

SA COVID-19 TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Meeting 53: 3 November

Outcomes:

Reference	Action
4.4	The Committee endorsed the development of the QR Check In and TekScan applications to support contact tracing.

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

- 1.1 All members were present.
- 1.2 Dr Evan Everest, Ms Jane Cox and Ms Ingrid Norman attended as guests.

2. AHPPC update

- 2.1 CPHO provided an update on vaccine candidates and trials. The Commonwealth government are planning implementation and rollout and will distribute any vaccine in partnership with states and territories.
- 2.2 CPHO noted AHPPC discussion on maritime crew changeovers, with different approaches by different jurisdictions on the quarantining of crew members as they disembark vessels, and as they arrive in Australia. This creates additional pressure on hotel quarantine capacity, but is essential to manage the risk of importation. South Australia's approach will align with WA.
- 2.3 The Committee noted that Western Australia will allow travellers from SA, NT, Queensland and ACT from 14 November. The Northern Territory opened on 2 November to travellers from regional Victoria.
- 2.4 CPHO provided an update on the epidemiology in Victoria, noting four days of zero cases, and active sewerage testing in 50 locations.
- 2.5 CPHO provided an update on a recent NSW cluster and noted the need to continue to monitor cases in NSW. Reflecting NSW government advice on this cluster, ticketholders for the NRL State of Origin games from identified suburbs will have their tickets refunded, to manage any risk of super-spreading at the event.

3. Economic update

- 3.1 CE DTI noted internet job vacancies have increased in the last week, reflecting increased confidence. South Australia remains at 75 per cent of jobs returned from pre-COVID levels.

- 3.2 The Committee noted greater CBD activity than other jurisdictions which rely more heavily on public transport use, which remains low in all jurisdictions.

4. Public activity restrictions

- 4.1 The Committee noted two technological solutions are in development which would allow for central, government controlled storage of attendance records. Data from both applications could be housed in the same data repository to allow rapid access by contact tracers.
- 4.2 The first application will be run by venues, and will scan a physical document such as an ID card or business card. The second application will require patrons to scan a QR code to sign in to a venue, and will connect to the digital drivers licence system to provide identity validation.
- 4.3 The Australian Hotels Association and Clubs Association have been consulted and are supportive of this approach if its introduction will allow for the resumption of standing consumption of food and alcohol.
- 4.4 The Committee endorsed the development of these applications.
- 4.5 Consideration will be given to whether these applications, or merely the collection of an attendance record, will be mandatory, noting equity issues such as patrons who do not have a smartphone.
- 4.6 The Committee noted further advice from the CPHO on baseline public activity restrictions, for which the rollout of at least one of these technological solutions would be a precondition.
- 4.7 The Committee discussed the requirement to test travellers in the close border communities. Noting public health advice that such testing was no longer necessary to manage the risk of importation, the Committee agreed to recommend to the State Coordinator that the travel direction be amended to remove this requirement.