



# PHEOC BULLETIN #43

**Tuesday 05 January 2021 14:00 Hours**

This bulletin has been authorised by the PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Revle Bangor-Jones

## COVID-19 Case numbers

- As of **5 January 2021**, there have been **869** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA) and **44** historical cases. **845** people have recovered.
- To date a total of **640,205** positive and negative COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#) & [WHO Dashboard](#)

## Living with COVID

### Maritime industry

To help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 from maritime arrivals in WA, resources for the maritime industry have been made available on the WA Health website. These include infection prevention and control fact sheets and flowcharts which clarify safe and appropriate medical and dental referral pathways for the maritime industry.

See [COVID-19 information for business, industry and local government](#) for more information.

### Specific powers to bolster State hotel quarantine facilities

New specific powers under the Emergency Management Act will be granted for security who work at State hotel quarantine facilities, to give them enhanced legal protection to prevent a person from breaching a quarantine direction given under the Act. Please refer to the [media statement](#) for full details.

### Victorian travellers

Any person who entered Western Australia after 12.01am on 21 December 2020 but before 12.01am on 01 January 2021 and who had been in Victoria after 12:01am on 21 December must:

- self-quarantine in suitable premises for 14 days after arrival in WA, effective immediately as announced on 31 December 2020;
- present for a COVID-19 test as soon as any symptoms develop;
- present for a test on Day 11 after arrival in WA (with Day 0 being the day of arrival in WA).

Any person who enters Western Australia after 12.01am on 01 January 2021 and has been in Victoria:

- after 12.01am on 21 December 2020; and
- within the 14 days prior to the time the person enters WA,

will only be permitted to enter WA if they are an exempt traveller and, unless directed otherwise, must:

- self-quarantine in suitable premises for 14 days;

- present for a test for COVID-19 on arrival at Perth Airport or otherwise within 48 hours of their arrival;
- present for a further test on Day 11 after arrival in WA (with Day 0 being the day of arrival in WA).

## NSW travellers

Any person who entered Western Australia after 12.01am on 18 December 2020 and prior to 12.01am on 20 December and who had been in NSW or had direct contact with a person who has been in NSW after 12.01am on 11 December 2020 (or, for completeness, direct contact in the last 14 days with a person who has been in South Australia or outside of Australia in the last 14 days) must:

- self-quarantine in suitable premises for 14 days;
- present for a further test on Day 11 after arrival in WA (with Day 0 being the day of arrival in WA).

Any person who entered or wishes to enter Western Australia after 12.01am on 20 December 2020 and has been in NSW:

- after 12.01am on 11 December 2020; and
- within the 14 days prior to the time the person enters WA,

will only be permitted to enter WA if they are an approved traveller and, unless directed otherwise, must:

- self-quarantine in suitable premises for 14 days;
- present for a test for COVID-19 on arrival at Perth Airport or otherwise within 48 hours of their arrival;
- present for a further test on Day 11 after arrival in WA (with Day 0 being the day of arrival in WA).

## South Australia travellers

Following the latest public health advice, WA's controlled interstate border was safely adjusted to permit travel from South Australia into WA subject to the following updated conditions:

- completion of a G2G Pass declaration, stipulating they do not have any COVID-19 symptoms and which jurisdictions the traveller has been in over the previous 14 days
- all Perth Airport arrivals to undergo a health screening and temperature test
- travellers to be prepared to take a COVID-19 test at the airport COVID clinic, if deemed necessary by a health clinician (voluntary asymptomatic testing available for all airport arrivals)
- all travellers to receive a SMS health check reminder one week into their stay in WA
- land arrivals to be met at the border checkpoint, for a health screening and to have their G2G Pass declaration checked.

Other jurisdictions currently in the 'very low risk' category include the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, Northern Territory and Tasmania.

Anyone who arrived from SA into WA prior to 25 December is required to follow the rules under the 'low risk' category, including completing 14-days of self-quarantine.

## SafeWA

The uptake of the SafeWA app by venues and individuals has been impressive – the task now is to ensure that the registers are used. Contact registers are an important part of contact tracing and crucial in controlling the spread of COVID-19 if an outbreak occurs. Contact registers do not remove

the need for community commitment to being COVID-safe by physical distancing whenever and wherever possible, staying home when unwell (seek medical guidance and get tested), and practising appropriate cough etiquette and regular hand washing.

## Community

### Public transport

Transperth, in conjunction with the Department of Health, has developed a webpage providing information for using public transport in a Covid safe manner.

<https://www.transperth.wa.gov.au/Using-Transperth/coronavirus-advice>

## COVID-19 vaccination program

WA Health has created a new web page for the latest updates on the WA Health COVID-19 vaccination program, located on the corporate site:

[https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A\\_E/Coronavirus/COVID19-vaccination](https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus/COVID19-vaccination) The page currently includes sections about vaccine development and the WA Health response.

Anyone interested in subscribing to receive WA or Australian Government COVID-19 Vaccine Updates by email can do so from the WA Health website at <https://health.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=32cc4a56e0e39b38a4d4cf223&id=ed01e3d6a4>, and the Australian Government website at <https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines-hub>.

## Directions updates

COVID-19 [State of Emergency Declarations](#) and [Community Advice](#) summarises the latest COVID-19 Directions that are in place in WA. Further information can be found on [WA Government website](#).

### New Directions:

[Closure and Restriction \(Limit the Spread\) Directions \(No 10\)](#)

[Victorian Outbreak Recently Arrived Travellers Self-Quarantine and Testing Directions](#)

[Victorian Outbreak Response Directions](#)

[Approval for Travellers under a Specified Arrangement in Response to the Victorian Outbreak](#)

### Amended Directions:

[Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 8\)](#)

[Presentation for Testing Amendment Directions](#)

## Updated fact sheets

[Clinician Alert #41 – all clinicians](#)

[Fact sheet for travellers from Victoria \(NEW\)](#)

[Fact sheet for travellers from NSW](#)

[Testing Criteria](#)

## Testing

### General population testing criteria

Any person may be tested if they have any one of the following clinical criteria: fever ( $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) OR history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), without a known source **OR** an acute respiratory infection (e.g. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, runny nose) **OR** acute loss of smell or taste.

### Testing locations

Testing locations are listed on [Healthy WA](#).

[health.wa.gov.au](https://health.wa.gov.au)

## Reporting

Notify suspected COVID-19 cases by completing the notification form either [ONLINE](#) or by printing out the notification form.

## Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The [latest iteration](#) was released on 23 December 2020.

## Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)

The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) is the key decision-making committee for health emergencies. It is comprised of all state and territory Chief Health Officers and is chaired by the Australian Chief Medical Officer.

The AHPPC has an ongoing role to advise the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) on health protection matters and national priorities. AHPPC is also tasked with the role of mitigating emerging health threats related to infectious diseases, the environment as well as natural and human made disasters. The latest statements released by AHPPC are:

- [24 December 2020](#) - Statement on Australia's National Hotel Quarantine Principles
- [24 December 2020](#) - Statement on mandatory quarantine for aircrew who are not local residents
- [22 December 2020](#) – Statement on new variant of the virus that causes COVID-19

## Business and industry

### Resources for more information

- Latest [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) News](#)
- [WA Department of Health; HealthyWA](#)
- [Department of Health Media Releases](#)
- [Australian Government Health Department](#)
- [Advice for the public \(WHO\)](#)
- [Advice in other languages](#) and [Translated Resources](#)
- [Advice for Aboriginal people](#)
- [Covid Clinic walkthrough](#) – in multiple languages

## Who to contact for more information

- COVID-19 Clinic ONLY Test Results Enquiry Line: [1800 313 223](#) (Note: **NOT** for GP referred testing or private pathology clinic tests)
- COVID-19 WA Public Information Line: [132 6843 \(13 COVID\)](#)
- COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Exemption Application: Visit the [G2G PASS](#) website or complete the [exemption application form](#)
- COVID-19 WA Police Line: [131 444](#) To report breaches of: self-quarantine, business activities, border controls and other State of Emergency Directions.

**Next advice** - The PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. Next issue: **Tuesday 12 January 2021**.

Last updated **05 January 2021**

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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