

# Community Action Plan

## Bourke Local Emergency Management Committee

Date: Tuesday, 01/12/2020 (V32)  
Review: Friday, 01/01/2021

### LEGEND:

ACLO	Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer
AMS	Aboriginal Medical Service
DCJ	Department of Communities and Justice
DEG	Dharriwaa Elders Group
FACS	Family and Community Services
HEALTH	NSW Government Health
HSM	Health Services Manager (NSW Health)
LALC	Local Aboriginal Lands Council
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LEOCON	Local Emergency Operations Controller
LGA	Local Government Area
NSWAS	NSW Ambulance Service
NSWFB	NSW Fire Brigade
PHO	Public Health Order
PHEOC	Public Health Emergency Operational Centre
PHU	Public Health Unit (NSW Health)
PIFAC	Public Information Functional Area Coordinator
REOCON	Regional Emergency Operations Controller
RFDS	Royal Flying Doctor Service
RMS	Roads & Maritime Services
SOS	Save Our Sons - Birrang
SEOCON	State Emergency Operations Controller

### Level 1: Prepare: COVID-19 has not entered the community

Level 1: Prepare: COVID-19 has not entered the community	Action (Reviewed weekly)	Responsibility/Status (Reviewed weekly)
<p><b>1. Community entry measures to minimise risk of importing COVID-19 cases applied:</b></p> <p>1.1 Alice Edwards Village</p> <p>1.2 RMS Signage on roadway entering community erected</p> <p>1.3 Communication to community through discussion, flyers, social media that non-residents not welcome.</p> <p>1.4 Community agree to only leave for essential travel; food, hygiene products, medical appointments; work, exercise.</p>	<p>1.1 Residents are self-monitoring those attending and leaving the village. Signs erected at the entrances to Alice Edwards village advising visitors are not welcome at present.</p> <p>1.2 Signage consistent with current restrictions maintained by RMS across regional footprint warning residents only allowed entry. Situated on the Mitchell Highway.</p> <p>1.3 Process of conveying the message that non-residents not welcome to community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flyers</li> <li>• Social media</li> </ul> <p>1.4 Supply of essential food and grocery items (i.e. set hamper) to people in quarantine or isolation who have no means of accessing these goods independently</p>	<p>Council/RMS</p> <p>LALC/Community Leaders/AMS</p> <p>Not required - current NSW Health Order restrictions enough at present.</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND JUSTICE (FACS)</p>

<p>1.5 Police to consult (at least once weekly) with LALC and/or Community leaders as to current status of community and any response required.</p> <p>1.6 Health to implement Sentinel testing for Bourke.</p>	<p>1.5 LEMC's conducted once per week. Ross Earl (LEMO) to advise of appropriate days.</p> <p>1.6 Specifically, on person from certain households could be tested (potentially based on symptoms). If one person returns symptoms, lockdown / triage protocols can be implemented. Additionally, when restrictions are eased, and persons are attending Bourke from locations of concern, precautionary testing can be facilitated. community engagements</p>	<p>Police/LEMC</p> <p>HEALTH      COVID-19 Drive Thru Clinic completed 01/07/2020 and 29/07/2020.      COVID-19 Testing Bourke Hospital Monday to Friday 11:00am to Midday.      Doctor referral testing anytime.      RFDS      Will only <u>supplement</u> - not duplicate - existing services. RFDS are considering testing in more remote communities (like Enngonia) where testing is not available locally.      RFDS are looking to establish a taskforce to bulk test if needed; i.e. where a large section of a community develops flu like symptoms.  <b>OUTSTANDING</b></p>
<p>2. Public Health Order requested to enforce residents only entry</p>	<p>2.1 LEMC consider PHO application for non-residents exclusion.</p>	<p>LEMC      Discussed. Application for a PHO not required at this stage. Current NSW Health Order restrictions enough at present.</p>
<p>3. Police assist in enforcement of PHO.</p>	<p>3.1 Clear RMS and other signage at entrance points to community confirming access only to residents and/or essential services</p>	<p>Police      Discussed. Application for a PHO not required at this stage. Current NSW Health Order restrictions enough at present.</p>

	3.2 No roadblock or signage needed, police concentrate patrols on road into community conducting vehicle stops and checking bona fides of persons for residential status	Police HVP & driver engagements on entrance to township & within township – daily tasking
4. No Public Health Order	4.1 Above strategies could still apply however police utilise current legislation of ‘non-essential travel’ to stop and enforce non-residents entering the community.  4.2 Police could also utilise NSW legislation relating to the offence of ‘trespass’ if non-residents entered the Alice Edwards Village and other private premises and had been requested to leave by LALC or occupier.	Police HVP & driver engagements on entrance to township & within township – daily tasking including public transport.  Police/LALC Ongoing option
5. Signage placed at Entrance to Community reinforcing “Stay at Home” requirements or the rule about non residency exclusion.	5.1 Large Signs to be made and erected at Entrance to Community and the Alice Edwards Village – warning of exclusion	ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS/LALC/COUNCIL. AEV community-initiated signage (1200mm x 800mm in size and stronger material) placed at the entrance of AEV. Revised signage consistent with current restrictions/circumstances/conditions. Signage disseminated across Murdi Paaki footprint inclusive of Bourke & Enngonia.
6. Restricted Access Education and Awareness	6.1 Inform and prepare community – flyers, posters, social media updates to advise that the community is in ‘isolation’ and all visitors must register for entry to the community.	LALC/Council. Bourke Community has not proceeded to administering a register.  Broad communication has occurred with community to advise;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government employees are not entering the community unless for essential service delivery</li> <li>• Caravan Parks and Motels can accept overnight guests that are engaged in non-essential travel</li> <li>• Police are stopping people and vehicles to ensure that those that are not at home have a reasonable excuse and travellers do not remain in the community</li> </ul>
7. Health Education and Awareness	<p>7.1 Display public health messages on social media and in community spaces promoting;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice good hygiene: wash and dry hands, cough into elbow, don't touch your face.</li> <li>• Physical distancing</li> <li>• House parties to cease</li> <li>• Gatherings of over 2 people in public to cease.</li> <li>• Only people who reside in premises are to be in the premises.</li> </ul>	LALC/AMS/NSW Health/NSW Police Completed and updated regularly
8. Funeral Risk Assessment	<p>8.1 Inform community that Funerals are high risk for non-residents attending community.</p> <p>8.2 Sensitive consultation and collaboration with family, LALC, Funeral Home and Police.</p>	<p>Community Leaders, LALC, Funeral Director, Police, ACLO's, Health.</p> <p>Completed and will continue to be addressed upon notification of funerals in the future. Police to be notified by Funeral Director and NOK and risk assessments</p>

	8.3 Increased police presence and patrols to deter non-residents from entering community.	undertaken. (Communication and adherence to date has been effective)
9. Residents become ill or show symptoms of Covid-19	9.1 Self-isolate and inform health. Contact doctor by phone for consultation and diagnosis. Contact public health toll number on PH 1300 066055.	Community members, Health, General Practitioners.
10. Community PPE (Face Masks)	<p>10.1 All community stakeholders, Govt Agencies and NGO's to provide ongoing consistent messaging regarding the current restrictions; Physical distancing, Personal hygiene, presentation at a medical service if an individual is displaying symptoms of COVID</p> <p>10.2 All community stakeholders, Govt Agencies and NGO's to provide messaging to the community advising individuals to purchase their own supply of face masks.</p> <p>10.3 Disseminate a Resource Guide on making your own mask and the requirements surrounding washing of the mask</p> <p>10.4 1000 Health Care packs containing personal sanitisation products including face masks to be distributed to 11 discreet communities to identified vulnerable community members.</p>	<p>All LEMC and community stakeholders Ongoing utilising all available mediums</p> <p>All LEMC and community stakeholders Ongoing utilising all available mediums.</p> <p>NSW Health - Outstanding</p> <p>NSW Health – Outstanding</p>

## Level 2: Confirmed Cases in Community

Level 2: Confirmed Cases in Community	Action	Responsibility
<p><b>1. Restrictions on Access/Egress</b></p> <p>1.1 Only residents or essential services enter.</p> <p>1.2 Temperature checks and symptom/Covid 19 questions</p> <p>1.3 Vehicle stops and monitor access locations to community</p>	<p>1.1 Clear RMS and other signage at entrance points to community confirming access only to residents and/or essential services.</p> <p>1.2 Health conducting relevant temperature checks and symptom/Covid 19 questions</p> <p>1.2.2 PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT PHU nurse will be notified of a positive result. They will establish 'contact/s' &amp; 'history' of patient. Close contacts by the patient will be contacted by PHU nurse who will determine action</p> <p>1.3 HVP and increased presence targeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vehicle stops at access locations to community to reduce non-resident attendance.</li> <li>• Police will strictly enforce any non-essential travel in the community</li> <li>• Buses into Bourke being checked for non-essential travel</li> </ul>	<p>Police/LALC/Heath/Public Health/Council 'Ongoing'</p>

Level 2: Confirmed Cases in Community	Action	Responsibility
<p><b>2 Community Information</b></p> <p>2.1 High-risk people advised to remain at home (e.g. those over 50 or those with other existing medical conditions).</p> <p>2.2 Further re-enforcement of hygiene practices and social distancing</p>	<p>2.1.1 Information from NSW Health being circulated on hygiene and social distancing.</p> <p>2.1.2 Signs being placed on entry into town to discourage travellers from stopping.</p> <p>2.1.3 Local media outlets being used to advertise social distancing</p> <p>2.1.4 Flyer drop</p> <p>2.1.5 Community Leaders</p> <p>2.1.6 Community agencies.</p> <p>2.2.1 Police are conducting education/enforcement of the Health minister's Direction.</p>	<p>LALC/Community Leaders/NSW Health/NSW Police/ACLO's</p>
<p><b>3. Isolation of cases/Close contact with cases</b></p> <p>3.1 If able to isolate in community, then self-isolation to take place.</p> <p>3.2 If unable to self-isolate in community, but not requiring hospitalisation, then accommodation</p>	<p>3.1.1 Monitor and assist with meal, grocery, pharmaceutical provision &amp; delivery, and address welfare whilst isolated.</p> <p>3.2.1 This will also depend on the family and friendship supports in the community. If this is not available discussions can be had with</p>	<p>HEALTH</p> <p>Assisted by: LALC/PHEOC/DCJ/AMS/ SES</p>



Level 2: Confirmed Cases in Community	Action	Responsibility
<p>arranged by health or LALC or public housing.</p> <p>3.4 If a whole family tests positive and do not need hospitalisation?</p> <p>3.5 If patient deteriorates</p>	<p>PHEOC (Public Health Emergency Operational Centre) who will liaise with Department of Communities and Justice.</p> <p>3.4.1 Provide client with information and guidance about self- isolation at home</p> <p>3.5.1 COVID-19 Alternate Isolation Accommodation (AIA) Access.</p> <p>3.5.2 In collaboration with the Online booking system the PHU has establish accommodation links at; <b>Bourke</b>; Cobar; Walgett; Lightning Ridge; (potentially Brewarrina) Broken Hill; Balranald; Wilcannia; Dubbo; Orange; Bathurst; Condobolin; Parkes.</p> <p>3.5.3 If patient requires increased medical treatment, they will be transferred to a larger facility.</p> <p>3.5.4 Confirmed patients will be directed to isolate at home by the PHU. Depending on home situation, temporary accommodation will be sought.</p>	

Level 2: Confirmed Cases in Community	Action	Responsibility
<p>3.6 Cleaning processes upon cessation of quarantine requirements (for accommodation that has been arranged. i.e. Motels etc.)</p> <p>3.7 If hospitalisation necessary, will patient be kept in MPS sites or will be transferred to another facility)?</p> <p>3.8 If Public Health Order issued – Face Masks Mandatory</p> <p>3.9 Rapid Response Clinic</p>	<p>3.6.1 Arrange cleaning contractor and maximise hygienic processes upon cessation of quarantine requirements (for accommodation that has been arranged ie motels etc)</p> <p>3.7.1 Patient will be taken to hospital and transferred. (Bourke has <b>nine</b> isolation rooms)</p> <p>3.8.1 Arrange distribution of stores (masks) held by Aboriginal Health and NSW Health.</p> <p>3.9.1 A rapid response clinic would be deployed and established in community to facilitate broader voluntary testing of community members.</p>	<p>NSW Health          Aboriginal Health          Assisted by:          LALC/PHEOC/DCJ/AMS/ SES</p> <p>LEOCON          Request for further masks/supplies to REOCON via SEOCON.</p> <p>NSW Health responsible for coordinating deployment of resources to community to enable broader COVID testing</p>

### Level 3: Virus is not contained

Level 3: Virus is not contained	Action	Responsibility
<p>1. Community to self-isolate</p>	<p>1.1 consistent messaging to be sent out via social media/agencies/face to face 1.2 community to self-isolate in their own homes 1.3 signage displayed throughout the community 1.4 don't have any extra persons at your home that don't reside with you aside from medical assistance or essential care</p>	<p>Health/LALC/Murdi Paaki/Mid Lachlan.</p>
<p>2. No external access to community other than health and service professionals</p>	<p>2.1 Police will strictly enforce any non-essential travel in the community 2.2 Road blocks erected and manned</p>	<p>Police/LALC/Council</p>
<p>3. School to close</p>	<p>3.1 messaging to be sent out via school and community 3.2 school work and education alternatives to be sourced 3.3</p>	<p>Education</p>
<p>4. Food and essential supplies to be obtained and distributed to individual homes</p>	<p>4.1 local food outlets/grocery stores to be spoken to in regards to supplying and/or delivering adequate groceries and/or meals to residence 4.2</p>	<p>HEALTH/WELFARE SERVICES/DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND JUSTICE (FACS)</p>

Level 3: Virus is not contained	Action	Responsibility
<p>5. Health care to demonstrate strong co-ordination and priority of patients at risk.</p>	<p>5.1 Health to prioritise whether patients to be in or out patients 5.2 If out patient then patient welfare to be delivered, how often and by whom 5.3 Health to ensure COVIDSafe app to be utilised by patient if possible to identify other people who have been in contact with infected person</p>	<p>Health</p>
<p>6. Co-ordination of triage area for Ambulance to take patients requiring hospitalisation</p>	<p>'Triage Centre' in event of a 'mass casualty event'.</p> <p>Where there are more than 10 casualties have flu like symptoms – or other cause such as aircon contamination, food poisoning - in one location, (i.e. pub/club), Ambulance (NSWAS) to triage victims into categories</p> <p><b>Red</b> (life threatening) <b>Orange</b> (non-mobile/significant injury) <b>Green</b> (walking wounded) <b>White</b> (deceased).</p> <p>NSWAS will transport victims in category order to receive treatment required. Lower acuity victims may be transported elsewhere, eg: Brewarrina</p>	<p>Health/LALC/Council/Ambulance/NSW Health.</p>

Level 3: Virus is not contained	Action	Responsibility
	/ Cobar – but that would be a local decision at the time in discussion with NSWPF, NSWAS and MPS. NB: Health GM Brian BONHAM to be consulted in such circumstance. 'Triage Centre' to be located as close to event as possible.	
7. In compliance with <i>Public Health Order</i> only, increase restriction of access to Bourke.	7.1 Strong consistent messaging via signage and various social mediums re dangers and reporting. 7.2 Increased patrols with additional crews to check <i>bona fides</i> of anyone detected entering/leaving. Enact relevant PHO power/s where necessary	HEALTH/POLICE/COUNCIL/ABORIGINAL ARRAIRS/LALC/MARANGUKA/EDUCATION  POLICE

Agency	Engagement Activities	Outcome / Issues
ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS	Distributed signage discussed in communications with Murdi Paaki and in consultation with Patina SMITH of the Bourke Community Working Party. Whilst they were relevant pre easing of restrictions, they are becoming redundant. Aiming to road test new signage at AEV. Signage will be 'for sale' sizing; fluted	COMPLETE & ONGOING

Agency	Engagement Activities	Outcome / Issues
	<p>plastic material for strength over and above the previous laminated signage. Engaging to ensure signage is relevant as easing unfolds. Aiming to be proactive with <i>current</i> circumstances. This includes the remaining relevance of isolating and social distancing. In process of modifying and remaking signage to encourage reading/processing.</p>	
<p>BOURKE HEALTH</p>	<p>Temperature Screening at Bourke hospital for all patients, visitors, staff and contractors entering Bourke Hospital.</p>	<p>ONGOING</p>
<p>BOURKE POLICE/LEOCON</p>	<p>Police are conducting education/enforcement of the Health Minister's direction.</p>	<p>COMPLETE &amp; ONGOING. Numerous persons/agencies spoken to. Random vehicle stops. Warnings and infringements being issued but far less frequently with easing of PH restrictions.</p>
<p>COUNCIL</p>	<p>David: Signage erected for public play equipment. Includes messaging parents to have hand wash available. Equip and park benches pressure washed every 2<sup>nd</sup> day.</p>	
<p>LEOCON/COMMUNITY</p>	<p>COVID-19 Working Group convened 18/05/2020</p>	<p>COMPLETE &amp; ONGOING</p>
<p>LEOCON/LEMO/LEMC/ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS/LALC</p>	<p>Extraordinary LEMC meetings</p>	<p>COMPLETE &amp; ONGOING</p>
<p>MARANGUKA</p>	<p>Updated social media pages on daily basis. Maranguka has reached over 27000 views.</p>	<p>COMPLETED &amp; ONGOING</p>

Agency	Engagement Activities	Outcome / Issues
MARANGUKA	Vivienne Prince: Business as usual. Engagement via Facebook messaging. Work packs delivered to homes. Allowing people into office slowly with distancing. Planning to inform families for students to return to education. Coordinating meetings re DV during COVID-19.	COMPLETE & ONGOING
MARANGUKA/COMMUNITY	Weekly COVID-19 working group meeting.	COMPLETED & ONGOING
POLICE	Temperature screening at Police station at commencement of shift	This is conducted by Bourke, Brewarrina, Walgett and Lightning Ridge Police
SOS	Delivery of fundamental healthy relationships targeted to specific youth.	OUTSTANDING
SOS BIRRANG	Jamie Moore: Business as usual. Coordinating small groups of young persons with peer support / welfare along with restrictions updates, distancing and hygiene. Will team up with Maranguka Hub and Aboriginal Affairs to sit with schools to work out the best way forward for returning students. Engagement with local communities establishes anxiety among parents pertaining to potential implications on children returning to schools with risk of COVID-19 remaining (i.e. articles re Kawasaki disease – offshoot of COVID-19).	OUTSTANDING
WNSWLHD / BOURKE HEALTH	WNSWLHD is organising a <b>Mobile COVID 19 drive through clinic</b> to visit towns across the LHD. Vicky Scott (HSM Lightning Ridge) is coordinating this.	Completed on the 1 <sup>st</sup> of July 2020. A COVID 19 drive through clinic was established in Bourke were 51

Agency	Engagement Activities	Outcome / Issues
	<p>Bourke is on the agenda for a visit. As requested by Bourke Health, our smaller communities such as Enngonia, Wanaaring, Louth and BYROCK will be included in this initiative. RFDS have undertaken to assist WNSWLHD at Wanaaring and Louth.</p>	<p>people were tested with nil positive tests</p>



Community Consultation – Each 7 days	Action
16.04.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
23.04.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
30.04.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
06/05/2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
11.05.2020	LEMC stakeholders email dissemination of CAP
14.05.2020	LEMC stakeholder dissemination re CAP input
19.05.2020	LEMC Teleconference
02.06.2020	Desk top exercise with REMO
03.06.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members
11.06.2020	Nil feedback Nil input as of 4pm 12.6.2020
18.06.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference. No amendments to CAP
22.06.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
30.06.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference. No amendments to CAP
30.06.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members – Nil changes Nil input
01.07.2020	COVID-19 Drive through Clinic held in Bourke – 51 people tested. All negative
14.07.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
28.07.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
30.07.2020	COVID-19 Drive through Clinic held in Bourke
04.08.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
11.08.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
20.08.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
25.08.2020	LEMC meeting held. Teleconference
26.08.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
03.09.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
10.09.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
22.09.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes

24.09.2020	LEMC Teleconference
06.10.2020	LEMC Teleconference
06.10.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
20.10.2020	LEMC Teleconference
03.11.2020	LEMC Teleconference
05.11.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
01.12.2020	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes
01/01/2021	CAP disseminated to LEMC members. Nil changes

**Attendees:**

Agency	Name	Position
Aboriginal Affairs	Andrew Rose	Project Officer
Bourke Shire Council	Leonie Brown	Chair
HSR Dept of Communities & Justice	Emma Crowley	
National Parks and Wildlife Service	Melissa Hams	
NSW Fire & Rescue	Stephen Knight	
NSW Health	Pat Canty	HUM
NSW Police	Greg McMahon	REMO
NSW Police	Karen Bartholomew	Rep for LEOCON
Regional NSW	Sarah Barton	
Rural Fire Service	Craig Warwick	Insp
SES	Marc Coulter	

# Community Action Plan information

## Bourke

### Actions organisations and agencies are doing to protect the community from COVID-19

#### No cases of COVID-19 in the community the following actions are happening –

- Information from NSW Health being circulated on hygiene and social distancing
- Signs being placed on entry into town to discourage travellers from stopping
- Local media outlets being used to advertise social distancing
- Police are conducting education/enforcement of the Health minister's Direction
- Buses into Bourke being checked for non-essential travel
- Vehicles travelling are stopped by police to see the reason for travel
- NSW Health are undertaking screening for COVID-19
- Information on social distancing for funeral's being circulated in the community
- Numerous agencies engaged in COVID-19 education and support

#### If a case is detected the following actions will happen –

- If a case of COVID-19 is detected, assistance can be provided to self-isolate at home, or another location with the assistance of NSW Health
- Police will be conducting checks to ensure people self-isolate if a positive case is detected
- People over 50 years old, or with existing health conditions will need to stay home
- NSW Health will monitor and assist people with COVID-19
- NSW Health will identify other people who have been in contact with an infected person and conduct health checks

#### If the virus beings to spread in the community the following action will happen –

- Community will self-isolate in their homes
- Police will strictly enforce any non-essential travel in the community
- Schools will close
- Food can be distributed to homes
- NSW Health will arrange necessary medical treatment

## What we need from Community Members –

- Protect you community, stay at home
- Limit any non-essential travel
- Don't have people at your house that don't usually reside with you
- If friends or family arrive at your house, tell them to go
- Don't go to parties, keep your social distance
- Practice good hygiene
- Get a health check if you have symptoms of COVID-19
- Ask for assistance if you need it