



TASMANIA'S SAFE BORDER STRATEGY

**KEEP
ON TOP OF
COVID**

Keeping Tasmanians safe is
our number one priority.


Tasmanian
Government



Our strong border restrictions have served us well, keeping our community safe while allowing us to monitor significant outbreaks in other states, establish our testing, tracing and outbreak management processes and prepare our health and aged care facilities.

Tasmania is now on a sensible three step transition plan to easing our border restrictions.

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- 1** Seasonal workers and Fly in Fly out workers from non-affected regions are able to enter Tasmania under certain circumstances.
 - 2** Easing border restrictions with low risk Australian jurisdictions from October 26 2020. Low risk jurisdictions are determined by Public Health, based on a number of factors which include the period of time they have gone with low or no numbers of cases, and the lack of community transmission occurring in those jurisdictions.

At this stage, this includes South Australia, Western Australia, the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory and Queensland. The situation in New South Wales will continue to be reviewed and updated advice will be provided to Tasmanians prior to October 26.

- 3** Public Health will provide ongoing advice on border restrictions with other jurisdictions, with further advice on Victoria and other current hot spots by 1 December.

As well as the safeguards the Tasmanian Government has in place, we need the help of all Tasmanians to keep following the rules and maintain COVID-safe behaviours so we can keep on top of COVID and keep doing the things we love.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Peter Gutwein'.

Peter Gutwein / Tasmanian Premier

ACTION AREA 1

At our borders

- Public Health monitoring of other jurisdictions will enable us to continue to identify emerging risk areas in other parts of Australia and respond with measures, such as quarantine as required.
- A registration system for arrivals into Tasmania will help us know where people are arriving from.
- Anyone travelling to Tasmania from low risk jurisdictions will be required to register their travel and contact details before entering the State via a new Tas E-Travel registration system.
- Anyone who has spent time in high risk areas will still have to apply to enter our State via the G2G system.
- There will be health screening for all arrivals to the State, including temperature checks and questions regarding whether they have any symptoms.
- Following health screening, those from low risk areas who have symptoms will be requested to get a test and to isolate until the result is known.
- Mandatory quarantine requirements will remain in place for those from high risk areas and a COVID-19 test will be available during quarantine.
- Travellers coming to Tasmania from low risk jurisdictions via the Spirit of Tasmania will need to transit through Victoria, only stopping for fuel. The Spirit of Tasmania has a COVID-Safety Management Plan in place through its Sail Safe initiative which highlights guidance for passengers.
- The compliance checking system for arrivals will continue for people who may need to still undertake a quarantine period, at home or in government-designated hotel quarantine.
- People can stay updated on the current restrictions in place in Tasmania and the process for entering our state at www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au which is updated regularly as new information or advice is issued.
- All people arriving at Tasmanian borders will be provided with information about COVID symptoms and how to get tested.

ACTION AREA 2

Maintaining COVID testing rates

- Testing clinics have been established in all regions of the state, with the ability to scale up should additional testing capacity be required.
- We have the capacity to collect and test samples for around 1000 patients per day, with the ability to surge up to 2000 per day during an outbreak if required.
- Early detection is critical, with a benchmark for test results to be back within 48 hours. We encourage all Tasmanians, even with the mildest of symptoms, to get tested.

ACTION AREA 3

Risk Monitoring and Response capabilities

- There will continue to be ongoing monitoring of risk posed by other areas of Australia, providing us the ability to respond with travel restrictions, quarantine or other measures should outbreaks or community transmission occur in other states and territories.
- Public Health staff are ready to respond to cases in Tasmania with tracing capabilities to enable rapid detection and management of cases, reducing the risk of further spread of the disease.
- We are ready to work with workplaces and other settings where a case may be detected to provide rapid contact tracing and advice on on-site infection control, cleaning and other measures to reduce risk of spread.

ACTION AREA 4

Outbreak Management Preparedness

- Public Health continues to work with individual settings where COVID-19 could spread quickly, where effective management may be complex, or where the consequences may be serious if a case was to occur – these are called priority settings.
- Public health is working with these priority settings to ensure robust Outbreak Management Plans are in place.
- These Plans detail the actions that would be implemented to limit the spread of COVID-19 if it was to occur on their site.
- If a case was to occur, Public Health staff will work with the site to implement the Plan and manage the outbreak.
- This includes contact tracing and working with the operator to ensure infection control measures are in place to limit spread, and clean and manage the site appropriately.

ACTION AREA 5

Health system preparedness

- Escalation plans are in place for each of our hospitals in the south, north and the north-west, which include specific trigger points for escalation.
- The plans clearly outline what actions are to be taken when escalation occurs, including how it impacts patient flow and staffing, ensuring both 'hot areas' and 'cold areas' are appropriately staffed.
- Plans are in place for the quick establishment of respiratory clinics, ICU surge capacity, rural health services and community case management of COVID-19 patients with emergency departments reconfigured to account for possible COVID-19 presentations.
- Screening measures for both staff and visitors are in place at our hospitals.
- Patient transfer protocols are ready to be adapted and changed arrangements for outpatient services are in place urging those who don't need to come on site to use telehealth.
- Support remains available for those who are unable to isolate at home, through government run facilities.
- A surge workforce is available to activate rapid response contact tracing.
- We have sufficient levels of PPE and are well advanced to reach our target level of stockpile PPE, with equivalent to 6 months' supply available for our health service, with surge capacity if needed.





ACTION AREA 6

Residential Aged Care system preparedness

- Residential aged care facilities are one of the priority settings with specific Outbreak Management Plans. The State Government is working with operators in the sector to support them in their preparedness and response capabilities.
- An Aged Care Emergency Operations Centre has been established to ensure a coordinated statewide response to an outbreak including:
 - confirming processes are in place to ensure continuity of care for aged care consumers during a COVID-19 outbreak;
 - providing infection prevention and control, and outbreak management expertise, education and support to residential aged care facilities; and
 - undertaking scenario planning exercises with residential aged care facilities to test outbreak management plans and facilities' readiness to respond to an outbreak.
- We will work with and support the sector wherever possible, while also supporting the work of the Federal Government, which has responsibility for funding and regulating the aged care sector.

ACTION AREA 7

COVID-Safety Plans for all businesses

- All businesses are required to record in writing how they are meeting the minimum standards required by Public Health.
- This is generally done through a COVID Safety Plan which documents the steps businesses are taking to reduce the risk of COVID-19 for their staff and customers.
- Businesses are inspected on a risk basis for continued compliance with their COVID-19 Safety Plan and the Work Health and Safety Act 2012, with improvement notices issued when required.



Supporting and communicating with Tasmanians

ACTION AREA 8

Internal restrictions regularly reviewed based on Public Health advice

- Current restrictions continue to be reviewed regularly, informed by Public Health advice and in response to the evolving external environment to manage risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the community.
- Current internal restrictions remain in place to protect the health and safety of Tasmanians and to reduce the risk of a second wave should Tasmania record new cases or an outbreak.
- We will continue to communicate with Tasmanians regularly through a variety of channels to remind them of the COVID-Safe behaviours and about what the Government is doing to keep Tasmanians safe.

ACTION AREA 9

Supporting Tasmanians to stay at home if they're sick

- Tasmanians are eligible for a \$1,500 Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment if they need to stay home from work, and have used all their sick leave entitlements, including any special pandemic leave.
- In addition, the Tasmanian Government's Pandemic Assistance Grant is available to low income individuals and families who are required to self-isolate due to COVID-19. It is also available to casual and low income workers who are unable to work if they are awaiting a COVID-19 test result. This is \$250 for an individual or \$1000 for a family.
- Special Paid Leave has been provided for our State Sector employees.

ACTION AREA 10

Working with the Australian Government

- We will continue to work with the Australian Government to monitor the international situation and ensure Tasmanians can return from overseas safely.

How you can help

To keep doing the things we love, we need to keep doing the things that keep us safe. **We need to keep doing them every, single day.** When we all keep doing the right thing, we're all helping to keep everyone safe.



**WASH
HANDS**



**KEEP YOUR
DISTANCE**



**STAY HOME
IF SICK**



**COVID
SYMPTOMS?
GET TESTED**



**FOLLOW
CURRENT
RESTRICTIONS**



@ Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service

TO KEEP DOING THIS

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FOLLOW
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KEEP
ON TOP OF
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To keep doing the things we love, we need to keep doing the things that keep us safe from COVID. And we need to keep doing them every, single day. It's the only way to keep on top of COVID. When we all keep doing the right thing, we're all helping to keep everyone safe. **Keep up to date. Visit coronavirus.tas.com.au**


Tasmanian
Government

Useful information for staying up to date

Coronavirus website	www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au
Public Health Hotline	1800 671 738
Business Tasmania Hotline	1800 440 026
WorkSafe Tasmania website	www.worksafe.tas.gov.au



Keep up to date.
www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au