



## Meeting Summary

<b>Meeting</b>	COVID-19 Briefing for the Community Services Sector Peaks
<b>Date</b>	Wednesday 10 February 2021
<b>Time</b>	10:30am-10:45am
<b>Venue</b>	Microsoft Teams dial in
<b>Chair</b>	Rex O'Rourke, Department of Communities
<b>Attendees</b>	Refer to Attachment A

### Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

#### 1. Overview

The Department of Communities (Communities) acknowledged and thanked Community Services Sector Peaks for their partnership and collaborative approach to responding to the COVID-19 lockdown. Rex O'Rourke also welcomed Justine Colyer, who has been seconded to Communities for three months to support and strengthen the partnership with the community services sector.

#### 2. State Welfare Incident Coordination Centre (SWICC) update

The SWICC advised that it is reflecting and preparing lessons learnt from the responses to the tropical cyclone, COVID-19 lockdown, and Wooroloo bushfires. Surge capacity staff assisting in SWICC have mostly returned to their substantive positions.

All bushfire evacuation centres have now closed in Perth, and the evacuation centre responding to communities impacted by the floods has also closed.

The State Welfare Emergency Committee (SWEC) convened yesterday and reviewed recent events from an emergency response perspective. The SWEC continues to convene regularly.

#### 3. Update from Contracting (Communities)

Communities will continue to work with community service providers in a flexible and adaptable way, and service providers are encouraged to work with their contract managers should issues arise.

#### 4. Question and answers

Rex O'Rourke acknowledged that communication is central to our processes and encouraged Community Services Sector Peaks to provide feedback and input on Communities response.

Christine Allen requested a further communication from Communities following the Premier's announcement about any further restrictions that may apply post-midnight Saturday 13 February.

Jo Collins reflected and requested that early communication be provided to the community services sector. It was acknowledged that this communication can be short and followed by a formal response (rapid communication is particularly needed for out of home care providers).

#### ACTION

1. The Department of Communities will provide communication to the Community Services Sector Peaks following the announcement by the Premier regarding any further restrictions that may apply in response to COVID-19 in the Perth and Peel regions.

**Meeting Closed**

**Attachment A**

<b>Meeting Attendees</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
	Chelsea McKinney	Western Australian Association of Mental Health (WAAMH)
	Learne Durrington	WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA)
	Ethan James	WA Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (WANADA)
	Debora Colvin	Mental Health Advocacy Service
	Christine Allen	Council on the Ageing (COTA)
	Jane Chilcott	Linkwest
	Barbara Henry	Noongar Family Safety and Wellbeing Council (NFSWC)
	Jo Collins	Child and Family Alliance WA
	Vivienne Pillay	Ethnic Communities Council WA
	Anukool Sathu	Office of Multicultural Interests
	Tami Maitre	Dept of Communities, SWICC
	Geraldine Carlton	Dept of Communities, SWICC
	Catherine Stoddart	Dept of Communities, Governance Integrity and Reform
	Caron Irwin	Dept of Communities, Strategy and Partnerships
	Katrina Vernon	Dept of Communities, Contracting
	Jacqueline Littlejohn	Dept of Communities, Strategy and Transformation
	Justine Colyer	Seconded to Dept of Communities, Strategy and Partnerships
		Several staff from Communities also attended