

# Cummeragunja Community Action Plan - MRPD

Cummeragunja Reserve is a settlement on the New South Wales side of the Murray River, on the Victorian border near Barmah. The reserve houses a fluctuating population between 70 – 100 residents and encompasses the Viney Morgan Medical Centre. The reserve is approximately 30 kms to the north east of Moama and is serviced by Ambulance Victoria. The management of the reserve is under the Cummeragunja Aboriginal Lands Council.

- Plan compiled 9 April 2020 Riverina/Murray West Sub LEMC Committee
- Reviewed 18 August 2020
- Tabled at MRPD Deniliquin PACC 26 May & 25 August 2020
- **Reviewed, updated and re-disseminated 28 June 2021**

Note: The plan in relation to vaccinations at Cumeragunja involves the on reserve medical centre, Viney Morgan Centre and Njernda Aboriginal Health Service, Echuca, Victoria. Appointments made with Njernda for vaccinations. At present @ 6/9/21 Cummeragunja remains closed to non-residents. All persons whom have wanted to be vaccinated have been vaccinated and those whom haven't to date are too scared to get vaccinated.

Ongoing consultation with regards to developing this plan has taken place over a number of months, via email, phone, social media platforms and this document was tabled at the Police and Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting on 26 May and 25 August 2020 for review/comment.

The following organisations and persons were involved in the consultation process;

Cummeragunja Aboriginal Lands Council – Uncle Leon Atkinson

Viney Morgan Medical Centre (Cummeragunja Aboriginal Medical Centre) – Belinda Day

Wamba Wamba Aboriginal Lands Council – Colin Williams

Deniliquin Aboriginal Lands Council – Rose Dunn, Toby Harradine

Yarkuwa Indigenous Knowledge Centre – David Crew, Karen Wilson, Jennifer Townsend, Aunty Jeanette Crew

Moama Aboriginal Lands Council – John Kerr

MRPD Deniliquin sector ACLO – Des Morgan  
 NSW Health Deniliquin Mental Health – Pieta Marks  
 NSW Health Deniliquin Aboriginal Mental Health – Laura Ross  
 NSW Health – Denise Garner - EOC  
 Murray River Council LEMO – Scott Barber  
 Edward River Council LEMO – Mark Dalzell  
 Berrigan Shire Council LEMO – Matthew Clarke

Other organisations on the email list for the PACC meeting to which this document was emailed for consultation include;  
 Department of Education, Interearch Deniliquin and FACS NSW.

Level	Action	Responsibility
<b>1. Prepare: COVID-19 has not entered the community</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community entry measures to minimise risk of introducing COVID-19 applied</li> <li>• Stringent self-isolation and quarantine for people with cold and flu-like symptoms</li> <li>• Stay at home and physical distancing promoted</li> <li>• High-risk people advised to remain at home, for example those over 50 or those with other existing medical conditions</li> <li>• Funerals limited to PHO restrictions</li> <li>• Non-essential services closed</li> <li>• Practice good hygiene: wash and dry hands, cough into elbow, don't touch your face</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an Emergency Response Team - for example Community Leaders, LALC, School, Local Council, Police, AMS, NSW Health, etc.</li> <li>• Determine entry and exit measures - for example town boundaries, rules for people transiting through</li> <li>• Identify resources (people, financial and physical) available to be redeployed to support the Emergency Response Team - how many NGO staff are in the community and what role can they play, are there funds available to assist, road barriers or electronic message boards</li> <li>• Daily meeting each morning to handle logistics and give out daily jobs to the lockdown workforce</li> <li>• Identify what supplies are allowed in and what are not, for example alcohol</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EOC, Health NSW, LALC, Murray River Council LEMO, Police, Local Elders, FACS, ERC</li> <li>• Local Government, EM NSW and EOC, Police, NSW Health MLHD</li> <li>• EOC, LEOCON, LEMO, Functional area (Transport), EM NSW, MLHD, Interearch Deniliquin (60) staff available, Transport NSW.</li> <li>• LEMO, Health NSW MLHD, Police, LALC, ACLO, Employers</li> <li>• NSW State Lands Council, LALC, Health NSW MLHD, Functional area, Elders</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Processes for testing for COVID-19 in place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify strategies for supporting drug and alcohol addiction, violence, community members with special needs, etc.</li> <li>Establish a register to monitor entry and exit from the community</li> <li>Inform and prepare community - flyers, posters, social media updates to advise that the community is in lock down and what the agreed rules for entry and exit are, see NSW Health resources at <a href="https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/covid-19-resources.aspx#Aboriginal">https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/covid-19-resources.aspx#Aboriginal</a></li> <li>Display public health messages on social media and in community spaces</li> <li>Community is supported to self-isolate – food deliveries, essential supplies deliveries</li> <li>Community members are supported to quarantine in community if they have symptoms or have been diagnosed with COVID-19</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health NSW, Aboriginal Mental Health Co-Ordinator, Police, ACLO, Deniliquin Mental Health.</li> <li>LALC, NSW Government (Security contract), Elders, Council Rangers, FACS.</li> <li>NSW Health, EOC, Police, Elders, LALC, ACLO, PACC committee, Council Rangers</li> <li>NSW Health, EOC, LEMO/Councils, Transport NSW, ACLO, PACC Committee</li> <li>Moama Bowling Club, Moama LAC, SES volunteers, Intereach, VRA, Rotary and Salvation Army.</li> <li>NSW Health, Aboriginal Health Centre, Aboriginal Mental Health, Police, ACLO</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop communication strategy to inform community members of confirmed case(s) and the need for minimal contact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSW Health, NSW Public Health Unit, LALC, Elders, ACLO.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Contain: Confirmed cases in community</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry and exit measures maximised</li> <li>• Community informed of confirmed case(s)</li> <li>• Supported accommodation for those in quarantine to recover from mild symptoms</li> <li>• Cleaning of quarantined accommodation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essential services only allowed into the community</li> <li>• Update social media, flyers and community text messages</li> <li>• Use vacant houses, hotels or other properties to provide clean, comfortable space for quarantine purposes or identify other evacuation options such as larger regional towns nearby</li> <li>• Engage cleaning contractor so that a high standard of hygiene processes are followed once accommodation becomes vacant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEMO, MRC, Police, Security</li> <li>• NSW Health, NSW Public Health Unit, LALC, Elders, ACLO.</li> <li>• NSW Health, EOC, , Transport NSW, Functional Areas, FACS.</li> <li>• NSW Government, Joss Cleaning. NSW Health.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Elimination: COVID-19 is not contained</b></p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People instructed to stay at home</li> <li>• All services and facilities close</li> <li>• Rationing of supplies and requisitioning of facilities</li> <li>• Major reprioritisation of health services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All community members instructed to stay indoors – for example no visitors to enter or exit except health and service professionals</li> <li>• Food and essential supplies to be rationed and distributed to individual homes</li> <li>• Health services to coordinate and prioritise those most at risk</li> <li>• Potential use of overflow facilities – for example suitable venues to be identified until ambulance services can transfer the patient to hospital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSW Health Minister, Police, NSW Health, NSW Public Health Unit, LALC, Elders, PACC, ACLO, Security, Council Rangers</li> <li>• Moama LAC, Moama Bowling Club, SES volunteers, FACS Intereach, VRA, Rotary and Salvation Army.</li> <li>• NSW Health, Council, EOC, Functional Areas, FACS.</li> </ul>
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