



REcov19ER Teleconference

Thursday, 30 April 2020 – ‘Government Updates’

	Organisation	Contributor	Comments	Actions Arising
A	OPENING			
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Meeting open @ 11:30am	
			Welcome; affirmed importance of the REcov19ER participants supporting each other in this work and thanked all of those who continue to attend each day; noted, given the uncertainty that lies ahead, this work continues to be critical	
			One minute silence observed	
			Housekeeping (incl. teleconference etiquette)	
			Introductions from who is on call	
			Confirmed meeting format; acknowledged efforts taking place behind the scenes, and the efficiency of the daily meetings as a result; called for government updates	
B	AGENCY UPDATES			
	Communities	Simon	<p>Confirmed processes and procedures relating to the Isolation/Quarantine Accommodation Plan have now been finalised; approach affords a good system being put in place and will address a number of issues raised in Pandemic Plans.</p> <p>Confirmed final drafts of the various Welfare Support Plans have been circulated for comment; response to the related recent request for local Aboriginal organisations to act as referral and/or delivery/distribution agents was very positive (noting, others still encouraged to contact the Pilbara Incident Management Team (PIMT), if interested).</p> <p>Shared that WACHS is currently developing a Transportation Plan.</p> <p>Confirmed all of the current plans being developed/implemented will now also be collated to inform a Region-wide Remote Communities Plan, which will also address the proposed response for if there is a confirmed case within a community (to be managed by the PIMT).</p>	

			Suggested Communities (Simon and Ella) meet with relevant members of the REcov19ER team to review current status of the various plans and address any gaps identified.	
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Asked for clarification about timeframes.	
	Communities	Simon	Confirmed as soon as possible.	Communities (Simon and Ella) to meet with the relevant REcov19ER team members/focus groups to review the various plans in place, as required
	Communities	Ella	Confirmed key plans to review are those involving ensuring immediate food security needs and the regional accommodation arrangements/availability. Confirmed all the individual community Pandemic Plans received to-date are proving highly useful to inform planned responses; only two remain outstanding: Yandeyarra and Parnngurr. Confirmed RFDS's evacuation plan and key contacts are being incorporated into relevant plans. Confirmed the department is in the process of developing posters to assist with simplifying and communicating the content of individual Pandemic Plans, which will be tailed for each. Shared there is now an updated information poster being developed on the changed travel/socialising restrictions.	Communities (Ella) to share updated poster on travel/socialising restrictions for circulation
	WACHS	NA	Update (from Kianna) provided over email; no new reports.	
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Encouraged people to explore ways for those who want/need to access flu shots as an additional preventative measure.	
	NIAA	Melissa	Affirmed focussing work on funded providers to ensure they are operating okay and to identify ways they may be able to assist in responding to COVID-19.	
	DPC	NA	Noted this was the second meeting this week with no DPC/APCU representation	
	Communities	Simon	Shared understanding there have been some staff movements/new workload delegations.	Communities (Simon) to follow up with DPC/APCU to encourage ongoing attendance
	Njamal PT/ISPL	Andrew	Focus Group Updates: Food Supply & Distribution – Confirmed things are still progressing well; recent update from Nomads (Terry) confirmed order placed to address their cold storage shortage, other useful	

			information and contacts also provided; such purchases will ensure much needed, long-term infrastructure is secured.	
	Njamal PT/ISPL	Kathryn	Focus Group Updates: Health, Medical & Education – Affirmed Communities (Ella) progress regarding providing information back to communities in an accessible format will help address many issues raised. Recovery & Long-term Planning – Confirmed group meeting again tomorrow (Friday, May 1) to progress planning work.	
C	QUESTIONS/COMMENTS			
	Nomads	Terry	Confirmed, in addition to update about acquiring cold storage shared above, currently organising the collection of much needed PPE (to be picked up next week).	
	Nyamal AC Njamal PT	Gavin Cheryl	Confirmed staff currently carrying out ‘welfare checks’ to ensure members are okay. Confirmed the delivery of care packs being distributed in the local Hedland area; waiting on next receipt of supplies to provide more (noting, these are going out to any known vulnerable people/families, including the elderly, those with disabilities, and households with lots of children, not just members). Clarification sought on services/support being provided by WMHSAC, e.g. current opening hours, and provision of medications to various communities (e.g. Punju Njamal and Jinparinya).	REcov19ER (Gavin) to follow up with WMHSAC and/or WACHS to seek clarity on queries/issues raised
	YMAC	Leaine	Offered assistance to prepare care packs, if needed.	Njamal PT (Cheryl) to contact YMAC (Leaine) if help needed
	Yinhawangka AC	Grant	Confirmed Gumala AC and BNTAC providing a lot of support to local communities. Clarification sought on the number of different plans being discussed (by Communities).	
	Communities	Simon	Acknowledged the number and purpose of the various plans is somewhat confusing; affirmed the intention of the proposed Region-wide Remote Communities Plan is to help resolve this, as it should act as an “umbrella plan”, demonstrating how the various plans fit together and complement one another (noting, this plan is expected to be finalised in the next week or so).	
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Affirmed the need for ongoing participation in REcov19ER; noted, number of attendees has decreased lately: hopes this is a reflection that what we set out to achieve is being realised and the community is experiencing less issues and are not feeling anxious about the virus; fears the decline might reflect a level of relaxation/complacency in regard to the virus.	

	Yinhawangka AC	Grant	Shared information on recently viewed article regarding how, even in “cleared” cases, virus can still be detected in people; evidence that there is still so much we do not yet know about it, so it’s important that everyone be aware and remain vigilant.	
	Communities	Simon	Agreed, even if a vaccine is discovered it is still a long way off, so preventative measures are critical; we need to be prepared for both impacts of COVID-19 cases, as well as the impacts the response will have (e.g. the various restrictions being put in place).	
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Agreed, hence REcov19ER’s work being so essential; acknowledged that a lot good ground-work has been achieved, but we still need to stay engaged and on top of things.	
D	CLOSING			
	Nyamal AC	Gavin	Meeting closed @ 12:10pm	
			Next meeting tomorrow (Friday, May 1) @ 11.30am for ‘Communities Input’	
			Next ‘Government Updates’ meeting Tuesday, May 5 @ 11.30am	
<i>Notes taken by Teri O’Neill (YMAC/PAV/REcov19ER). Any comments or concerns, please email toneill@ymac.org.au</i>				