

SA COVID-19 TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Meeting 59: 04 December 2020

Outcomes:

Reference	Action
4.6	The State Coordinator noted the balance of advice and advised the Committee of his intention to reduce the density requirement to 1 per 2 square metres in hospitality settings only as an interim measure before a further easing of restrictions. Indoor consumption is to remain seated only.

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

- 1.1 All members present.
- 1.2 Dr Evan Everest, Dr Jon Gorvett, Ms Ingrid Norman and Mr Don Frater attended as guests.

2. Parafield cluster update & AHPPC update

- 2.1 With respect to the Parafield cluster, the CPHO advised that there are no new cases associated with the cluster with contact tracing continuing to pursue final contacts from exposure sites.
- 2.2 CPHO provided an update on the case in NSW, noting NSW were still awaiting genomic testing which will provide information on whether the source of infection was an overseas traveller or infection is present in the community.
- 2.3 The Committee noted that the CE DHW has written to Dr Brendan Murphy regarding the ongoing risk of onward overseas travellers who have not quarantined in their port of arrival as required.
- 2.4 CPHO provided an update on the Howard Springs national quarantine facility, including an indicative agreement from the Medical Director of the facility that South Australian international students may be able to quarantine at that facility to return to study.

3. QR system update

- 3.1 The Committee noted a test data extraction from the QR Check In system had been performed.

- 3.2 A further update to the application is under development to allow greater volume, including the inclusion of supermarkets and retail environments as mandatory users of the system. This is expected to be available from mid to late next week, but will require approval of both the Google and Apple app stores.

4. Public activities restrictions

- 4.1 The Committee discussed whether the date for further easing of restrictions could be brought forward from 14 December, and noted health advice on the need for continued absence of cases.
- 4.2 The Chief Public Health Officer advised that a density requirement of 1 per 4 sqm was necessary to allow people to remain 1.5 metres apart, but that an alternative could be considered for small venues.
- 4.3 The State Coordinator noted and accepted this advice, but emphasised the need to take into account the economic implications and the community confidence in and adherence to restrictions.
- 4.4 The Committee noted that the QR Check In system provides greater access to information than previously available to contact tracers.
- 4.5 The Committee discussed returning to a density requirement of 1 per 2 sqm. The Chief Public Health Officer acknowledged the economic benefit in the context of hospitality venues, but advised that other high risk settings including ceremonies and gyms retain the density requirement of 1 per 4 sqm.
- 4.6 The State Coordinator noted the balance of advice and advised the Committee of his intention to reduce the density requirement to 1 per 2 square metres in hospitality settings only as an interim measure before a further easing of restrictions. Indoor consumption is to remain seated only.