1	The Committee did not recommend any changes to cross border travel arrangements.
5.9	<p>The Committee agreed to recommend to the State Coordinator that effective 0001 hours Thursday 12 August the following restrictions apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seated consumption only• Density:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 per 4 sqm for seated activity, including consumption, theatre, worship• Standing activities at 1 per 2 sqm, eg retail• Mixed seating and standing activities at 1 per 2 sqm• Gyms and indoor fitness 1 per 4 sqm• No change to home gatherings - remain at 10 including residents• All private gatherings outside of the home at 50 max, including weddings, funerals, birthdays etc• No change to masks - indoor public places, high risk health and aged care settings, personal care settings. Masks to be worn if singing indoor eg during worship.

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

1.1 Ms Leonie Muldoon was an apology for this meeting, all remaining members present.

1.2 Mr Rick Persse, Dr Evan Everest, Ms Ingrid Norman, Dr Chris Lease, Chief Supt Stuart McLean and Mr Don Frater attended as guests.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

- 2.1 Minutes of the SA COVID-19 Transition Committee meeting 05 August 2021 were endorsed.

3. AHPPC update

- 3.1 CPHO provided an update on NSW, noting spread into regional areas, and the number of people seeking exemptions to enter South Australia from both Greater Sydney and NSW, which may increase the risk of importation of COVID into SA.
- 3.2 CPHO provided an update on Victoria, noting that while the outbreak continues to grow so far no cases, exposure sites or positive waste water detections had been found in regional Victoria.
- 3.3 CPHO provided an update on cases in Cairns and Brisbane.
- 3.4 CPHO noted significant challenges posed by the high transmissibility of the Delta variant. As the risk of incursion increases, our ability to manage any outbreak swiftly before it takes hold relies on identifying cases very early.

4. Cross Border update

- 4.1 Based on CPHO advice on outbreaks in other jurisdictions the Committee did not recommend any changes to cross border travel arrangements.
- 4.2 CPHO advised that despite no cases being recorded in the ACT the risk of incursion from NSW into that jurisdiction was high.

5. Public activities update

- 5.1 The Committee discussed the increased risk of an incursion, and that a lockdown is the likely response to any introduction of COVID into SA.
- 5.2 The CPHO emphasised that the length of any lockdown would be determined by how early the incursion is detected and the opportunity for generations of spread within the community. Accordingly, additional public health measures will act to slow the potential spread prior to detection.
- 5.3 The CPHO noted that the public health survey indicates 93.9% of South Australians support or strongly support current restrictions.
- 5.4 The Committee noted the need to balance economic outcomes and the commercial viability of businesses against measures to slow the spread of COVID, such as density and mask requirements.
- 5.5 CPHO noted the Doherty modelling indicating density and other public health measures are likely to be required even at high levels of vaccination, and that it is timely for business and industry to consider how they can pivot their business models rather than expecting a return to pre-COVID conditions for commercial viability.

- 5.6 The Committee noted that while large COVID management plan events were ultimately a matter for SA Health to approve they are also a factor in the risk profile.
- 5.7 The Committee noted that as the risk from NSW and Victoria escalate as their outbreaks grow, it should be clearly communicated that any measures recommended are likely to be required for some time.
- 5.8 The Committee considered that activities where people are standing are higher risk because of the increased mobility and chance of additional interaction.
- 5.9 Accordingly, the Committee agreed to recommend to the State Coordinator that effective 0001 hours Thursday 12 August the following restrictions apply:
- Seated consumption only
 - Density:
 - 3 per 4 sqm for seated activity, including consumption, theatre, worship
 - Standing activities at 1 per 2 sqm, eg retail
 - Mixed seating and standing activities at 1 per 2 sqm
 - Gyms and indoor fitness 1 per 4 sqm
 - No change to home gatherings - remain at 10 including residents
 - All private gatherings outside of the home at 50 max, including weddings, funerals, birthdays etc
 - No change to masks - indoor public places, high risk health and aged care settings, personal care settings. Masks to be worn if singing indoor eg during worship.
- 5.10 The Committee noted in line with the density requirement for seated activities public messaging should indicate that staff may return to office environments at approximately 75% capacity.