

Central Desert Regional Council Covid-19 Management Plan Remote Council Services Sub Plan

Emergency contact details are at: www.centraldesert.nt.gov.au

In the event of a declared pandemic all remote Council offices will adopt and follow all procedures detailed in the CDRC COVID-19 management plan. In addition, the following procedures specific to each remote site will be implemented:

Follow procedures listed below where applicable.

Essential Services Officer:

Normal ESO duties. ESO to relocate any administration duties to Power Station office. Fax facilities available in Power Station. Toilet and wash facilities also available in Power Station. Any documents requiring scanning or emailing can be presented to the Community office for processing. ESO can contact the office by phone and arrange to leave any paperwork at the front door of the office.

Field Officers:

Field officer briefings to take place away from the office out in the open air. Toilet breaks can be taken at home during a lockdown event reducing the need to open the office.

Field officers to concentrate on waste management and community rubbish. Core services to be maintained but community projects may need to be suspended due to lack of available deliveries of goods or equipment.

Vehicles, plant and equipment to be cleaned as per CDRC COVID-19 plan.

Centrelink:

CentreLink agency will not be open in the event of a pandemic outbreak. Notify Centrelink of pandemic situation – similar to sorry business notification where an amnesty is normally granted for client reporting. During a lockdown the basic needs of community members will be met and there should be no need for clients to be dealing with Centrelink at this time.

Residents with mobile phones can use the Centrelink App if they need to access their accounts.



Australia Post:

If the community is locked down we will see an increase in parcel traffic. This was made clear to us during the previous biosecurity lockdown earlier in the year. It will be important to allow community members access to this service during lockdown as part of their mental and physical wellbeing.

Council office staff can sort mail into known households. In an effort to reduce movement of community members during lockdown the field officers can deliver household lots of mail to each property. Field officers will place mail at the gate of each property and sound vehicle horn (remote community doorbell). Field officers will wait in vehicle until a member of the household comes out to collect mail. If not collected the field officer will return mail to office for storage. No mail will be left at a gate uncollected.

Library Services:

Library will be closed to public.

Airstrip:

Normal airstrip maintenance and operation to be conducted as required. This will be detailed in any open air Field Officer briefings. ESO to be responsible for all airstrip access and medical evacuations. Clinic and Police have ESO 24hr contact details.

CDRC Staff Member requiring testing or testing positive:

A positive result received by one of our field officers will effectively shut down our core services delivery staff due to the risk of cross infection and the need for testing. Once tested staff will be required to isolate until results are received. In this situation the remaining non-contact office staff can perform the required waste management duties if needed.