

**February COVID lockdown EXIT response****3pm, Friday 5 February 2021**

1. We have today reviewed the WA Government's roadmap out of lockdown and how it impacts Chorus customers, employees and volunteers.
2. The risk to Chorus people of COVID infection is very low.
3. Our overall goal is to both keep people safe AND meet needs.
4. **In line with WA Government directions, we will recommence all non-essential services from 6pm Friday 5 February. Given some restrictions remain in place in Perth and Peel, there will be some exceptions to this return.**
5. Restrictions have been lifted entirely in the South-west, and were never in place in the Great Southern.
6. In Perth and Peel, the decision *not* to adapt, or to continue to suspend, a service can be made by local teams and leads considering their specific circumstances. For example:
  - a. Non-essential customer transport may remain suspended
  - b. Chorus staff travelling in shared vehicles may make arrangements to ensure social distance is maintained
  - c. Work can be suspended if wearing a mask renders it unsafe, for example when gardening in the heat
7. These recommencement arrangements also apply to volunteers, and local teams will be in touch with volunteers directly.
8. In our conversations this week, and in a new automated voice recording on our phone lines, customers have been advised to expect services next week unless we call them.
9. Masks must be worn in line with Government directions. Chorus staff must wear a mask while working, including a fresh mask for each service. We have an ample supply of masks and they (and other PPE) can be collected as per the information on the Chorus team website: <https://chorus.org.au/chorus-team/> - there are both static (site) and mobile (van) options.
10. Customers should also wear a mask when receiving a face-to-face service, unless they are unable to due to health/disability reasons.
11. Our preference is that people aged over 70 or living with pre-existing COVID risk factors continue to work from home if possible, or do not attend work if not. We realise there may be exceptions to this; please discuss with your leader and advise [covid@chorus.org.au](mailto:covid@chorus.org.au) if you will be undertaking front line work.

12. Our preference is that Chorus people able to work from home continue to do so next week. Please advise [covid@chorus.org.au](mailto:covid@chorus.org.au) if you intend to work at a Chorus office. You will need to wear a mask in the office, and total numbers must be within the 4m<sup>2</sup> rule. Chorus will adopt the SafeWA check-in system, including QR Codes, at all sites.
13. Pay for casual workers will return to actual hours work (from 13-week average 1-5 February), unless your work volume is still affected by these restrictions.
14. In line with Government advice, these partial restrictions will remain in effect until 12.01am on Sunday 14 February.
15. The CEO will be the primary source of communications for Chorus-wide information and updates, which will be shared via email, Yammer and Facebook. For all queries, please first consult your leader, then contact a member of the COVID committee [covid@chorus.org.au](mailto:covid@chorus.org.au).
16. I would like to acknowledge and thank Chorus people who have been so responsive this week, particularly in talking to customers, adapting services and supporting colleagues.

**Dan Minchin, CEO**