



## REcov19ER Teleconference

Thursday, 14 May 2020 – ‘Government Updates’

	Organisation	Contributor	Comments	Actions Arising
<b>A</b>	<b>OPENING</b>			
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Meeting open @ 11:30am	
			Welcome	
			One minute silence observed	
			Introductions from who is on call	
<i>Meeting suspended due to disruption (someone placing the call on-hold); meeting recommenced @ 11:57am</i>				
			Housekeeping (incl. teleconference etiquette); Meeting format	
			Apologies entered for Simon Taylor (Communities)	
			Call for government updates	
<b>B</b>	<b>AGENCY/FOCUS GROUP UPDATES</b>			
	Communities	Ella	Confirmed the poster being developed to inform communities about the pandemic plans process has been approved; Confirmed the pending transportation plan being developed with WACHS and WAPol is expected to be finalised next week; This information is expected to be shared next week.	
	Complex Tasks Team	Barry	Confirmed a ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ (FAQ) style document is being developed to inform communities about the impending restriction changes (coming into effect Monday, 18 May); Confirmed the government’s recently announced requirement for ‘COVID Safety Plans’ (CSPs) (see, <a href="https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2020/05/COVID-Safety-Plans-key-to-reopening-WA-businesses-.aspx">https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2020/05/COVID-Safety-Plans-key-to-reopening-WA-businesses-.aspx</a> ), which may not exclude communities having their own too; Noted efforts will be made to ensure there is minimal duplication with the pandemic plans in place to alleviate any additional burden on individual communities; Advised of the available sport and recreation equipment funding currently available from the government (see, <a href="https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2020/05/Sport-equipment-scheme-">https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2020/05/Sport-equipment-scheme-</a>	Complex Tasks Team (Barry) to share the draft FAQ document with wider REcov19ER group for input Complex Tasks Team (Barry) to clarify if communities are required to have CSPs Anyone interested in knowing more about the sport and

			<a href="#">to-help-at-risk-kids-in-the-Kimberley-and-Pilbara.aspx</a> ), anyone seeking further information encouraged to contact Barry directly.	recreation equipment funding to contact Complex Tasks Team (Barry) directly
	Complex Tasks Team	Peter	Acknowledged REcov19ER (Kathryn) for recent assistance visiting Yandeyarra to better understand what is happening on the ground; Advised assistance requested by Parnpajinya regarding their section 175 application under the Liquor Control Act (i.e. to have WAPol dispose of alcohol without issuing any fines or charges) is being progressed, with an outcome expected next week.	
	Gumala AC	Ashley	Asked for an estimated timeframe to expect the FAQ document mentioned.	
	Complex Tasks Team	Barry	Aiming to have this shared to the group by tomorrow (Friday, 15 May) afternoon.	
	AISWA/ Pilbara Regiment	Lisa	Advised, regarding education matters: students returning to 'Designated Areas' under the Biosecurity Act provisions will not be required to quarantine for the usual 14-days, they have been afforded an exemption for this purpose; boarding school students can now take weekend leave again; and, all students are expected to return to school on Monday, 18 May, as non-attendance will no longer be considered an approved absence.	
	Communities	Bibin	Advised requests have been made to provide accommodation in Newman following the tragic events last week, with this being managed by the regional team.	
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Affirmed REcov19ER members also available to help facilitate requests, appreciating levels of confidentiality involved.	
	PAV/Nyamal AC	Danny	Advised health messaging efforts still progressing, scripts for these purposes have been developed.	
	Telethon Kids	Cheryl	Advised three local schools have been identified for the proposed research: Bayton West, Newman and Tom Price; Advised other issues relating to ethics approvals, etc. are also being addressed; Anyone seeking more information about the proposed research to contact Cheryl directly.	Anyone wanting to know more about the proposed research being undertaken in those local schools to contact Cheryl directly.
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Advised WACHS (Kianna) had provided an update via email: confirmed no new cases have been identified in the region since the last update; advised regional response plan being considered by the agency today; and, encouraged people to download the COVIDSafe app (see, <a href="https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app">https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app</a> ).	

	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Confirmed efforts to rally community participation and input continuing, with REcov19ER (Kathryn and Andrew) currently in Hedland assisting with this.	
	Njamal PT/ISPL	Kathryn	Confirmed currently in Hedland to assist with, among other things, community consultations (while abiding by social distancing requirements); Advised general concerns relating to food and fuel security persist in communities, but no other related/specific issues being raised; Advised feedback regarding the lack of communications to raise awareness in communities of what they need to be doing during the pandemic, etc., including the request to have had health or other appropriate representatives to visit each community to provide such information, has been discussed.	REcov19ER (Kathryn) to summarise relevant feedback to share with responsible government agencies/departments
	Njamal PT/ISPL	Andrew	Confirmed previously mentioned budgets for two months' worth of provisions for various numbers of populations in communities has been shared with Department of Communities.	
	Communities	Ella	Advised of the intention to support local departmental officers to attend site visits to communities as part of the next round of consultations relating to the pandemic plans (i.e. regarding the latest framework/restriction changes); Affirmed assistance to help escalate any other issues identified.	REcov19ER team members to help facilitate community introductions
<b>C</b>	<b>QUESTIONS/COMMENTS</b>			
	Gumala AC	Ashley	Asked for clarity regarding current mining company contributions, i.e. local organisations have been servicing local communities, when trying to seek support from industry (e.g. RTIO) recently, have been told they are working with the Department of Communities to identify how they can assist.	
	Communities	Ella	Responded that, to her knowledge, Communities has been working with BHP, e.g. to provide food storage and social programs, but unsure what engagement with RTIO has occurred.	
	Communities	Bibin	Affirmed contact with various mining companies has been made, with many wanting to support a coordinated approach to avoid any duplication and ensure their investment is impactful, etc.; Advised that he is not fully across all the details of what commitments have been made.	Communities (Ella and Bibin) to follow up (i.e. with Simon) and provide further information to REcov19ER
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Agreed a coordinated approach is important, however, questioned if this confusion may be delaying much-needed assistance getting to where it needs to be, e.g. REcov19ER is still awaiting confirmation regarding its application to BHP's Vital Resources Fund; Requested, where possible, anyone from Communities speaking with BHP about what they are supporting raise this.	

	Communities	Bibin	Assured that the department does not want to be perceived as controlling access to such funding; Confirmed direct support for the various Welfare Support Plans was sought after identifying needs.	
	Communities	Ella	Confirmed REcov19ER has shared the subject BHP application to assist with avoiding any duplication; Confirmed BHP have requested to be advised of a range of provisions, activities, etc. it could potentially support.	Communities (Ella) to share the subject BHP application with Complex Task Team (Barry and Peter)
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Affirmed the importance of this forum for sharing such information.	
	Gumala AC	Ashley	Asked for clarity regarding future provisions for communities, i.e. ten weeks into the response and local organisations are still addressing communities' needs directly, this is not sustainable; when will the government be implementing their response to communities' needs?	
	Communities	Ella	Responded that assessment of the pandemic plans indicated food security was not an issue, i.e. all had stores or access to supplies; Advised department continuing to liaise with Coles about improving access to their remote delivery options, with this expected to be resolved in the next week or so.	Communities (Ella) to share summary of pandemic plan data collected with Complex Task Team (Peter) REcov19ER to raise any related concerns offline with Complex Task Team (Peter)
	Gumala AC	Ashley	Agreed that more departmental presence is needed in communities and other underrepresented local areas.	
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Affirmed that Communities' intentions (as described by Ella above) will hopefully assist; Affirmed similar local organisations' efforts, e.g. supply of care packages and other deliveries, happening in the Hedland area too; Agreed that commitments from responsible government departments/agencies to address communities' ongoing needs requires clarification, i.e. REcov19ER and its focus groups have contributed a lot of work, exhausting much efforts, and are awaiting government implementation/response; Affirmed 'we're all in this together' and should continue to collaborate or risk undermining efforts, however, clarification on who is doing what and how it is being resourced is required.	
	Nomads	Ingrid	Clarification sought regarding requirements of the 'CSPs'	Complex Tasks Team (Barry) to provide additional information (as above)

D	CLOSING		
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Acknowledged all the great work REcov19ER has achieved to-date; Affirmed there is still a lot of work ahead of us, and the importance of ensuring our focus remains on community needs; Reminded attendees about concerns over complacency and second wave issues and how we need to now stay ahead of things as best we can; Thanked everyone for their ongoing input, support and continued efforts; “Stay safe, stay healthy”
			Meeting closed @ 12:48pm
			Next meeting tomorrow (Friday, May 15) @ 11.30am for ‘Communities Input’
			Next ‘Government Updates’ meeting Thursday, May 21 @ 11.30am
<i>Notes taken by Teri O’Neill (YMAC/PAV/REcov19ER). Any comments or concerns, please email <a href="mailto:toneill@ymac.org.au">toneill@ymac.org.au</a></i>			