



COVID-19 update

The health and safety of staff and clients is our top priority

25 May 2020

In our COVID-19 response, we are complying with the State Government's [Roadmap to easing restrictions](#). Under Stage 1, we opened the Infozone last Monday and clients were provided access to PCs only.

The Recovery Working Group is now working on recommendations on how we progressively open additional spaces – in alignment with the *Roadmap*. In June, we will move to up to twenty clients. In late June, along with our cultural centre colleagues, I anticipate that we will seek approval to open multiple spaces of twenty. In Stage 3, in July – the restrictions will be increased to 100.

As we bring more clients back on site, we will need increased staff to manage our service points and spaces. As we do this, we are ensuring compliance with Government guidelines. Risk Assessments are undertaken for activities involving more than one staff member. And, there is strict adherence to the public health rules – physical distancing and hand hygiene.

I anticipate it will be some months before we have all staff on site. For colleagues who can easily work remotely, and who are not required onsite to deliver services, it is likely that you will be last to return to the building.

When we first implemented our Pandemic Plan, we were asked to plan for up to 50 per cent of our staff sick at a time. That was why we implemented the Blue / Green team approach. Thankfully, we have not had such widespread incidence of the virus. As we progressively increase our services and we also need to get work done that can only be done on site – we are using the Blue / Green approach to manage numbers on site. Due to work that must be done or individual circumstances, some staff will be given an exemption to the blue / green approach. This exemption requires Portfolio Executive approval.

If you are coming on site – it is imperative that you observe the public health rules – distancing and hand hygiene. You will also need to get approval from your Portfolio Executive. This approval needs to be given a minimum of 24 hours prior to entry.

At all times – if you are sick, you should stay home.

It is the public health rules of distancing and hand hygiene that are key to the COVID recovery.

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"Gamba daru" means "Good day" in the language of the Barunnggam people from the Darling Downs region of Dalby and Bunya Mountains – the community where I grew up. You can learn more about the traditional owners in your area using the [Indigenous Languages Map of Queensland](#) and then [find out how to say G'day](#) in the traditional language of the area.

2019 was the [UNESCO International Year of Indigenous Languages](#).