Local Pandemic Action Plan Template

This planning template is based on the Western Australian Government Pandemic Plan and is designed to assist remote Aboriginal communities who do not have already have a pandemic action plan in place.

Deciding on how your community will manage each of the challenges and talking about it before COVID-19 infection occurs is important so that everyone is informed and prepared.

**Each community knows what is best for its people.** This plan is designed to help bring together the resources, contacts and information needed to respond to COVID-19. You can decide what else should be included and you do not have to use this plan if you already have a local plan in place.

**Be prepared to update the plan regularly.** It is not known if and when a COVID-19 infection may occur so this planning needs to be done quickly. The plan may need to change as the situation changes.

**You are not in this alone.** The State Government is able to support and assist remote communities in preparing a plan and will work with you in responding to the pandemic. District and Local Emergency Management Committees and health services will ensure that this plan covers all the necessary arrangements.

[Location] Local Pandemic Action Plan

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| **Location** | Describe communities and areas covered by this plan.  There is no need for every community to have its own individual plan. If it makes sense for you to work together with neighbouring communities please do so.  “This plan covers…” |
| **Local Approval:** | Name of person or organisation who approves this plan on behalf of the location.  “This plan has been approved by….” |

# Introduction

This Local Pandemic Action Plan sets out how we will respond to a pandemic situation.

It has been completed with the input of key community stakeholders and Local Emergency Management Committee members.

Key information for the location covered by this plan is set out below.

Population: This should include the total population as well as description of how many older people, children or people with a disability are covered by this plan. This does not have to be exact if not known. This is about making sure everyone who might have specific or additional needs is included.

High risk conditions: Some people may be at higher risk of infection, such as people who have other illnesses that suppress the immune system or make them more vulnerable to respiratory disease. This includes people with lung disease or diabetes, those who have suppressed immune systems, and the elderly. You should consider whether there are any people who are affected by high risk medical conditions.

Health services: Where do you normally access health services? Does the location have a health clinic or nurses?

Critical supplies: How do you normally access food and medical supplies? Who is responsible for providing power, water and wastewater services?

Emergency accommodation or evacuation: Are there existing places that residents use to shelter in case of emergency? Are there buildings or facilities that could be used for quarantine or additional medical support?

Access: How can your location be accessed? Is there an airstrip or access roads? Are these regularly impacted by weather or flooding? How do supplies normally reach your location?

Communications arrangements: Are there suitable telecommunications and internet arrangements at your location?

Service providers and others: What service providers regularly visit or reside in the location?

Cultural considerations: What do you want service providers and people from other areas to know about accessing your location and how they can work together with you.

# Prevention

We will be doing the following to protect our community members:

You should include:

* Any messages or information to be given to community members.
* Any arrangements for people visiting your location.

Your local health service will assist you in this and current health information is also available from [www.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.health.wa.gov.au) and the helpline on 1800 020 080.

# Responding to suspected cases

If we suspect that a person may have COVID-19 we will respond by:

You should consider:

* Identifying a place where people can be safely isolated while waiting for medical assistance.
* How you will notify local health services.

# Roles and responsibilities

The following people have a role in preparing for and responding to the pandemic.

Identify and list key contacts who can assist you. As a minimum the plan should clearly identify the contacts for:

* Local Emergency Management Committee;
* Health Service;
* Local Government;
* School; and
* Police.

# Contacts and communication

All communication about this plan should be directed to: [Name and contact details]

All emergency communication should be directed to: [Name and contact details]

This plan will be communicated to residents and visitors by: This could include existing groups, social media, community centre, School, Art Centre, Community Centre, Womens Centre.