



REcov19ER Teleconference - Participants open to interested parties

Thursday 9 April 2020

	Contributor	Organisation	Comments	Actions Arising
A	OPENING			
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	Meeting open at 11:30am	
			Welcome and reminder of Purpose	
			One minutes silence – respect Discussion on background and work done to date. Explanation of Focus Group	
B	AGENCY UPDATES			
	Rohan Wordsell	DPC	Federal Minister Ken Wyatt has created a Food Security task force. This is looking in to specifically remote communities. DPC is trying to get representation on this group. Dept Communities is on this group. Amendment to the Direction relating to the Biosecurity areas. There is also a split between urgent and non urgent essential activity. Everyone is to self isolate for a minimum of 2 weeks prior to entering an area unless urgent.	DPC to send out updates.
	Lorraine Injie	IBN	How do you monitor the self isolation?	
	Rohan Wordsell	DPC	There are forms that are required to be completed prior to entry, you are required to sign a stat dec to confirm that you have self isolated for the right period. There are heavy penalties which will be imposed for making incorrect statements.	

	Mark Barrett	WAPOL	We are reliant on the honesty of the people completing the forms. It is a difficult situation especially in remote areas.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	Can DPC provide us with some time frames that we are then able to share with the communities.	
	Rohan Wordsell	DPC	We will provide you with an update at the next meeting. In the mean time if there are situations where there are critical food insecurities then forward to Simon.	
	Simon Taylor	Dept Communities	Please forward any issues of food insecurity to these through to myself and Ella/Bibin	
			<p>The Isolation and Accommodation plan - we worked through some of these issue this morning at our planning meeting and run through. It is a complicated matter, key standout issues – it is important that we identify some resource company camps. In the towns the accommodation will have some risk associated with it. In particular where there are people who may not be suitable to the accommodation identified. We are looking for alternate options outside of towns.</p> <p>We have met with mining and resource companies this morning regarding their role in welfare response – especially around food security. We will meet individually with these companies and will follow up next week to bed this down.</p> <p>Yesterday we met with CEO’s of the Shires regarding their willingness to support the welfare response plan in each areas. Very well supported, in particular in using their casual workforce for distribution of food.</p> <p>Family and domestic violence – we’ve completed an initial scan of the region and we will work on accommodation and staffing. Reiterating there are vacant houses in remote communities and there is a process government is working on to make those available. Best person to contact would be Ella Quigley.</p> <p>Under the new Biosecurity actions, there were two cases where people were discharged from Hedland hospital where they were</p>	

			<p>required to go back to their community which is under the declared area. There were mixed messages yesterday, we are working with Police to have this addressed. We are working on accommodation for the people for the next 14 days.</p> <p>Health and Police working on a plan to manage this going forward.</p>	
	Lorraine Injie	IBN	<p>In regards to emergency accommodation for isolation and quarantine purposes, do those plans include access to adequate medical and health services</p>	
	Simon Taylor	Dept Communities	<p>We provide accommodation for those who do not require hospitalisation.</p> <p>For those that require follow up medical support, WACHS will provide this.</p>	
	Lorraine Injie	IBN	<p>For those community members that contract the virus, what support is being provided for them.</p>	
	Simon Taylor	Dept Communities	<p>Bibin and his team will be reaching out to a number of organisations across the Pilbara to see if people are interested in participating in the distribution network as employees.</p> <p>We will be in contact with people directly.</p>	
	Mark Barrett	WAPOL	<p>We have noticed a general apathy in the community in relation to social distancing and messaging.</p> <p>Communities are filling up with alcohol we are working on this with the communities.</p> <p>I have Mark (?) who will take over from me.</p>	
	Mark (TBA)	WAPOL	<p>Last night Karratha police attended a number of noisy party complaints with alcohol and people not self isolating. People aren't adhering to self isolation.</p> <p>We have reached out to Ngarda Media to get the message out.</p>	<p>Confirmation of name and position with WAPOL</p>
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	<p>This is a huge issue within the communities.</p> <p>There are often alcohol restrictions at times of funerals. Would there be any opportunity to close the bottle shops down. This is not an essential service.</p>	

	Mark	WAPOL	We understand where you are coming from, this has been driven by elders of the community. We seek out the thoughts of this group as the community need to be the driver of change.	
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal AC	We have representatives of the community here.	
	Mark	WAPOL	We will be guided by this group, there are issues with alcohol and self isolation.	
	Lorraine Injie	IBN	It is a concern. People are going to feel exposed anyway, we are feeling threatened by the social impact of the virus on our communities. Anything we can do to reduce this has to be considered. If closing down bottle shops is an option, then this must be investigated as there is too much at stake. This is going to devastate our people.	
	Lizzy Walker	NPT	Drugs is a bigger issue with our people.	
	Lorraine Injie	IBN	In relation to this issue which is around alcohol, we need to take this into consideration.	
	Mark	WAPOL	This is a community issue, if you take this as an action, take this back to the community and come back to us we can act.	AGENDA ITEM FOR DISCUSSION AT MEETING TOMORROW
	Lizzy Walker	NPT	You mentioned there has been money distributed out yesterday, do you know where this has come from? If this has come from native title groups, can we approach them to manage distributions.	
	Lorraine Injie	IBN	There are common issues around alcohol and drugs, at this forum we are trying to address urgent issues as there is a lot at stake. We need to keep focused as we are trying to manage a health crisis.	
	Linda Waters	WACHS	From public health we have a team of services who are available 7 days a week who are able to manage anyone who tests positive. Anyone being discharged from a community in the Western Desert will be assisted to self isolate.	
			The current status is there are 5 cases identified 4 in Karratha and one in Pt Hedland. 4 have now been cleared and one is self isolating. 4 close contacts are also self isolating.	

			<p>All related to overseas travel and no community transmission reported in the Pilbara.</p> <p>Strategy to date appears to be effective.</p> <p>Public health – a team of nurses are ready to handle matters of quarantine and track and trace.</p> <p>Biosecurity Act has been amended and WA Health is providing support for this for a period of 14 days for people returning to Western Desert in particular.</p>	
	Lorraine Injie	IBN	<p>What are the services for people who are in isolation and/or lockdown who have mental health issues, what are the services that are available.</p>	
	Linda Waters	WACHS	<p>Essential services can go in to provide services still. The issue is servicing within the western desert communities with the Biosecurity Act.</p> <p>It is challenging to provide health services using telehealth as it is not ideal however we are working with the communities on this.</p>	
	Danny Brown	Nyamal AC	<p>Wirika Maya servicing to Yandeyarra?</p>	
	Linda Waters	WACHS	<p>Yandeyarra are managed by WACHS and RFDS and this service continues each Wednesday with visiting services attending each week providing medical and health services and dispensing medication.</p> <p>Wirika Maya still continue to service Warralong.</p>	
	Danny Brown	Nyamal AC	<p>If Wirika Maya need to progress to Phase 3 lock down and not operating then will WACHS assist Warralong.</p>	
	Linda Waters	WA Health	<p>Yes we will be in contact with Wirika Maya and make sure there are arrangements in place in the event of Wirika Maya being closed.</p>	
	Ingrid Walters	Strelley/Warralong	<p>I have been in contact with June from Wirika Maya, can I also be included in any communications?</p> <p>There is no service by Wirika Maya for Strelley.</p> <p>We would like to be included in the conversations.</p> <p>Flu vaccinations are being administered in Warralong next week.</p>	

Linda Waters	WA Health	We have also been in contact with Wirika Maya regarding this and will continue to communicate and coordinate.	
<p>FOCUS GROUP UPDATE</p> <div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 20px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">FOCUS GROUP – FOOD SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The purpose of this Focus Group is to assist with the sourcing and delivery of a sustainable supply of food to regional and remote Aboriginal communities in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic</i></p> <p>Focus Group Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Johanna Ramsay – BNTAC ▪ Andrew White – Njamal People’s Trust ▪ Lisa Fieldhouse – Pilbara Regiment ▪ Trish Barron – Pilbara Development Commission ▪ Terry Butler – Strelley/Warralong/NCEF ▪ Melissa Rennie – NIAA </div>			

FOCUS GROUP – HEALTH, MEDICAL & EDUCATION

The purpose of this Focus Group is to ensure appropriate levels of Medical, Health and Education services and aids are delivered in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic

Focus Group Members:

- Gavin Mitchell – Nyamal AC
- Danny Brown – Nyamal AC
- Trish Barron – Pilbara Development Commission
- Lisa Fieldhouse – Aust Independent Schools
- Ingrid Walkley – Strelley Community School/Warralong Community (NCEF)
- Cheryl Bridge – Kids Telethon
- Johanna Ramsay - BNTAC
- June Councillor – Wirrika Maya

FOCUS GROUP – REGIONAL STRATEGY & FUNDING

The purpose of this Focus Group is to develop a Pilbara Regional strategy to generate funding for immediate use in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as for sustainable long term benefit of Traditional Owners.

Focus Group Members:

- Johanna Ramsay – BNTAC
- Kathryn Bates – Njamal People's Trust
- Teri O'Neill – YMAC
- Trish Barron – PDC
- Melissa Rennie – NIAA

FOCUS GROUP – RECOVERY & LONG TERM PLANNING



The purpose of this Focus Group is to develop a 'Recovery' plan for the longer term improvements to the service delivery of all services across the Pilbara Region.

Focus Group Members:

- Joshua Pepall – BNTAC
- Kathryn Bates – Njamal People's Trust
- Danny Brown – Nyamal Aboriginal Corporation
- Teri O'Neill – YMAC
- Trish Barron – Pilbara Development Commission
- Peter Jeffries - MAC

Danny Brown	Nyamal AC	<p><i>General discussion around the purpose of this groups and the outcomes already achieved.</i></p> <p>No other region in WA has a co ordinated response to this crisis. The development of the website with communications which will change more to the promotion to material promoting health and messaging. Facilities now being prepared to manage the crisis. The anti social behaviour is an ongoing problem and this needs to be managed by the communities. On the Mon, Wed, Fri meetings we need to more on the promotion of better behaviours and this</p>	
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			<p>can be done in conjunction with Hedland Strong Leaders, Ngarda Media and AMS promotions on TV.</p> <p>This began with an initial discussion between leaders and has exceeded expectations. We have built good partnerships with Government with good information being exchanged.</p> <p>The change to the format will provide a place for community issues to be discussed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and for Government to provide updates and for communities to put issues to them on Tuesday and Thursday.</p> <p>We all need to continue to work together.</p> <p>There has been great progress to date, thank you to everyone involved.</p>	
D	CLOSING			
	Gavin Mitchell	Nyamal	Question / Answer round complete	
			Next meeting tomorrow 11.30am	
			Meeting closed at 1.05pm	