



Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Contact:

The Honourable Mark McGowan MLA
Premier of Western Australia
13 Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Premier

CONTROLLED BORDER – SOUTH AUSTRALIA

On 22 July 2021, I recommended that South Australia (SA) should move from the 'Low' risk category to the 'Medium' risk category under the Western Australia (WA) Government's Controlled Border arrangements. This advice was given in response to a traveller, and two of their close contacts, testing positive for COVID-19 in SA following an overseas trip and time spent in New South Wales (NSW). This resulted in further cases of COVID-19 being identified in SA.

I can now advise that a total of 22 case have been linked to this cluster in SA. While the last case in this cluster was recorded on 04 August 2021, this case was in self-isolation for the duration of his infectious period. The last date that a known infectious case was active in the community was Tuesday 20 July 2021. As a result, SA currently has less than 1 community case per day on a 5 and 14-day rolling average and has completed 14 days without a community case. On this basis, I am confident that SA Health have taken all the steps necessary to control and abate this outbreak.

In considering the border arrangements with SA, I am cognisant of the ongoing outbreaks of COVID-19 in other jurisdictions, particularly given that they involve the highly contagious Delta variant, and, with three affected jurisdictions, SA shares a land border. I have, therefore, reviewed SA's border arrangements with other jurisdictions to assess the likelihood of an importation event occurring should the border arrangement with SA be eased.

I can advise that only essential travellers and those people who are relocating to SA or fleeing domestic violence are permitted to enter SA from New South Wales. Only essential travellers from the Greater Brisbane area of Queensland are permitted to enter SA, although travellers from all other areas of Queensland may enter freely. Similarly, only essential travellers from known "hotspot" areas of Victoria can enter SA,

while travellers from all other areas can enter freely. In all cases, travellers into SA from COVID-19 impacted areas are required to complete 14 days self-quarantine in SA and be tested for COVID-19 on days 1, 5 and 13.

If SA were to be moved from a 'medium' to 'low' risk classification, all travellers arriving in WA would be required to complete 14 days self-quarantine from the date they left that jurisdiction and be subject to COVID-19 testing within 48 hours of arrival and on day 12 of quarantine. On that basis, given the border arrangements in place in SA and that more than 14 days have passed since the last infectious community case in SA, I recommend that SA move from the 'Medium' risk category to 'Low' risk category, effective on or after 00.01 hrs on 09 August 2021.

I will continue to monitor the situation in SA and provide further public health advice when it is appropriate to do so.

Yours sincerely



Dr Andy Robertson
CHIEF HEALTH OFFICER

05 August 2021