

SA COVID-19 TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Meeting 1: 28 April 2020

Outcomes:

Reference	Outcome
3.3	Agreed in principle that South Australia may lift restrictions in advance of other states and territories doing so where supported by evidence.
4.2	Agreed that to consider any easing of restrictions, the Committee would need to be satisfied of: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Response capability2. Contact tracing capability3. Health system capacity: including PPE and ICU4. Testing regime
4.8	Agreed that no restrictions should be revised this week as: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. They did not yet have sufficient confirmation that all the conditions necessary to relax restrictions had been met2. That the effect of return of students to school (and subsequent greater circulation of adults) and resumption of elective surgeries should be monitored before considering further

Actions:

Reference	Action
2.5	Secretariat to update terms of reference
2.6	Secretariat to circulate alternative titles for the Committee
4.9	Secretariat to source data on conditions and present in weekly situational awareness dashboard
4.10	Secretariat to collate other data inputs for the Committee, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of risk, social value and relative economic impact in matrix display• Research on public attitudes to current restrictions in SA
4.12	Secretariat to work with SA Health Communications to prepare an infographic which describes the risk management approach and preconditions and considerations for easing restrictions.
4.14	SA Health to convene a round table with LGA to discuss appetite for changed advice on travel into regional SA.
4.15	Secretariat to seek a paper for future meeting on public consultation processes and approach.

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

1.1 All members present

2. Terms of Reference

2.1 The Chair noted the work of this Committee is about sustainable, ongoing management of the COVID-19 public health emergency, and was distinct from recovery, which remains the responsibility of CE DPC as Recovery Coordinator.

2.2 The Committee agreed that it was necessary to reflect that this group would have regard to advice from AHPPC and the considerations of National Cabinet.

2.3 The Committee agreed that guests may be invited to attend meetings.

2.4 The Committee discussed whether an alternative to the proposed title “Restoration Committee” was needed. The Committee agreed to consider alternatives which avoid the implication that we are “restoring” to business as usual, noting that ongoing management of this pandemic will be required for some time.

2.5 Action: Secretariat to update terms of reference

2.6 Action: Secretariat to circulate alternative titles for the Committee

3. Comparison to other states and territories

3.1 The CPHO noted that the restrictions currently in place in South Australia were consistent with AHPPC advice, but that other states and territories had gone above and beyond AHPPC advice in determining what restrictions to impose.

3.2 Accordingly, while other states and territories are “lifting” restrictions, doing so brings them closer to the current level of restrictions in SA. Consideration should be given to how this message is communicated to the public.

3.3 The Committee agreed in principle that South Australia may lift restrictions in advance of other states and territories doing so where supported by evidence.

3.4 The Committee noted South Australia has the highest level of per capita testing in Australia.

4. Principles for decision making on restoration

4.1 Discussion on the risk matrix and draft roadmap were collapsed into this item.

4.2 The Committee discussed the conditions that would need to be present to consider any easing of restrictions, to ensure that the risk associated with any easing of restrictions can be adequately managed. The Committee agreed the conditions they will need to be satisfied of are:

1. Response capability

2. Contact tracing capability
 3. Health system capacity: including PPE and ICU
 4. Testing regime
- 4.3 Noting that these may change over time, the Committee will receive a weekly update of performance against these conditions.
- 4.4 The Committee discussed a framework for how decisions on easing restrictions and current advice would be made. The Committee discussed that in principle the restrictions that should first be eased are those with low public health risk and high social value, with the relative economic impact also a consideration.
- 4.5 The Committee noted that advice to the community beyond the restrictions in the Directions was also having social and economic impacts, and should be considered in tandem with formal restrictions.
- 4.6 The Committee noted that information would be sourced to present current restrictions against public health risk, social value and economic value.
- 4.7 The Committee discussed the ongoing need to manage risks will be an important consideration and should be explained publicly. A public-facing infographic which highlights the risk areas and considerations in easing restrictions to be prepared for consideration and endorsement.
- 4.8 The Committee considered whether there are any restrictions or advice that should be eased this week, in the context of continued low infection rates. The Committee agreed:
1. They did not yet have sufficient confirmation that all the conditions necessary to relax restrictions had been met
 2. That the effect of return of students to school (and subsequent greater circulation of adults) and resumption of elective surgeries should be monitored before considering further
- 4.9 **Action: Secretariat to source data on conditions and present in weekly situational awareness dashboard**
- 4.10 **Action: Secretariat to collate other data inputs for the Committee, including:**
- **Presentation of risk, social value and relative economic impact in matrix display**
 - **Research on public attitudes to current restrictions in SA**
- 4.11 The Committee discussed public communications, and how the considerations of easing restrictions will be explained to the general public and expectations managed.
- 4.12 **Action: Secretariat to work with SA Health Communications to prepare an infographic which describes the risk management approach and preconditions and considerations for easing restrictions.**
- 4.13 The Committee discussed socialising restriction easements with relevant stakeholders in advance of implementing changes.

- 4.14 Action: SA Health to convene a round table with LGA to discuss appetite for changed advice on travel into regional SA.
- 4.15 Action: Secretariat to seek a paper for future meeting on public consultation processes and approach.