

If calling please ask for: Rachel Dixon

Telephone: 8115 3906

Reference: ESS-20-2047

Mr Lee Odenwalder
Member for Elizabeth
2-3, 4 John Rice Avenue
ELIZABETH VALE 5112

Dear Mr Odenwalder

I acknowledge receipt of the application received on 2 October 2020 under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (FOI Act) in which you requested access to the following documents:

“Any and all documents and internal correspondence (including, but not limited to, emails, minutes, briefings, letters and notes) regarding the future deployment of SES volunteers or staff across borders where COVID-related restrictions are in place, eg quarantine requirements etc.”

I have determined that the documents that fall within the scope of your application are those listed in the attached document schedule.

These documents have been released in full, with the exception of the information negotiated to be redacted and marked ‘out of scope’ via phone call and follow-up email on 17 November 2020 with Chantelle Karlsen of your office.

Document 3, 10, 11, 13

The information in these documents that has been redacted is the phone numbers of SA Ambulance and SA Police staff, as agreed.

If you are unhappy with this determination you are entitled to apply for an internal review in accordance with section 29 of the FOI Act. To make an internal review application, please either write a letter or send the attached form entitled Application for Review of Determination to the Principal Officer of this agency, Mr Chris Beattie, within 30 (calendar) days after you receive this letter. Should you apply for an Internal Review, please include an application fee of \$36.75.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, may be published in the agency's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Log-Policy.pdf

Please contact me on (08) 8115 3906 if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Dixon
Accredited Freedom of Information Officer

November 2020

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS

Freedom of Information application from Lee Odenwalder MP, *“Any and all documents and internal correspondence (including, but not limited to, emails, minutes, briefings, letters and notes) regarding the future deployment of SES volunteers or staff across borders where COVID-related restrictions are in place, eg quarantine requirements etc.”*

Doc No	Description	Determination
1	National Resource Sharing Centre Draft COVID-19 Planning – Interstate Deployments Document – as at 19 August 2020	Release in full.
2	Email dated 28 August 2020 re DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice with attachment	Release in full.
3	Email chain dated 31 August 2020 re: RE: Cross Border Travel	Document released in full except the phone numbers of SA Police staff as agreed. This information is marked out-of-scope.
4	Email chain dated 31 August 2020 re RE: DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice with attachment	Release in full.
5	Email dated 31 August 2020 re RE: DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice attachment	Release in full.
6	Email dated 1 September 2020 re: Cross border travel - testing requirements	Release in full.
7	Email dated 2 September 2020 re For CO - Cross border travel with attachment	Release in full.
8	Email dated 2 September 2020 re FW: For CO - Cross border travel with attachment V3	Release in full.
9	Email dated 2 September 2020 re FW: For CO - Cross border travel with attachment	Release in full.
10	Email dated 4 September 2020 re: RE: COVID - cross border testing	Document released in full except the phone numbers of SAAS staff as agreed. This information is marked out-of-scope.

Doc No	Description	Determination
11	Email dated 4 September 2020 re: FW: Cross-border exemption for ESWs	Document released in full except the phone numbers of SA Police staff as agreed. This information is marked out-of-scope.
12	Email dated 7 September 2020 re: Cross border travel	Release in full.
13	Email dated 8 September 2020 re: FW: Cross border travel for emergency service workers	Document released in full except the phone numbers of SA Police staff as agreed. This information is marked out-of-scope.
14	Email dated 14 September 2020 re: Cross border travel exemptions	Release in full.
15	Email dated 23 September 2020 re Cross border travel - updated for NSW changes with attachment	Release in full.

as at 19 August 2020

Jurisdiction	COVID-19 website & hotline	Seasonal Outlook/Risk	Restrictions	Quarantine Arrangements	Exemptions	Exemption Process
New South Wales	https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19 13 77 88 (24 hours)		<p>NSW has temporarily restricted border with VIC to contain the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>Anyone who has been in VIC in the past 14 days must not enter NSW unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> they hold a current entry permit; or they are authorised to enter under the order. <p>People from jurisdictions other than VIC are permitted to enter NSW.</p> <p>Public Health Orders</p>	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> international travellers; and NSW residents returning from VIC. <p>All arriving persons must enter NSW via Sydney Airport.</p> <p>All persons must complete 14 days of quarantine at a nominated quarantine hotel (self funded).</p>	<p>A Border Entry Permit is not required if entering NSW as an “Emergency or Law Enforcement Services Worker” (Class 3) however this is not defined.</p> <p>Quarantine requirements do not apply to those with exemptions who travel across the NSW/VIC road borders or those from other States/Territories.</p> <p>An exemption is also available for “Critical Services Workers” (Class 2A) which may include contracted aviation providers.</p> <p>The critical services exemption is to ensure major infrastructure and essential services are maintained and not interrupted.</p> <p>A person residing and providing a critical service in a non-border region (i.e. not in the border region). The critical service must be all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> highly specialised not available locally in the same or substantially the same form not able to be provided remotely; and approved by the head of your organisation, or the person receiving the service, who will need to Register a critical services worker for a COVID-19 NSW border entry permit. <p>Critical services includes the following services:</p> <p>(a) the movement of freight on a commercial basis,</p> <p>(b) the movement of persons on a commercial basis,</p> <p>(c) the maintenance and repair of critical infrastructure,</p> <p>(d) medical, hospital, dental or veterinary care,</p> <p>(e) Commonwealth defence and security services,</p>	<p>A NSW Border Entry Permit can be applied for online via:</p> <p>https://disasterassistance.service.nsw.gov.au/bcpermit</p>

as at 19 August 2020

					(f) mining, agriculture, construction, energy or manufacturing, (g) COVID-19 environmental cleaning on a commercial basis that is not available locally, but does not include services provided by a seasonal worker	
Queensland	https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/ 13 42 68 (24 hours)		<p>QLD has implemented enhanced border control measures, including border passes and identification screening.</p> <p>Entry to QLD only permitted in accordance with the Border Restrictions Direction which may require additional documentation, and a completed Queensland Border Declaration Pass.</p> <p>Anyone who has been in a COVID-19 declared hotspot in the previous 14 days cannot enter QLD.</p> <p>Public Health Directions</p>	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> international travellers <p>Or people who in the last 14 days have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> been in a COVID-19 hotspot; or been in contact with someone who has COVID-19 and has COVID-19 or any symptoms. <p>All persons must complete 14 days of quarantine at a nominated quarantine hotel.</p>	<p>A Border Declaration Pass is not required if you are an “Emergency Services Worker” (Class 16) responding to an emergency in QLD.</p> <p>This includes a person required to provide fire or emergency services in Queensland including rural fire service, state emergency services and firefighters.</p> <p>(See Schedule 1 – Essential Activity within the Public Health Directions)</p> <p>Regardless, anyone who has been in a COVID-19 declared hotspot in the previous 14 days cannot enter QLD.</p>	<p>A QLD Border Declaration Pass can be applied for online via:</p> <p>https://www.qld.gov.au/border-pass</p>
Victoria	https://www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus 1800 675 398 (24 hours)		<p>There are no current border controls in place in VIC. However international passenger flights are currently diverted from VIC.</p>	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place if a person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> resides with another person who has been diagnosed as positive with coronavirus (COVID-19) and are determined to be a close contact. comes into close contact with a person who is confirmed to have coronavirus (COVID-19). These cases are called ‘close contacts’. has been advised by the Department of Health and Human Services that you are a close contact because you have been exposed to an ‘exposure site’, such as your workplace being shut down because a staff member has had coronavirus. are an international traveller. 	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
South Australia	https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/ 1800 253 787 (9am – 5pm)		<p>SA has implemented a number of border control measures.</p> <p>Travellers from VIC, other than approved categories of “Essential Travellers”, are not permitted to travel to SA. Checkpoints or road blocks have been established at all border crossings between SA and VIC.</p>	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all new arrivals into SA. <p>All persons must complete 14 days of quarantine at a nominated quarantine hotel.</p> <p>People will be required to self-isolate for 14 days if they have:</p>	<p>“Essential Travellers” include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National and State Security and Governance Emergency Services Workers Commercial Transport and Freight Services Remote or Isolated Workers Cross Border Community Member 	<p>All non-residents entering SA must complete a Cross Border Travel Registration at least 72 hours before arriving, online via:</p> <p>https://forms.police.sa.gov.au/Runtime/Runtime/Form/CrossBorderTravel</p>

as at 19 August 2020

			<p>Travellers from ACT and NSW, other than “Essential Travellers”, will be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> self-quarantine for 14 days after entering SA submit for COVID-19 testing on the first day of entry to SA (the day of arrival) and the twelfth day of arrival. <p>Travellers from NT, QLD, TAS and WA are able to enter South Australia directly without restriction.</p> <p>Public Health Directions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> arrived in SA from the ACT, NSW, or VIC been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19; or tested positive for COVID-19. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Services Specialist Workers in Essential Sectors Urgent Medical, Dental or Health Treatment Passing Through Compassionate Grounds Foreign Diplomatic or Consular Staff <p>“Emergency Services Workers” (Class 6) are permitted to enter SA and are not required to undertake quarantine.</p> <p>“Emergency Services Workers” are defined as including fire fighters, paramedics, ambulance officers and police officers who are required to be physically present in South Australia in the conduct of their duties.</p> <p>(See Schedule 1 – Essential Travellers)</p> <p>A Cross Border Travel Registration is still required.</p>	
Western Australia	<p>https://www.wgov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus</p> <p>1800 595 206 (24 hours)</p>		<p>Strict border controls are in place to limit the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>Entry into WA not permitted unless you are an “Exempt Traveller”. Even if you are an exempt traveller, people must not enter if they have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> symptoms of COVID-19; have been notified you are a close contact; been tested for COVID-19 and are awaiting the test result; tested positive for COVID-19 and have not yet received a certificate from a medical practitioner or responsible officer certifying that you have recovered from COVID-19; or been in VIC or NSW in the previous 14 days. <p>Public Health Directions</p>	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all travellers into WA, noting that only exempt travellers are permitted. <p>People must complete 14 days of quarantine at a nominated quarantine hotel.</p>	<p>“Exempt Travellers” fall into the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National and State security and governance Health services Transport, freight and logistics Specialist skills not available in Western Australia FIFO employees Emergency Services Worker Courts, tribunals and commissions Compassionate grounds / court order / residential facility ground <p>(See Clause 27 – Exempt Traveller)</p> <p>A G2G Pass is not required if you are an “Emergency Service Worker” (Class M).</p> <p>An “Emergency Service Worker” is a person entering WA in the person's capacity as an emergency service worker, including a fire fighter, a paramedic, an ambulance officer, a</p>	<p>A G2G Pass can be applied for online via:</p> <p>https://www.g2gpass.com.au/</p>

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					<p>police officer or a member of a State Emergency Service. (See Clause 27 m – Emergency Service Worker)</p> <p>However, if “Emergency Service Workers have been in VIC or NSW in the previous 14 days they will not be permitted to enter WA unless with written approval from the State Emergency Coordinator (or a person authorised by the State Emergency Coordinator) and comply with any terms and conditions imposed on entry to WA.</p>	
Tasmania	<p>https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/</p> <p>1800 671 738 (24 hours)</p>		<p>Border restrictions in TAS are based on the locations travellers have spent time in during the 14 days prior to their arrival.</p> <p>This determines whether travellers will be permitted to enter the State, where they must quarantine and other requirements such as wearing masks and undertaking COVID-19 testing.</p> <p>Non-TAS residents who have been in a COVID-19 Affected Area (primarily VIC) in the previous 14 days cannot enter TAS.</p> <p>All other Non-TAS residents, who are not classified as “Essential Travellers” are required to quarantine in government-designated accommodation.</p> <p>Public Health Directions – Persons Arriving in Australia (General)</p> <p>Public Health Directions – Persons Arriving in Australia (Affected Regions and Premises)</p>	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> non-residents; people symptomatic of COVID-19 or who have been in close contact with a COVID-19 case in the 14 days prior to travel; or people who have been overseas within 14 days of arrival to Tasmania. <p>They must complete 14 days of quarantine at a nominated quarantine hotel.</p>	<p>“Essential Travellers” are defined into the categories of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> National and State Security and Governance Health Services Transport, freight of logistics Specialist skills critical to maintaining key industries or businesses Paramedics and ambulance officers Police officers <p>There is currently no exemption available to emergency services personnel who have been in a declared COVID-19 hotspot within 14 days.</p> <p>They must either not enter, or quarantine for 14 days.</p>	<p>All non-residents entering TAS must apply for a G2G Pass at least 72 hours before arriving, online via:</p> <p>https://www.g2gpass.com.au/</p>
Northern Territory	<p>https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/</p> <p>1800 490 484 (8am – 5pm)</p>		<p>There are strict border controls in place for all arrivals to the NT.</p> <p>All persons arriving into the NT must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> fill in a Border Entry Form; and complete 14 days of mandatory supervised quarantine at your own expense*, if recently in an active declared COVID-19 hot spot. 	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> international travellers; and people arriving in the NT from a declared COVID-19 hotspot. <p>Persons must complete 14 days of quarantine at a nominated quarantine hotel.</p>	<p>There is no restriction on the entry of people into the NT if they are from an area a COVID-19 free location, are not unwell and have not been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.</p> <p>Exemption for persons entering Territory to provide “Essential Services”</p>	<p>All travellers entering the NT must complete a Border Entry Application either 72 hours before arriving or at the airport on arrival, online via:</p> <p>https://forms.nt.gov.au/Produce/wizard/9ffc58df-b0a5-422e-86e5-f260522c072a/?prepared=true&logGid=53f2516e-c77a-42cd-81a1-8d94f2a7da44</p>

as at 19 August 2020

			Chief Health Officer Directions		<p>is available for people who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) provides services for the transport or freight of essential, critical or urgent items; (ii) is required to enter the Territory for the essential, critical or urgent maintenance or repair of power, water, communications or other infrastructure critical to the Territory; or (iii) is a health practitioner needed to perform essential, critical or urgent functions; <p>(See Division 3, Exemption for Persons Entering Territory to Provide Essential Services - Clause 28)</p> <p>There is currently no exemption available to emergency services personnel who have been in a declared COVID-19 hotspot within 14 days.</p> <p>They must either not enter, or quarantine for 14 days.</p>	<p>If travelling from a declared COVID-19 hotspot within 14 days and needed, an Exemption from Mandatory Supervised Quarantine can be applied for online via:</p> <p>https://forms.nt.gov.au/Produce/wizard/570088df-2159-428a-b1d3-b49003827667/?prepared=true&logGid=1ef7a7a3-f3eb-48bd-86cb-041ff4a1b9c6</p>
<p>Australian Capital Territory</p>	<p>https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/</p> <p>02 6207 7244 (8am – 8pm)</p>		<p>In the ACT, anyone travelling from an identified COVID-19 Hotspot is ordered to immediately undertake a period of quarantine.</p> <p>Anyone travelling into the ACT from VIC will be denied entry to the ACT unless they are granted an exemption.</p> <p>Due to NSW updating their border restrictions for travel from VIC, entry to the ACT from VIC is now only possible through Canberra Airport, by air – unless granted access via NSW to cross the NSW VIC road borders.</p> <p>(See NSW section for advice.)</p> <p>People from other States/Territories (other than VIC) are permitted to enter the ACT.</p> <p>Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Travellers) Emergency Directions</p> <p>Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Hotspot) Emergency Direction</p>	<p>Mandatory quarantine is in place for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people who have recently returned from overseas; • people who have recently been to high-risk interstate areas; or • people who have had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 <p>All persons must complete 14 days of quarantine at a nominated quarantine hotel.</p>	<p>The ACT has closed its borders for anyone travelling into the ACT from VIC, unless holding an exemption to enter.</p> <p>Restrictions do not apply to other states and territories.</p> <p>A Health Exemption Application is not required if you are entering the ACT for “Emergency Purposes”.</p> <p>This is not defined further.</p> <p>(See Part 1 – Travel from Victoria)</p>	<p>Victorian residents must apply for an ACT Health Exemption Application at least 48 hours before arriving online via:</p> <p>https://actredcap.act.gov.au/redcap/surveys/?s=JJHXMHH3KX</p>

DRAFT

Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Friday, 28 August 2020 4:25 PM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES); Retsas, Christina (SES); Meda, Priti (SES)
Subject: DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice
Attachments: COVID-19 - ESS Policy - Cross Border Travel for Emergencies - DRAFT.docx

Good afternoon

Please find attached a quick Friday afternoon draft of an ESS Best Practice document for Cross Border Travel following on from the information received from SAPOL earlier today – ready for your feedback and hopefully a quick turnaround to other agencies for consultation.

If opportunity presents, review and feedback on Monday would be much appreciated due to the fact this is already a potential interference to the sectors ability to respond, otherwise I will raise this as discussion for Tuesdays OCT meeting.

Note there are two items in this document I have sought clarity from SAPOL on

1. Schedule 1, Clause 2(2), the requirement to notify a health facility of your travel prior to attending. For example, Member A returns from Victoria after assisting at a rescue, and need to attend a health facility for a personal appointment some days later, how long do they provide that prior notice for?
2. The requirement for a COVID-19 test for returning emergency service workers who leave the state in the course of their duties. The email from SAPOL suggests that testing will still be a requirement, but in reading the direction I have found the following (screenshot below) which to me would allow emergency service workers to return without submitting to a test.

14—Testing of arrivals

- (1) Subject to this clause, a person who arrives in South Australia from a place outside of South Australia (other than a low community transmission zone arrival) must submit to a COVID-19 test—
 - (a) within 24 hours after their arrival in South Australia; and
 - (b) on the twelfth day after their arrival in South Australia.
- (2) A person required to submit to a COVID-19 test under this clause must not refuse or fail to comply with a reasonable requirement or direction of a person in relation to the conduct of the COVID-19 test.
- (3) However, a person who leaves South Australia less than 12 days after their arrival is not required to submit to a COVID-19 test on the twelfth day after their arrival.
- (4) This clause does not apply to—
 - (a) an essential traveller under—
 - (i) Schedule 1 clause 2 (Emergency services workers); or
 - (ii) Schedule 1 clause 3 (Commercial transport and freight—general); or
 - (iii) Schedule 1 clause 4 (Remote or Isolated workers); or
 - (iv) Schedule 1 clause 5 (Cross border community members); or
 - (v) Schedule 2 clause 3(2) (Seasonal workers in an essential sector); or

Have a rad weekend!

Dave O'Shannessy

Senior Recruitment & Retention Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

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Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



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Background

Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a new virus, causing symptoms ranging from fever, cough and shortness of breath to mild pneumonia. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, and possibly through contact with infected surfaces or objects, through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. We must protect the health and safety of Front Line Emergency Services Sector (ESS) workers as a priority in order to continue to provide our services for the community. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need to introduce interim procedures for ESS workers who will cross the border into Victoria in response to an emergency.

Emergency Management (Cross Border Travel No 13) (COVID-19) Direction 2020 came into effect at 12:01 am on Friday 28 August 2020. The direction provides exemptions for ESS workers from South Australia who have crossed the border to attend, or respond to, an emergency, and are returning to South Australia.

Essential Traveler Status

Emergency services workers who are on duty and are required in the conduct of those duties to travel across a South Australian border to attend, or respond to, an **emergency** are deemed an “Essential Traveler” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2.

In this clause, an **emergency** means an event (whether occurring in the State, outside the State or in and outside the State) that causes, or threatens to cause —

- (a) the death of, or injury or other damage to the health of, any person; or
- (b) the destruction of, or damage to, any property; or
- (c) a disruption to essential services or to services usually enjoyed by the community; or
- (d) harm to the environment, or to flora or fauna;

As an “Essential Traveler” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on returning to South Australia, if it is necessary for you to attend or enter a health facility or hospital in South Australia, you must inform the health facility or hospital of your arrival from outside of the State prior to arrival at the health facility or hospital.

As an “Essential Traveler” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on returning to South Australia, you will NOT be required to:

- Wear a face mask in South Australia
- Complete a period of self-quarantine
- Keep and maintain records of close contacts on your return
- Submit to a COVID-19 test



EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTOR BEST PRACTICE

COVID-19 – Cross Border Travel

Registering as an Essential Traveler

You must apply for Essential Traveler status. Usually this would involve completing the cross border travel registration form through SA Police. Each ESS agency has been given the option to submit a list of current members to SA Police for a simpler registration process.

To expedite this process, and remove the burden for individuals to action registration, members of Brigades/Units that have the potential for cross border travel will have their details forwarded to SA Police on **Friday September 11, 2020**. Individuals who do not wish their details forwarded to SA Police must contact their Agency Taskforce prior to this date to request their details are removed from the list.

Members who commence with an ESS agency after this date, will be required to complete the cross border travel registration online.

Re-entering South Australia

At the SA checkpoint you will need **Photo ID** and:

- Provide your online Essential Traveller number (ET00000000) to the police officer, or
- If you can't provide your Essential Traveller number, provide your details to the police officer so that they can verify your online application and issue you with an 'interim status' assessment, or
- Complete the online registration form at the checkpoint and the police officer will issue you with an 'interim status' assessment.

Clause 13 of the Direction prohibits persons entering South Australia from Victoria road that is not listed in Schedule 4 of the Direction. A current list of roads can be found on the SA Police website. This clause does not apply in the case of an emergency, where ESS workers are re-entering South Australia to attend, or respond to, an **emergency**.

If you have any further questions in relation to this document please refer to your local Chain of Command or contact your COVID-19 Taskforce leader.

This is a rapidly changing event. Please refer to your Agency's COVID-19 Response resource pages and the following websites:

Department of Health - www.health.gov.au

South Australian Health www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Commissioner for the Public Sector Employment <http://publicsector.sa.gov.au>

Dixon, Rachel (SAFECON)

From: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL)
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2020 6:20 PM
To: SES:Covid Operations
Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES)
Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Hi David,

It's entirely the decision of your agency – as I said, it's not required under the direction so whatever policy decision is put in place for the SES is probably not for me to advise on...I'll leave that one with you.

Any other questions / issues, happy to help.

Kind regards,
Wendy

Insp Wendy Mazik
COVID-19 Operations
O/C Emergency and Major Event Section
South Australia Police
100 Angas Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000
T 08 732 24284 M 0408 801 154
E wendy.mazik@police.sa.gov.au
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

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From: SES:Covid Operations
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2020 8:14 AM
To: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL)
Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES)
Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Hi Wendy

Thanks so much for your quick reply.

Regarding the tests, no issues, certainly an oversight on my part so thank you for the clarification.

Regarding the health facility, we will put something into our procedures about notifying of travel for as you said the interest of safety. Would you be comfortable that this occurs for 14 days as per other standard timeframes around COVID19?

Cheers

Regards,

David O'Shannessy

Operations Officer
Covid-19 Outbreak Coordination Team | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001
Level 2, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

E SES.Covid.Operations@sa.gov.au

Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



From: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL) <Wendy.Mazik@police.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Saturday, 29 August 2020 10:22 AM

To: SES:Covid Operations <SES.Covid.Operations@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>; Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Hi David,

Happy to assist...

Re the first question –

(2) If it is necessary for an emergency services worker to attend or enter a health facility or hospital, the worker must inform the health facility or hospital of the State prior to arrival at the health facility.

The intention of this sub- clause is for the responding emergency services worker (presumably mostly SAAS) to advise the Hospital or facility they are transporting a patient to as a result of responding to the emergency (eg road crash) that they've come from outside the State ie from Victoria or NSW (or ACT) where community transmission exist. This will allow the hospital or health facility to go that next level up in terms of their preventative and risk mitigation strategies to keep everyone safe.

It would presumably also apply if say one of your workers were injured responding to an emergency and needed to go for treatment at hospital or a health facility – the worker would need to advise the place that they were coming in and that they had been in NSW or Victoria (or ACT).

I don't believe the intention was to capture those workers attending their local GP several days after the incident for another purpose other than the emergency. Having said that, in the interests of staying safe, it couldn't hurt to mention it, but I don't believe that was the intention.

Re the second question –

Unfortunately you are not correct - you've missed the critical next part of the direction in your screen shot...

(4) This clause does not apply to—

(a) an essential traveller under—

- (i) Schedule 1 clause 2 (Emergency services workers); or
- (ii) Schedule 1 clause 3 (Commercial transport and freight—general); or
- (iii) Schedule 1 clause 4 (Remote or Isolated workers); or
- (iv) Schedule 1 clause 5 (Cross border community members); or
- (v) Schedule 2 clause 3(2) (Seasonal workers in an essential sector); or
- (vi) Schedule 2 clause 4 (Commercial transport and freight services—Victorian residents); or
- (vii) Schedule 2 clause 6 (Passing Through),

if the person produces to an authorised officer (on request) evidence of a COVID-19 test, or a COVID-19 test result, relating to a test undertaken by the person within the preceding 7 days; or

What this exemption is talking about is that if the worker can produce evidence of a test within the preceding 7 days, they are exempt from the obligation to undertake a test on day 1 and day 12. If the worker cannot produce evidence of a test within the last 7 days, they must get a COVID test within 24hrs of their arrival in the state and again on day 12. So...the decision for your workers is – maintain a testing regime of every 7 days (I would recommend this if your members are being called across the border very regularly...or...undertake a test on day 1 and day 12 (I would recommend this if their call out frequency is less than once a fortnight.) These are entirely your decisions for your agency / workers.

Hope that assists, let me know if you have any other queries.

Kind regards,

Wendy

Insp Wendy Mazik

COVID-19 Operations

O/C Emergency and Major Event Section

South Australia Police

100 Angas Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000

T 08 732 24284 M 0408 801 154

E wendy.mazik@police.sa.gov.au

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From: SES:Covid Operations

Sent: Friday, 28 August 2020 3:36 PM

To: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL)

Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES)
Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Hi Wendy

My Name is David O'Shannessy and as the email address would suggest I am looking after COVID19 Operations for the SES. Robert Charlton is on some well-deserved days off and in his absence I have been asked to progress some documentation across the sector based on your email below.

I just wanted to clarify two points regarding the Cross Border Travel direction.

1. Schedule 1, Clause 2(2), the requirement to notify a health facility of your travel prior to attending. Could you please advise for what period this lasts, is it for the standard 14 days? For example, Member A returns from Victoria after assisting at a rescue, and need to attend a health facility for a personal appointment some days later, how long do they provide that prior notice for?
2. The requirement for a COVID-19 test for returning emergency service workers who leave the state in the course of their duties. The second paragraph of your email below suggests that testing will still be a requirement, but in reading the direction I have found the following (screenshot below) which to me would allow emergency service workers to return without submitting to a test. Could you please confirm that what I have read is correct.

14—Testing of arrivals

- (1) Subject to this clause, a person who arrives in South Australia from a place outside of South Australia (other than a low community transmission zone arrival) must submit to a COVID-19 test—
 - (a) within 24 hours after their arrival in South Australia; and
 - (b) on the twelfth day after their arrival in South Australia.
- (2) A person required to submit to a COVID-19 test under this clause must not refuse or fail to comply with a reasonable requirement or direction of a person in relation to the conduct of the COVID-19 test.
- (3) However, a person who leaves South Australia less than 12 days after their arrival is not required to submit to a COVID-19 test on the twelfth day after their arrival.
- (4) This clause does not apply to—
 - (a) an essential traveller under—
 - (i) Schedule 1 clause 2 (Emergency services workers); or
 - (ii) Schedule 1 clause 3 (Commercial transport and freight—general); or
 - (iii) Schedule 1 clause 4 (Remote or Isolated workers); or
 - (iv) Schedule 1 clause 5 (Cross border community members); or
 - (v) Schedule 2 clause 3(2) (Seasonal workers in an essential sector); or

Thanks in advance

Regards,

David O'Shannessy

Operations Officer

Covid-19 Outbreak Coordination Team | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001
Level 2, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

E SES.Covid.Operations@sa.gov.au

Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



From: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL) <Wendy.Mazik@police.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2020 8:44:28 PM

To: Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Honner, James (CFS) <James.Honner@sa.gov.au>; Boucher, Stephen (CFS) <Stephen.Boucher@sa.gov.au>;

Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>; Thompson, Roy (SAMFS) <Roy.Thompson@sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Hi All,

The **Cross Border Travel Direction** has been updated to **version 13** and becomes effective from 0001hrs on Friday 28/08/20. Please note the highlighted section below which we were able to introduce to provide clarity to emergency services in relation to what an 'emergency' is. You will all be very familiar with this definition as it is straight out of the EMA and FESA, I hope that will assist.

I understand and sympathise with your concerns re COVID testing but it remains an SA Health instruction and it still remains in the direction.

The offer remains to upload all emergency services workers likely to fit into this category of Essential Traveller. We would need spreadsheets from you all with full name, DOB, home address, email address, phone number, agency (I think that's it – I'll double check data required in the morning). As new members come on board, they can apply via the online portal themselves if it's easier, just include on agency joining instructions.

We ask that it is made very clear that Emergency Services workers status as an essential traveller only exists when they are undertaking the role and function that makes them an Essential Traveller ie attending an emergency. It is not an open invitation to travel for any purpose. With the retraction of the Cross Border Direction No 12 and the reintroduction of the 40km zone along the SA/VIC border and the ability to travel for work, education, food, petrol etc we are hoping there will be less impact on Cross Border community members including your respective staff.

Any issues, happy to clarify – thanks all for your understanding and patience.

The following is a synopsis of the 3 substantive changes:

Clause 3 - Interpretation

- The definition of **low community transmission zone arrival** has been amended. If the person is a non-essential traveller and arrives in South Australia after travelling by air from WA, NT, QLD or Tasmania, via Sydney Airport or Canberra Airport and has not left the airport terminal whilst in transit, they are not required to self-quarantine or submit to a COVID-19 test. The person is considered to be arriving from a **low community transmission of zone**
- **Note** this person must also not have otherwise been in VIC, NSW or ACT during the immediately preceding 14 days
- This amendment means the person is not required to self-quarantine or submit to Covid-19 testing after arrival in SA

Schedule 1 – Essential travelers

Emergency services workers (Schedule 1, Clause 2)

- Clause 2(1)(b) is amended to clarify that travel for an on-duty emergency services worker must be required to attend, or respond to an **emergency**, which is defined at clause 2(3) as:
emergency means an event (whether occurring in the State, outside the State or in and outside the State) that causes, or threatens to cause—
 - (a) the death of, or injury or other damage to the health of, any person; or
 - (b) the destruction of, or damage to, any property; or
 - (c) a disruption to essential services or to services usually enjoyed by the community; or
 - (d) harm to the environment, or to flora or fauna;
- Further, if it is necessary for an emergency services worker to enter an SA health facility or hospital related to the emergency, **new** clause 2(2) requires the person to, prior to arrival, inform the facility or hospital that the person is arriving from outside SA

Schedule 1 – Essential travelers

Cross border community members (Schedule 1, Clause 5)

- This category of essential traveller has been amended to reinstate the Cross border community member clauses previously contained in the *Cross Border Travel Direction No 10*
- The following now applies:
 - SA residents – must reside at or near SA border – and cannot travel further than 50km into NSW or 40km into VIC, however can travel within South Australia
 - NSW – must reside within 50km of SA border – and cannot travel further than 50km into SA
 - VIC – must reside within 40km of SA border – and cannot travel further than 40km into SA
 - Cross border travel is permitted for SA, VIC and NSW residents for employment, education, providing or receiving care and support, or to obtain food, petrol, other fuel, medical care or supplies

Kind regards,
Wendy

Insp Wendy Mazik
COVID-19 Operations
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South Australia Police
100 Angas Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000
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From: Charlton, Robert (SES)
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 7:33 PM
To: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL)
Cc: Honner, James (CFS); Boucher, Stephen (CFS); Halleday, Derren (SES); Thompson, Roy (SAMFS)
Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Hello Wendy

Thanks for getting back to us. We do understand this is a busy time for you.

Thanks

Robert Charlton

Regional Operations Coordinator | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001

Level 2, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

T 08 8115 3870 | **F** 08 8410 3115 | **M** 0419 827 873 | **E** Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au

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From: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL) <Wendy.Mazik@police.sa.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 6:32 PM

To: Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Honner, James (CFS) <James.Honner@sa.gov.au>; Boucher, Stephen (CFS) <Stephen.Boucher@sa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Hi Rob, James and Stephen,

Just letting you know I'm onto this and am hoping to have clarification for you soon. The Cross Border Travel Direction is being opened up over the next couple of days and hoping to get the team to include a reference to a legislative 'Emergency' definition in there either this time (pushing it) or next. I understand the other issues outlined - I appreciate your patience and am hoping to have advice for you soon but as you can appreciate the next few days will be long. Just wanted you to know we are working on it.

Kind regards,
Wendy

Insp Wendy Mazik
COVID-19 Operations

O/C Emergency and Major Event Section
South Australia Police

100 Angas Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000

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From: Charlton, Robert (SES)
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 12:30 PM
To: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL)
Cc: Honner, James (CFS); Boucher, Stephen (CFS)
Subject: FW: Cross Border Travel
Importance: High

Hello Wendy

Further to my earlier email below CFS don't issue agency ids to all their personnel so would prefer to just use the uniform and marked vehicle.

Thanks

Robert

From: Honner, James (CFS) <James.Honner@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 11:20 AM
To: Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Boucher, Stephen (CFS) <Stephen.Boucher@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Cross Border Travel

Thanks Rob,

Great clarification of our issues, thanks.

From a CFS perspective, we generally don't have agency IDs issued, except potentially to key personnel. Another example of the volume issues that may be unique to CFS. If this were to be the alternative to a list of names at the border, this would also compromise our ability to comply, as we would need to gather photos, then produce IDs for the 200+ names, then issue them back to their respective brigades.

Regards,

James Honner
State Training
South Australian Country Fire Service
28 Pyrites Road
Brukunga SA 5252

T 08 8398 9986 | M 0428 568 829 | E James.Honner@sa.gov.au

From: Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2020 10:06 AM
To: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL) <Wendy.Mazik@police.sa.gov.au>
Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>; Thompson, Roy (SAMFS) <Roy.Thompson@sa.gov.au>; Boucher, Stephen (CFS) <Stephen.Boucher@sa.gov.au>; Honner, James (CFS) <James.Honner@sa.gov.au>
Subject: Cross Border Travel
Importance: High

Hello Wendy

Thank you for your efforts in trying to provide some clarity on the process of border crossings for emergencies.

Yesterday at a meeting of the COVID coordinators from CFS, MFS and SES it was agreed that I would be the single point of contact on this matter to try and avoid confusion and duplication of effort. I briefed them on our discussions and that you were seeking direction on how best to proceed and work through the implementation of the direction. I've included the coordinators in this email.

They have asked me to raise the following things with you on behalf of the three agencies:

- We believe that the definition of an emergency should be based upon legislation where it is clearly defined
- We have concerns if some incidents across the border are not considered an emergency where they are now that could expose our agencies if we do not respond appropriately
- Across the agencies there are a number of locations where SA personnel are the primary response into Victoria with no Victorian assets close by
- Also we do not want to see a situation where our personnel attend an incident believing they are essential travellers and then find they are unable to return without complying with quarantine, etc
- We have concerns about the practicalities of the requirement to have a COVID test within the previous seven days of returning. This would mean that hundreds of personnel would need to have a COVID test every seven days just on the chance they may cross the border. The majority of them would not even need it but particularly with volunteers this is very difficult as we don't roster personnel and respond on availability. This would see an increase in the number of tests being performed in these area and may be an unnecessary drain on resources
- Whilst we acknowledge the need for proper process to ensure that essential travellers are travelling for an emergency we feel that personnel travelling in a marked response vehicle, in uniform and with agency id should be able to cross the border without the need for anything further. This would negate the need for any paper work and make things much smoother for all concerned. We appreciate your offer to process names on bulk but we feel there is still room for error as new people join regularly and may get left of the list creating angst for all our personnel on the border

We understand that your job is not to write these declarations and just to try and implement them and they you may not be able to accommodate our requests. However we would ask that you pass this through your chain of command. Please advise if you feel these issues need to be raised separately or if for example we should raise them with health.

Once again we know this is a difficult time but it is clear that we are going to have border crossing restrictions for some time so we need to develop a clear process that we can all follow but is also practicable and workable. This is particularly important with the upcoming fire season which could see an increase of responses.

Thanks

Robert Charlton

Regional Operations Coordinator | South Australian State Emergency Service

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Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2020 8:57 AM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES); Retsas, Christina (SES); Meda, Priti (SES)
Subject: RE: DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice
Attachments: COVID-19 - ESS Policy - Cross Border Travel for Emergencies - DRAFT V2.docx

Importance: High

Good morning colleagues

Please disregard the previous draft sent on Friday afternoon and refer to attached updated document.

Updates from SAPOL over the weekend have provided the following:

- A Covid-19 test is required for emergency service workers as outlined in the new attached ESS Best Practice DRAFT
- The entry to a health facility is not officially time bound so I am proposing our people do it for 14 days. From SAPOL:

The intention of this sub- clause is for the responding emergency services worker (presumably mostly SAAS) to advise the Hospital or facility they are transporting a patient to as a result of responding to the emergency (eg road crash) that they've come from outside the State ie from Victoria or NSW (or ACT) where community transmission exist. This will allow the hospital or health facility to go that next level up in terms of their preventative and risk mitigation strategies to keep everyone safe.

It would presumably also apply if say one of your workers were injured responding to an emergency and needed to go for treatment at hospital or a health facility – the worker would need to advise the place that they were coming in and that they had been in NSW or Victoria (or ACT).

I don't believe the intention was to capture those workers attending their local GP several days after the incident for another purpose other than the emergency. Having said that, in the interests of staying safe, it couldn't hurt to mention it, but I don't believe that was the intention.

Dave O'Shannessy

Senior Recruitment & Retention Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

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T 08 8115 3879 | **F** 08 8115 3801 | **M** 0429 088 316 | **E** Dave.OShannessy@sa.gov.au
Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)

Sent: Friday, 28 August 2020 4:25 PM

To: Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>; Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>; Retsas, Christina (SES) <Christina.Retsas@sa.gov.au>; Meda, Priti (SES) <Priti.Meda@sa.gov.au>

Subject: DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice

Good afternoon

Please find attached a quick Friday afternoon draft of an ESS Best Practice document for Cross Border Travel following on from the information received from SAPOL earlier today – ready for your feedback and hopefully a quick turnaround to other agencies for consultation.

If opportunity presents, review and feedback on Monday would be much appreciated due to the fact this is already a potential interference to the sectors ability to respond, otherwise I will raise this as discussion for Tuesdays OCT meeting.

Note there are two items in this document I have sought clarity from SAPOL on

1. Schedule 1, Clause 2(2), the requirement to notify a health facility of your travel prior to attending. For example, Member A returns from Victoria after assisting at a rescue, and need to attend a health facility for a personal appointment some days later, how long do they provide that prior notice for?
2. The requirement for a COVID-19 test for returning emergency service workers who leave the state in the course of their duties. The email from SAPOL suggests that testing will still be a requirement, but in reading the direction I have found the following (screenshot below) which to me would allow emergency service workers to return without submitting to a test.

14—Testing of arrivals

- (1) Subject to this clause, a person who arrives in South Australia from a place outside of South Australia (other than a low community transmission zone arrival) must submit to a COVID-19 test—
 - (a) within 24 hours after their arrival in South Australia; and
 - (b) on the twelfth day after their arrival in South Australia.
- (2) A person required to submit to a COVID-19 test under this clause must not refuse or fail to comply with a reasonable requirement or direction of a person in relation to the conduct of the COVID-19 test.
- (3) However, a person who leaves South Australia less than 12 days after their arrival is not required to submit to a COVID-19 test on the twelfth day after their arrival.
- (4) This clause does not apply to—
 - (a) an essential traveller under—
 - (i) Schedule 1 clause 2 (Emergency services workers); or
 - (ii) Schedule 1 clause 3 (Commercial transport and freight—general); or
 - (iii) Schedule 1 clause 4 (Remote or Isolated workers); or
 - (iv) Schedule 1 clause 5 (Cross border community members); or
 - (v) Schedule 2 clause 3(2) (Seasonal workers in an essential sector); or

Have a rad weekend!

Dave O'Shannessy

Senior Recruitment & Retention Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

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Background

Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a new virus, causing symptoms ranging from fever, cough and shortness of breath to mild pneumonia. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, and possibly through contact with infected surfaces or objects, through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. We must protect the health and safety of Front Line Emergency Services Sector (ESS) workers as a priority in order to continue to provide our services for the community. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need to introduce interim procedures for ESS workers who will cross the border into Victoria in response to an emergency.

Emergency Management (Cross Border Travel No 13) (COVID-19) Direction 2020 came into effect at 12:01 am on Friday 28 August 2020. The direction provides exemptions for ESS workers from South Australia who have crossed the border to attend, or respond to, an emergency, and are returning to South Australia.

Essential Traveler Status

Emergency services workers who are on duty and are required in the conduct of those duties to travel across a South Australian border to attend, or respond to, an **emergency** are deemed an “Essential Traveler” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2.

In this clause, an **emergency** means an event (whether occurring in the State, outside the State or in and outside the State) that causes, or threatens to cause —

- (a) the death of, or injury or other damage to the health of, any person; or
- (b) the destruction of, or damage to, any property; or
- (c) a disruption to essential services or to services usually enjoyed by the community; or
- (d) harm to the environment, or to flora or fauna;

Registering as an Essential Traveler

You must apply for Essential Traveler status. Usually this would involve completing the cross border travel registration form through SA Police. Each ESS agency has been given the option to submit a list of current members to SA Police for a simpler registration process.

To expedite this process, and remove the burden for individuals to action registration, members of Brigades/Units that have the potential for cross border travel will have their details forwarded to SA Police on **Friday September 11, 2020**. Individuals who do not wish their details forwarded to SA Police must contact their Agency Taskforce prior to this date to request their details are removed from the list.

Members who commence with an ESS agency after this date, will be required to complete the cross border travel registration online.



EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTOR BEST PRACTICE

COVID-19 – Cross Border Travel

Re-entering South Australia

At the South Australia checkpoint you will need **Photo ID** and:

- Provide your online Essential Traveller number (ET00000000) to the police officer, or
- If you can't provide your Essential Traveller number, provide your details to the police officer so that they can verify your online application and issue you with an 'interim status' assessment, or
- Complete the online registration form at the checkpoint and the police officer will issue you with an 'interim status' assessment.

Clause 13 of the Direction prohibits persons entering South Australia from Victoria road that is not listed in Schedule 4 of the Direction. A current list of roads can be found on the SA Police website. This clause does not apply in the case of an emergency, where ESS workers are re-entering South Australia to attend, or respond to, an **emergency**.

Mandatory COVID-19 Testing

After re-entering South Australia, you must submit to a COVID-19 test:

- within 24 hours after your arrival in South Australia; and
- on the twelfth day after your arrival in South Australia.

The only time this will not apply is if you can produce to an authorised officer (on request) evidence of a COVID-19 test, or a COVID-19 test result, relating to a test undertaken within the preceding 7 days.

Entering a Health Facility or Hospital

As an "Essential Traveler" under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on re-entering South Australia, if it is necessary for you to attend or enter a health facility or hospital in South Australia, you must inform the health facility or hospital of your arrival from outside of the State prior to arrival at the health facility or hospital. This must occur for a period of 14 days.

Restrictions not Applicable to Emergency Services Workers

As an "Essential Traveler" under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on returning to South Australia, you will **NOT** be required to:

- Wear a face mask in South Australia
- Complete a period of self-quarantine
- Keep and maintain records of close contacts on your return



EMERGENCY SERVICES SECTOR BEST PRACTICE COVID-19 – Cross Border Travel

If you have any further questions in relation to this document please refer to your local Chain of Command or contact your COVID-19 Taskforce leader.

This is a rapidly changing event. Please refer to your Agency's COVID-19 Response resource pages and the following websites:

Department of Health - www.health.gov.au

South Australian Health www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Commissioner for the Public Sector Employment <http://publicsector.sa.gov.au>

Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Monday, 31 August 2020 2:43 PM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES); Retsas, Christina (SES); Meda, Priti (SES)
Subject: RE: DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice
Attachments: COVID-19 - ESS Policy - Cross Border Travel for Emergencies - DRAFT V3.docx

Hi All

Some further changes for your review, the rewritten "Background" and addition regarding Face Masks in Victoria.

Cheers

Dave O'Shannessy

Senior Recruitment & Retention Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

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 Level 8, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

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From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Friday, 28 August 2020 4:25 PM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>; Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>; Retsas, Christina (SES) <Christina.Retsas@sa.gov.au>; Meda, Priti (SES) <Priti.Meda@sa.gov.au>
Subject: DRAFT Cross Border Travel ESS Best Practice

Good afternoon

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If opportunity presents, review and feedback on Monday would be much appreciated due to the fact this is already a potential interference to the sectors ability to respond, otherwise I will raise this as discussion for Tuesdays OCT meeting.

Note there are two items in this document I have sought clarity from SAPOL on

1. Schedule 1, Clause 2(2), the requirement to notify a health facility of your travel prior to attending. For example, Member A returns from Victoria after assisting at a rescue, and need to attend a health facility for a personal appointment some days later, how long do they provide that prior notice for?

2. The requirement for a COVID-19 test for returning emergency service workers who leave the state in the course of their duties. The email from SAPOL suggests that testing will still be a requirement, but in reading the direction I have found the following (screenshot below) which to me would allow emergency service workers to return without submitting to a test.

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- (1) Subject to this clause, a person who arrives in South Australia from a place outside of South Australia (other than a low community transmission zone arrival) must submit to a COVID-19 test—
 - (a) within 24 hours after their arrival in South Australia; and
 - (b) on the twelfth day after their arrival in South Australia.
- (2) A person required to submit to a COVID-19 test under this clause must not refuse or fail to comply with a reasonable requirement or direction of a person in relation to the conduct of the COVID-19 test.
- (3) However, a person who leaves South Australia less than 12 days after their arrival is not required to submit to a COVID-19 test on the twelfth day after their arrival.
- (4) This clause does not apply to—
 - (a) an essential traveller under—
 - (i) Schedule 1 clause 2 (Emergency services workers); or
 - (ii) Schedule 1 clause 3 (Commercial transport and freight—general); or
 - (iii) Schedule 1 clause 4 (Remote or Isolated workers); or
 - (iv) Schedule 1 clause 5 (Cross border community members); or
 - (v) Schedule 2 clause 3(2) (Seasonal workers in an essential sector); or

Have a rad weekend!

Dave O'Shannessy

Senior Recruitment & Retention Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001
Level 8, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

T 08 8115 3879 | F 08 8115 3801 | M 0429 088 316 | E Dave.OShannessy@sa.gov.au

Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



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Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: SES:Covid Operations
Sent: Tuesday, 1 September 2020 2:15 PM
To: Health:EMT Operations
Cc: SES:Covid Coordinator; SES:Covid Intelligence
Subject: Cross border travel - testing requirements

Good afternoon

SES are currently writing documentation to educate and support our volunteers who would be deemed essential travellers under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2 of the Cross Border Travel direction.

As outlined in the direction, after re-entering SA, a COVID test will be required within 24 hours and on the twelfth day, unless there is evidence of a test within the preceding seven days.

Could SA Health please provide an answer to the following question:

Whilst awaiting the results of these two COVID tests, does the essential traveller need to self-quarantine? For example, an emergency services worker receives their test within 24 hours of re-entering SA, but their results don't come until day 4, is the emergency services worker directed or required to self-quarantine for the period between the test and Day 4?

Thanks in advance.

Regards,

David O'Shannessy

Operations Officer

Covid-19 Outbreak Coordination Team | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001
Level 2, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

E SES.Covid.Operations@sa.gov.au

Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Wednesday, 2 September 2020 8:08 AM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES)
Cc: Charlton, Robert (SES)
Subject: For CO - Cross border travel
Attachments: COVID-19 - ESS Policy - Cross Border Travel for Emergencies - DRAFT V3.docx

Hi Derren and Robert

Attached is the cross border travel ESS best practice draft after changes from yesterdays OCT meeting.

Please note we are awaiting information from two sources to finalise some details:

1. SA Health Exemptions team regarding the need for self-quarantine when a schedule one essential traveller is awaiting C19 test result.
2. SAPOL regarding any requirements when people leave SA i.e. do they need beacons activated to indicate they are attending an emergency.

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- (b) the destruction of, or damage to, any property; or
- (c) a disruption to essential services or to services usually enjoyed by the community; or
- (d) harm to the environment, or to flora or fauna;

Note that your status as an “Essential Traveller” is not recognised if you depart the state for a purpose unrelated to your emergency service duties (such as recreational purposes).

Registering as an Essential Traveller

You must apply for Essential Traveller status. Usually this would involve completing the “cross border travel registration” form through SA Police. Each ESS agency has been given the option to submit a list of current members to SA Police for a simpler registration process.

To expedite this process, and remove the burden for individuals to action registration, members of Brigades/Units that have the potential for cross border travel will have their details forwarded to SA Police on **Friday September 11, 2020**. Individuals who do not wish their details forwarded to SA Police must contact their Agency Taskforce prior to this date to request their details are removed from the list.

Members who commence with an ESS agency after this date, will be required to complete the cross border travel registration online.



Leaving South Australia

When leaving South Australia to attend, or respond to, an **emergency**, the Brigade/Unit must notify the CFS Regional Duty Commander, MFS Commander, or SES Regional Duty Officer.

What to expect at the border – insert here.

Wearing a Face Covering in Victoria

The wearing of a face covering is required in Victoria. This means wearing either a surgical mask, or a N95 P2 mask, whichever is made available to you by your agency.

All ESS workers will wear a face mask for the entirety of their time in Victoria.

There are a number of lawful excuses for not wearing a face covering, details can be found on the Victoria Department of Health and Human Services website – <http://dhhs.vic.gov.au>

Patient Based Responses

Where a cross border **emergency** involves a patient, or multiple patients, South Australian emergency service workers will be required to wear full infection control Personal Protective Equipment. This is a minimum of medical gloves, a surgical mask, safety glasses and a long sleeve, impervious gown.

Re-entering South Australia

At the South Australia checkpoint you will need **Photo ID** and:

- Provide your online Essential Traveller number (for example ET00000000) to the police officer, or
- If you can't provide your Essential Traveller number, provide your details to the police officer so that they can verify your online application and issue you with an 'interim status' assessment, or
- Complete the online registration form at the checkpoint and the police officer will issue you with an 'interim status' assessment.

Clause 13 of the Direction prohibits persons entering South Australia from Victoria on a road that is not listed in Schedule 4 of the Direction. A current list of roads can be found on the SA Police website. This clause does not apply in the case of an emergency, where ESS workers are re-entering South Australia to attend, or respond to, an **emergency**. For example, whilst attending or departing an emergency in Victoria, you are dispatched to and responding to an emergency in South Australia. This exemption does not allow for the return trip of your attendance at emergency in Victoria.

After re-entering, you must notify the CFS Regional Duty Commander, MFS MCO, or SES Regional Duty Officer.



Mandatory COVID-19 Testing

After re-entering South Australia, you must submit to a COVID-19 test:

- Within 24 hours after your arrival in South Australia; and
- On the twelfth day after your arrival in South Australia.

The only time this will not apply is if you can produce, to an authorised officer (on request), evidence of a COVID-19 test, or a COVID-19 test result, relating to a test undertaken within the preceding 7 days.

Whilst awaiting the result of a the 24 hour and twelfth day tests, you **are / are not** required to self-quarantine

Entering a Health Facility or Hospital

As an “Essential Traveller” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on re-entering South Australia, if it is necessary for you to attend or enter a health facility or hospital in South Australia, you must inform the health facility or hospital of your arrival from outside of the State prior to arrival at the health facility or hospital. This must occur for a period of 14 days.

Restrictions not Applicable to Emergency Services Workers

As an “Essential Traveller” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on returning to South Australia, you will **NOT** be required to:

- Wear a face mask in South Australia
- Complete a period of self-quarantine
- Keep and maintain records of close contacts on your return

If you have any further questions in relation to this document please refer to your local Chain of Command or contact your COVID-19 Taskforce leader.

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Department of Health - www.health.gov.au

South Australian Health www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Commissioner for the Public Sector Employment <http://publicsector.sa.gov.au>

Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: Halleday, Derren (SES)
Sent: Wednesday, 2 September 2020 10:01 AM
To: Thompson, Roy (SAMFS); Boucher, Stephen (CFS); Phelps, Kristy (SAFECOM)
Cc: Charlton, Robert (SES); O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Subject: FW: For CO - Cross border travel
Attachments: COVID-19 - ESS Policy - Cross Border Travel for Emergencies - DRAFT V3.docx

Good morning colleagues, As discussed last week, Robert Charlton, and then in his absence, Dave O'Shannessy have been working with Wendy Mazic from SAPOL to clarify the key issues relating to ESOs travelling across the border. Attached is a draft ESS Policy regarding the situation as it sits today.

As you can see from the e-mail below there is still a bit of detail to be clarified, but we are getting there. Needless to say it is more onerous than our Sector position that was taken to SAPOL, but it is moving forward.

Our Chief Officer will likely be having a discussion with the State Coordinator regarding his concerns with the Policy requirement, so possible more to follow regardless.

Could I ask each of you to have a look over the document and send any comments back to Dave O in the first instance with Robert and I Ccd. CFS may want to include some commentary regarding their direction with cross border travellers not attending CFS facilities, or at least the link to access that internal direction.

Thanks in advance

Derren

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES) <Dave.OShannessy@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 September 2020 8:08 AM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>
Subject: For CO - Cross border travel

Hi Derren and Robert

Attached is the cross border travel ESS best practice draft after changes from yesterdays OCT meeting.

Please note we are awaiting information from two sources to finalise some details:

1. SA Health Exemptions team regarding the need for self-quarantine when a schedule one essential traveller is awaiting C19 test result.
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Dave O'Shannessy

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What to expect at the border – insert here.

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Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: Halleday, Derren (SES)
Sent: Wednesday, 2 September 2020 10:07 AM
To: Beattie, Chris (SES)
Cc: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES)
Subject: FW: For CO - Cross border travel
Attachments: COVID-19 - ESS Policy - Cross Border Travel for Emergencies - DRAFT V3.docx

Good morning Chris, following on from yesterday's brief discussion, please find attached the draft Policy for ESS members travelling across the border. There are a still a few points of clarification that Dave is working through, but we are getting close. I have also circulated this draft to the other coordinators for bespoke agency inclusions into the draft. Needless to say the other ESOs, particularly the MFS share our concern regarding the extra workload and restrictions with the clarified requirements.

I am aware you wanted this document for your discussion with the State Coordinator. If there are any significant changes in the ESO operating environment cross border that come out of your discussions, please let us know so as we can reflect any changes etc.

Regards

Derren

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES) <Dave.OShannessy@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 September 2020 8:08 AM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>
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Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: Stevenson, Pat (Health)
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 1:18 PM
To: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Subject: RE: COVID - cross border testing

Further to last below is an extract of some previous correspondence regarding cross border testing requirements for our MedSTAR retrieval environment.

Thanks for the e-mail

We are looking at changing this requirement in the directions. We have not yet got around to providing exemptions but there is no requirement for testing to be done by MedSTAR people returning from interstate on a retrieval

Regards

Evan

*Evan Everest AM
BSc MB ChB FRACP FCICM
Senior Intensive Care Consultant
Deputy Chief Public Health Officer
Deputy Health State Controller*

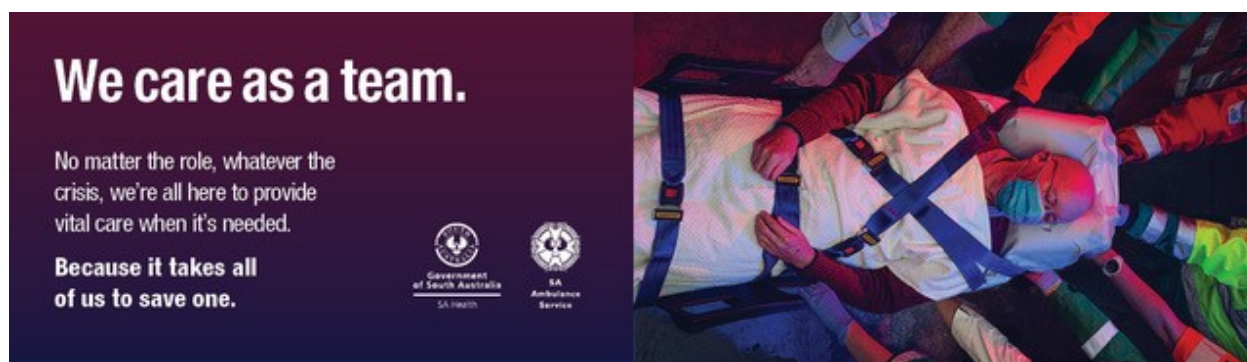
Tel: **Out of scope**
Mobile: **Out of scope**
e-mail evan.everest@sa.gov.au

Pat Stevenson ASM
Operations Manager

Rescue Retrieval and Aviation Services
SA Ambulance Service
Government of South Australia

Tel: **Out of scope**
Mobile: **Out of scope**

Email: pat.stevenson@sa.gov.au.



Website: www.saambulance.com.au

"To save lives, reduce suffering, and enhance quality of life, through the provision of accessible and responsive quality patient care and transport."

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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Stevenson, Pat (Health)
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 1:06 PM
To: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES) <Dave.OShannessy@sa.gov.au>
Subject: COVID - cross border testing

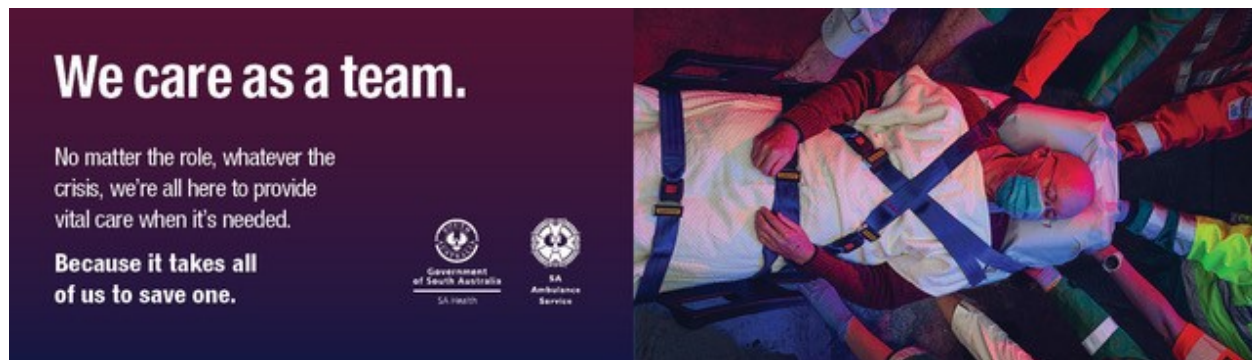
Hi Dave, I am following up your query relating to the testing requirements for SAAS staff involved in cross border activity. While we have advise of an exemption for this requirement I am seeking written clarification to confirm that advise. I'll let you know once this is confirmed.

Pat Stevenson ASM
Operations Manager

Rescue Retrieval and Aviation Services
SA Ambulance Service
Government of South Australia

Tel: **Out of scope**
Mobile: **Out of scope**

Email: pat.stevenson@sa.gov.au.



Website: www.saambulance.com.au

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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Jacka, Emma (Health) <Emma.Jacka@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 10:59 AM
To: Stevenson, Pat (Health) <Pat.Stevenson@sa.gov.au>
Subject: David from SES

Hi Pat,

Can you please ring David from SES who was in the Emergency Services teleconference this morning? He wants to talk about something from this teleconference. His number is 0429 088 316

Thanks

Emma Jacka

IMT COVID-19 - Intelligence

A/Operations Team Leader

Executive Operations Support

Metro East Paramedic

SA Ambulance Service | Government of South Australia

Ph. Out of scope

Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: Honner, James (CFS)
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 11:45 AM
To: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Subject: FW: Cross-border exemption for ESWs

Regards,

James Honner
State Training
South Australian Country Fire Service
28 Pyrites Road
Brukunga SA 5252

T 08 8398 9986 | M 0428 568 829 | E James.Honner@sa.gov.au

From: Dowling, Yvette (CFS) <Yvette.Dowling@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 20 August 2020 8:00 AM
To: Worth, Peter (SAPOL) <Peter.Worth@police.sa.gov.au>; Honner, James (CFS) <James.Honner@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Everest, Evan (Health) <Evan.Everest@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Cross-border exemption for ESWs

Hi All,

I have spoken with Evan and the CFS are exempt under the Emergency Management (Cross Border Travel NO 11) (COVID-19) Direction 2020, Schedule 1 Section 2 Emergency Services workers, so no cross border exemptions are required for CFS personnel responding to and from emergencies.

Cheers

Pixie

From: Worth, Peter (SAPOL) <Peter.Worth@police.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 August 2020 5:54 PM
To: Everest, Evan (Health) <Evan.Everest@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Honner, James (CFS) <James.Honner@sa.gov.au>; Dowling, Yvette (CFS) <Yvette.Dowling@sa.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Cross-border exemption for ESWs

Good evening Evan,

Pixie spoke with me this afternoon re CFS seeking to register a number of cross border exemptions for their emergency services workers. I suggest that she has a chat with you re process.

The below provides some context to her request and pending phone call. For your consideration.

Pixie – can you please discuss this further with Dr Everest to determine the pathway.

Regards

Peter

Chief Inspector Peter Worth

SAPOL - Functional Service Liaison Officer – COVID-19
State Control Centre - Health
11 Hindmarsh Square
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Out of scope

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

KEEPING SA SAFE

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From: Honner, James (CFS)

Sent: Wednesday, 19 August 2020 5:41 PM

To: Worth, Peter (SAPOL)

Cc: Thompson, Roy (SAMFS); Halleday, Derren (SES); Dowling, Yvette (CFS); Sandford, Rob (CFS)

Subject: Cross-border exemption for ESWs

Hi Peter,

Thanks for considering our request via Yvette today. We're seeking to register a number of members for cross-border exemption as Emergency Service Workers (ESW – Schedule 1). We appreciate the demands on the registration process already, but are seeking assistance in processing a volume of ESW clearances in bulk.

My understanding of the current process is as follows:

- CFS produces an individual recommendation letter
- We lodge request online, attaching our recommendation letter
- Application is processed by your team
- Authorisation email is provided
- Authorisation and recommendation letter is carried by ESW when returning from an interstate response

We've done this under the previous direction for 21 members at Pinnaroo. Under the new direction I'm looking to register more than 100 more firefighters from border communities, with SAMFS and SASES also collating additional names. Should the restrictions be in place longer than the next three months, we would require additional authorisations with summer weather increasing the demand on firefighter resources.

To be clear, these ESWs have always provided support into Victoria and NSW as part of our standard response arrangements. Parts of these states are in our primary response areas, as a result of interstate fire and rescue services being located further away from the border into the other states.

We're seeking advice as to whether we can provide a data dump of our crews for authorisation, rather than having to manually process each online. For example, the attached spreadsheet summarises the information that is lodged online.

Preferably, could we arrange for a single authorisation number for our selected crew names so that they can carry our recommendation letter and a copy of the single authorisation. If that were possible, I'd propose we issue our recommendation letter by CFS Group or Brigade listing the members names on a single letter.

In a related matter, I would like to clarify the new COVID-19 testing arrangements for ESWs. Our potential cross-border response is less regular than the needs of SAAS or SAPol, meaning many SES/MFS/CFS members may not respond over the border over some weeks. CFS members to date have not been obtaining a regular (7 day) COVID-19 test in anticipation of needing to cross the border. We have made it clear that any response into VIC or NSW would trigger a need for each ESW to arrange a test on Day 1 of re-entering the state – even if they had no contacts during the response. I'm seeking advice on whether this is appropriate.

We received verbal advice last week that where we had Fire and SES trucks returning from Victoria, clearly following an emergency response, that border arrangements may be to allow these crews through. I recognise this may no longer be the case, and would seek to comply with the cross-border directions and your advice in this regard.

James Honner

SACFS COVID-19 Taskforce

South Australian Country Fire Service

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cfs.sa.gov.au | [Find us on Facebook](#) | [Follow us on Twitter](#)

Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Monday, 7 September 2020 3:45 PM
To: Charlton, Robert (SES)
Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES)
Subject: Cross border travel

Importance: High

Hi Robert

Derren has asked me to speak to you about the process agreed to by the three Covid Coordinators today for providing names to SAPOL for a bulk essential traveller exemption.

The three agencies will provide the names of each Unit/Brigade they expect may undertake a cross border response to Kristy at SAFECOM. From here names of each member of these will be downloaded from Emerald by someone who knows how to do this, with the relevant fields required, and supply this to SAPOL.

Could you please work with the regions to have any members who do not wish for their info to be passed on notify us of this through the chain of command. We are seeking to have units briefed, and any people who have exception to this, provide that feedback by close of business this Friday 11 September.

Thank you

Dave O'Shannessy

Senior Recruitment & Retention Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001
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Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



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Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: Beattie, Chris (SES)
Sent: Tuesday, 8 September 2020 12:46 PM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES); O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Subject: FW: Cross border travel for emergency service workers

From: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL) <Wendy.Mazik@police.sa.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 2:42 PM
To: Beattie, Chris (SES) <Chris.Beattie@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Dippy, Russell (SAPOL) <Russell.Dippy@police.sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Cross border travel for emergency service workers

Good afternoon Sir,

The information in both emails is correct but please let me clarify:

The advice via the SCC-H from Evan Everest is correct in that Emergency Services workers do not require a SA Health issued 'exemption' to allow travel into and back from Victoria as they are already classified as Essential Travellers vide Schedule 1 Clause 2 – Emergency Services Workers.

My email relates to the obligations applied to Essential Travellers (including Emergency Services Workers) ie the need to maintain a testing regime and be processed as an arrival in the SA after heading into Victoria to attend to an Emergency. These are still required under the Direction (predominantly for Contact Tracing purposes). The further advice I gave was in relation to the testing regime – if your members were being called out more frequently than once a fortnight, it would be worth them maintaining a 7 day testing regime. If they are being called out less frequently than every fortnight, the day 1 and day 12 test would be the way to go.

The offer remains to obtain the details of your and other services volunteers/employees likely to cross the border in order for them to be added on the system and pre-approved as Essential Travellers. The only hold up coming back over the border would be a short conversation with police while they process the arrival back into SA. There are no exceptions on border arrivals – all arrivals are processed by the online form.

If you were seeking an exemption from the obligations under the Cross Border Travel Direction in relation to testing etc – this would be obtained through SA Health however I'm not sure this would be advisable as the testing regime is for the protection of both your members and the community.

I hope that helps and I'm very happy to clarify any or all of the above.

Kind regards,
Wendy

Insp Wendy Mazik
COVID-19 Operations
O/C Emergency and Major Event Section
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
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From: Beattie, Chris (SES)
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 2:21 PM
To: Mazik, Wendy (SAPOL)
Cc: Dippy, Russell (SAPOL)
Subject: FW: Cross border travel for emergency service workers

Hi Wendy

Just following up on our brief discussion yesterday regarding emergency services cross border arrangements. It appears there still seems to be some divergence/confusion as to the requirements and it appears that CFS and SAAS have received different advice to the arrangements we discussed (email below explains).

I think it would be useful for SAPOL to clarify:

1. whether emergency service workers (from CFS, SES, SAAS and MFS) returning from an emergency incident are required to register as essential travellers
2. What testing requirements are needed (if any) on return to SA
3. What notification requirements are mandated if the emergency service worker is required to attend a medical or aged care facility following their return, and, if there is a notification requirement, for what period after their return is there a requirement to notify

Thanks

Chris

Chris Beattie

Chief Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001
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From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES) <Dave.OShannessy@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 12:41 PM
To: Beattie, Chris (SES) <Chris.Beattie@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES) <Derren.Halleday@sa.gov.au>; Charlton, Robert (SES) <Robert.Charlton@sa.gov.au>
Subject: Cross border travel for emergency service workers

Hi Chris, cc Derren and Robert

SES has been provided information from Wendy Mazik at SAPOL regarding cross border travel for emergency services workers (ESW) returning from an emergency:

- Require a 1 day and 12th day Covid-19 test
- Will be required to be registered as an essential traveller, or complete paperwork on return into SA at the border

This is contrary to information CFS has been given via Peter Worth at SAPOL and Evan Everest at Health to say that no cross border exemptions are required for CFS personnel responding to and from emergencies, in short are able to move freely across the border in the course of their duties.

In a conversation with SA Ambulance today, they appear to be of the understanding that they also have an exemption via Evan Everest for movement across the border in the course of their duties.

I have added relevant email correspondence as attachments for your reference.

We are seeking clarity on the cross border direction and what actions are expected of our emergency service volunteers when they leave South Australia to attend to an emergency interstate, and then return.

Thank you

Regards,

David O'Shannessy

Operations Officer

Covid-19 Outbreak Coordination Team | South Australian State Emergency Service

GPO Box 2706 Adelaide SA 5001
Level 2, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000

E SES.Covid.Operations@sa.gov.au

Volunteer Recruitment Hotline T 1300 364 587



Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 6:26 PM
To: Phelps, Kristy (SAFECOM)
Cc: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES); Schmidt, Leanne (SES); Arnold, Trevor (SES)
Subject: Cross border travel exemptions

Importance: High

Hi Kristy

SASES have received no objections to providing names to SAPOL from our units on the border. Therefore can you please commence an emerald download of required details for the following:

- All North Region staff
 - Trevor Arnold
 - Ben Birbeck
 - Paxton Barr
 - Christopher (CJ) Shaw
 - Phil Smith
 - Michael Baker
- All South Region staff
 - Leanne Adams
 - Robert Charlton
 - Danny Wood
 - Brad Flew
 - Stefanie Zakrzewski
 - Pippa Pech
 - Wayne Palmer
 - Terri Purvis
 - Craig Brassington
- All volunteers from South East District
 - Kingston SE Unit
 - Bordertown Unit
 - Keith Unit
 - Mount Gambier Unit
 - Millicent Unit
 - South East Operations & Support Unit
- All volunteers from Riverland district
 - Barmera Unit
 - Berri Unit
 - Blanchetown Unit
 - Renmark Unit
 - Loxton Unit
 - Riverland Operations & Support unit

Cheers

Dave O'Shannessy

Senior Recruitment & Retention Officer | South Australian State Emergency Service

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Dixon, Rachel (SAFECOM)

From: O'Shannessy, Dave (SES)
Sent: Wednesday, 23 September 2020 12:01 PM
To: Halleday, Derren (SES); Charlton, Robert (SES)
Subject: Cross border travel - updated for NSW changes
Attachments: COVID-19 - ESS Policy - Cross Border Travel for Emergencies - DRAFT V3.docx

Importance: High

For approval and subsequent distribution

Dave O'Shannessy

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Background

Emergency Management (Cross Border Travel No 13) (COVID-19) Direction 2020 came into effect at 12:01 am on Friday 28 August 2020. The direction provides exemptions for ESS workers from South Australia who have crossed the border to attend, or respond to, an emergency, and are returning to South Australia. Restrictions are current for the movement of people from Victoria, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

Restrictions do not apply to the Northern Territory, Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia as they are “low community transmission zones”.

Essential Traveller Status

Emergency services workers who are on duty and are required in the conduct of those duties to travel across a South Australian border to attend, or respond to, an **emergency** are deemed an “Essential Traveller” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2.

In this clause, an **emergency** means an event (whether occurring in the State, outside the State or in and outside the State) that causes, or threatens to cause —

- (a) the death of, or injury or other damage to the health of, any person; or
- (b) the destruction of, or damage to, any property; or
- (c) a disruption to essential services or to services usually enjoyed by the community; or
- (d) harm to the environment, or to flora or fauna;

Note that your status as an “Essential Traveller” is not recognised if you depart the state for a purpose unrelated to your emergency service duties (such as recreational purposes).

Registering as an Essential Traveller

You must apply for Essential Traveller status. Usually this would involve completing the “cross border travel registration” form through SA Police. Each ESS agency has been given the option to submit a list of current members to SA Police for a simpler registration process.

To expedite this process, and remove the burden for individuals to action registration, members of Brigades/Units that have the potential for cross border travel will have their details forwarded to SA Police on **Friday September 11, 2020**. Individuals who do not wish their details forwarded to SA Police must contact their Agency Taskforce prior to this date to request their details are removed from the list.

Members who commence with an ESS agency after this date, will be required to complete the cross border travel registration online.



Leaving South Australia

When leaving South Australia to attend, or respond to, an **emergency**, the Brigade/Unit must notify the CFS Regional Duty Commander, MFS Commander, or SES Regional Duty Officer.

What to expect at the border – insert here.

Wearing a Face Covering in Victoria

The wearing of a face covering is required in Victoria. This means wearing either a surgical mask, or a N95 P2 mask, whichever is made available to you by your agency.

All ESS workers will wear a face mask for the entirety of their time in Victoria.

There are a number of lawful excuses for not wearing a face covering, details can be found on the Victoria Department of Health and Human Services website – <http://dhhs.vic.gov.au>

Patient Based Responses

Where a cross border **emergency** involves a patient, or multiple patients, South Australian emergency service workers will be required to wear full infection control Personal Protective Equipment. This is a minimum of medical gloves, a surgical mask, safety glasses and a long sleeve, impervious gown.

Re-entering South Australia

At the South Australia checkpoint you will need **Photo ID** and:

- Provide your online Essential Traveller number (for example ET00000000) to the police officer, or
- If you can't provide your Essential Traveller number, provide your details to the police officer so that they can verify your online application and issue you with an 'interim status' assessment, or
- Complete the online registration form at the checkpoint and the police officer will issue you with an 'interim status' assessment.

Clause 13 of the Direction prohibits persons entering South Australia from Victoria on a road that is not listed in Schedule 4 of the Direction. A current list of roads can be found on the SA Police website. This clause does not apply in the case of an emergency, where ESS workers are re-entering South Australia to attend, or respond to, an **emergency**. For example, whilst attending or departing an emergency in Victoria, you are dispatched to and responding to an emergency in South Australia. This exemption does not allow for the return trip of your attendance at emergency in Victoria.

After re-entering, you must notify the CFS Regional Duty Commander, MFS MCO, or SES Regional Duty Officer.



Mandatory COVID-19 Testing

After re-entering South Australia, you must submit to a COVID-19 test:

- Within 24 hours after your arrival in South Australia; and
- On the twelfth day after your arrival in South Australia.

The only time this will not apply is if you can produce, to an authorised officer (on request), evidence of a COVID-19 test, or a COVID-19 test result, relating to a test undertaken within the preceding 7 days.

Whilst awaiting the result of a the 24 hour and twelfth day tests, you **are / are not** required to self-quarantine

Entering a Health Facility or Hospital

As an “Essential Traveller” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on re-entering South Australia, if it is necessary for you to attend or enter a health facility or hospital in South Australia, you must inform the health facility or hospital of your arrival from outside of the State prior to arrival at the health facility or hospital. This must occur for a period of 14 days.

Restrictions not Applicable to Emergency Services Workers

As an “Essential Traveller” under a provision of Schedule 1, Clause 2, on returning to South Australia, you will **NOT** be required to:

- Wear a face mask in South Australia
- Complete a period of self-quarantine
- Keep and maintain records of close contacts on your return

If you have any further questions in relation to this document please refer to your local Chain of Command or contact your COVID-19 Taskforce leader.

This is a rapidly changing event. Please refer to your Agency’s COVID-19 Response resource pages and the following websites:

Department of Health - www.health.gov.au

South Australian Health www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Commissioner for the Public Sector Employment <http://publicsector.sa.gov.au>