



COVID-19 Sector Update 27 March

UPDATES AND NEW INFORMATION

Temporary cash flow support for not-for-profit organisations

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) will be providing temporary cash flow support to not-for-profit organisations that employ staff.

There will be two sets of cash flow boosts of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 delivered from 28 April 2020.

They will be provided to eligible businesses, delivered through credits in the activity statements, when businesses lodge their activity statements.

You must lodge your activity statement to receive the cash flow boost.

Eligible businesses, including not-for-profit organisations, must have held an ABN on 12 March 2020 and lodge your activity statement to receive the credit. Charities registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) are eligible, regardless of when they were registered, if they meet the other eligibility requirements.

More information can be found [here](#).

New travel and movement restrictions in the NT

There are new [travel restrictions](#), [border controls](#), and details regarding classification as [essential services](#).

The most recent set of new rules came into effect at 11:59 pm on Thursday 26 March and relate to non-essential travel into designated areas. People cannot enter designated areas unless they are part of the approved remote essential workers list. For more information about which areas have been classified as designated areas in the Northern Territory and the approved remote essential workers list, click [here](#).

New process for ordering Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Aged Care and NDIS sectors

Aged care providers that require Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must now email agedcarecovidppe@health.gov.au for all requests – please don't approach Primary

Health Networks.

All requests will be triaged by the Commonwealth Department of Health with priority given to facilities, programs and workers where there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19.

The following information must be provided in your email request:

- the facility, program or service requiring PPE
- if you have had a confirmed case of COVID-19 at your facility, program or service
- types and quantities of PPE required
- details of other suppliers you have attempted to source PPE stock from.

Latest advocacy

The digital divide: NTCOSS joined ACOSS, the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network and others to warn Communications Minister Paul Fletcher that many individuals would face an increased digital divide if they lacked access to digital technology in a time when we're increasingly isolated from face-to-face contact. Read the story in the Sydney Morning Herald [here](#).

Community sector support: NTCOSS, ACOSS and the other COSSes around the country wrote to the newly-established National Cabinet. We drew attention to the size of the community sector in Australia (250,000 people employed and an \$11 billion contribution to the economy) and outlined our recommendations on key issues. Issues raised included addressing the remaining gaps in the safety net, extending business stimulus measures to the not-for-profit sector and creating maximum flexibility for contract arrangements on not-for-profits. More to follow in sector updates next week.

No evictions: Announcements have been made by governments regarding rental payments and evictions, but so far there is not a comprehensive set of guidelines to cover evictions. To learn more about evictions and support no evictions during this crisis, visit this [campaign](#).

Deborah Di Natale
NTCOSS CEO

[Click Here for more COVID-19 Advice and Resources](#)

Updates from the Sector & Resources

CALL FOR UPDATES: NT Organisations delivering frontline services

In light of the current situation, NTCOSS recognises that there will be ongoing changes of service delivery and availability for many organisations.

If your organisation is currently operating in a modified way, here are 2 ways that NTCOSS can assist in sharing this information:

- Member organisations can manually update details regarding service delivery in their listing on our [Directory](#). If you require any assistance with this change, email jacob@ntcoss.org.au or admin@ntcoss.org.au.
- NTCOSS is releasing a regular Sector Update on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, in lieu of the eBulletin, while there remains a need for more frequent updates. If you would like your change of delivery of services added to the next Sector Update, please email admin@ntcoss.org.au with the relevant details, using the subject line 'CHANGE OF SERVICE DELIVERY – SECTOR UPDATE'.

UPDATE: NTCOSS Darwin and Alice Springs Conference and Board Room Facilities Use

NTCOSS Conference and Board room facilities will not be available for use while social distancing restrictions are in place.

RESOURCES: Fact Sheets, Posters and other Printable Resources

The NT Government has created a number of fact sheets and poster specific to the Territory regarding COVID-19 for download, printing and display.

[Coronavirus Fact Sheet – suitable for printing and displaying](#)

[Social Distancing Guidelines – suitable for printing and displaying](#)

[Handrub and Handwash Guideline – Suitable for printing and displaying](#)

[Funeral Travel & Sorry Camp Advice – Suitable for printing](#)

[COVID-19 information on deliveries to remote communities in the Northern Territory – Fact Sheet](#)

[How to apply for an exemption to self-quarantine - Fact sheet](#)

[Guidelines for correctly donning PPE](#)

[Fact Sheet for Roadhouses and Wayside Inns](#)

RESOURCE: Message in Pitjantjatjara about handwashing

Listen to Yaritji Miller from Mutitjulu talk about her painting's hand washing and house cleaning message to interpreter Beryl De Rose. Watch the video [here](#).

RESOURCES: Return to Country and new restrictions regarding re-entry

The Australian Government is working in close collaboration with State and Territory Governments to help save Australian lives by stopping the spread of COVID-19. Following agreement from the National Cabinet, the movement into certain remote areas is being restricted to protect some of our most vulnerable Australians.

From 11:59pm Thursday **26 March**, anyone wishing to enter designated areas will need to self-isolate for 14 days before they can enter. This is a requirement that will be made by the Minister for Health under the Commonwealth's Biosecurity Act 2015 and includes residents of communities in these areas. The areas where restrictions apply will be communicated by the State and Territory Governments prior to commencement. Governments will support people who do not have appropriate alternate arrangements to self-isolate.

There will be exemptions to the travel restrictions for people entering to supply and deliver essential services and Governments are working hard to make sure these essential services and supplies will continue to remote areas.

People already in remote communities should stay there unless it is essential to leave for medical treatment.

Information relevant to Indigenous communities is being posted on www.niaa.gov.au and www.indigenous.gov.au

More information about COVID-19 is available through aus.gov.au

Please find below links for electronic resources for relevant organisations to use to disseminate this new information:

[NTG Return to Country Now](#)

[NTG Return to Country Now - Barkly Region](#)

[FAQs - Barkly Region](#)

Not-for-profits – Stimulus measures from NT Government and Federal Government

NT Government Stimulus: \$5 million for not-for-profit and community orgs

The Northern Territory Government has announced a round of stimulus measures today as part of its \$65 million Jobs Rescue & Recovery Plan. Read the full [media release](#) here.

Not-for-profit organisations will be eligible for a payment of up to \$100,000 linked to the tax they withhold from their employee's salary and wages, with a minimum payment of \$20,000. We have been advised that this payment will arrive automatically if your not-for-profit meets the eligibility criteria. For more information about the payments, please see the [Treasury press release](#).

TRAINING: Online COVID-19 infection control training for healthcare workers

This 30-minute [online training module](#) is for health care workers in all settings. It covers the fundamentals of infection prevention and control for COVID-19.

Past eBulletins and COVID-19 Sector Updates

Access past eBulletins here:

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Sector Update 25 March 2020](#)

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Sector Update 23 March 2020](#)

[NTCOSS eBulletin 19 March 2020](#)

NTCOSS is a not for profit, member based, peak body for the social and community services sector in the Northern Territory. We're an advocate for social justice on behalf of people and communities in the NT, who may be affected by poverty and disadvantage.

NTCOSS acknowledges that we work on the land of the First Peoples of the Northern Territory and respect their continuing cultural connections as traditional owners of this country.

The NTCOSS eBulletin is delivered to your inbox every Thursday afternoon. We welcome submissions and encourage you to forward to interested contacts and friends.

Don't forget to check out the NTCOSS website and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Submit an item to eBulletin

To contribute notices to our weekly eBulletin, please email your information in the body of an email or as a Word document to admin@ntcoss.org.au

Please ensure your contribution is in line with [NTCOSS guidelines](#) and includes all appropriate dates, times, links and contact details.

NTCOSS thanks HESTA for their ongoing support of this publication



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