



VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

For and on behalf of the Chief Veterinary Officer, South Australia

Clarification of border controls – advice to essential travellers

SAPOL has posted information on the essential travellers' exemption to border controls. This information is available at: <https://www.police.sa.gov.au/sa-police-news-assets/front-page-news/advice-to-essential-travellers#.Xnr0jGzr1k5>

The advice of SAPOL is that there is no application process for exemptions and no permit system. A self-assessment process applies. Persons entering South Australia may be stopped by Police at checkpoints and Essential Travellers will be required to provide evidence of their status. If they are unable to provide evidence of their status, they will be directed to self-quarantine. It is our understanding that veterinary surgeons are considered essential travellers when undertaking veterinary services.

Media release from Minister Littleproud

A statement released by Minister Littleproud today is available at <https://minister.awe.gov.au/littleproud/media-releases/agriculture-jobs-essential>

Included in this statement are quotes from the Minister:

- “The Commonwealth is guaranteeing food production and supply as we deal with the virus’s spread”
- “Maintaining food production, access to workers, agricultural supply lines, transportation and logistics is absolutely critical and will not be affected by any of the measures aimed at curbing the virus’s spread”

Useful links and contact numbers

- A COVID19 web page has been set up by the SA Government. This is available at <https://www.sa.gov.au/covid-19/home>. The page includes a link to the declaration and directions issued, business information, FAQs from SA Health and latest updates.
- As provided in update 1, the <https://business.sa.gov.au/COVID-19-business-information-and-support> has information including support available, managing your business through crisis and managing your staff.
- A COVID19 hotline has been established: 1800 253 787.



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- Beyond Blue has included a useful resource on its website about looking after your mental health during the outbreak: <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/the-facts/looking-after-your-mental-health-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak> This page includes maintaining perspective; finding a healthy balance of media coverage; and accessing good quality information. A support service is also provided: 1300 22 4636.

SA Health has also included a Mental Health Fact Sheet for COVID19 on its website with advice and contacts:

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/f584ac43-db54-44d5-a5df-82c6415f18d7/Mental+Health+and+COVID-19+-+Information+for+the+community.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-f584ac43-db54-44d5-a5df-82c6415f18d7-n32cE0f>

FAQs are in the process of being developed and will be circulated once finalised.