



Quarantine Advisory Panel

Meeting 5 - Communiqué

1 October 2021

Quarantine Advisory Panel

Chaired by Sue Ash AO, the Quarantine Advisory Panel (QAP) is a Ministerial response to reviews of quarantine arrangements in Western Australia. The QAP will;

- provide advice and support the Hazard Management Agency (HMA), the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Department of Health, in leading and managing WA's COVID-19 quarantine arrangements; and
- facilitate whole of government coordination and expert clinical and corporate governance input into WA's quarantine system.

Update

- Lessons learnt from recent outbreaks in other jurisdictions, especially Australia's east coast, will guide the QAP's review processes and advice provided to the CEO, Department of Health. The indiscriminate nature of Delta has highlighted the importance of the state's continuous review of its quarantine surge capacity to meet demand should a community outbreak event occur in WA.
- Recommendations for possible future quarantine models need to recognise the changing nature of the traveller subject to mandatory quarantine. The user journey mapping exercise will seek to identify key risks and articulate purposes for travel.
- Assuring the protection and safety of unaccompanied children in WA's state quarantine facilities remains a high priority, and the QAP continues to work with all key agencies.
- Quarantine Advisory Panel web page was launched on wa.gov.au at the end of September. The web page will publish communiques and endorsed papers.
- QAP reviewed the first set of risk mitigation strategies currently supporting hotel quarantine. The QAP expressed their gratitude for the ongoing support of the State Health Incident Coordination Centre staff. Advice will be provided to the CEO, Department of Health relating to this work outlining gaps and mitigation strategies, observations and recommendations for system improvements.

The next Communiqué will be on Friday, 29 October 2021.