14<sup>th</sup> July 2020



## Anglican Care Advice to Consumers, Families & Friends – COVID-19 Update

Dear Consumer, families and friends,

I am writing this week to convey my deep concern regarding the developments of COVID-19 community transmission in Victoria and now in South Western Sydney. Over the last few weeks it has become very evident how extremely contagious this virus can be. The recent community transmission and clusters identified in South Western Sydney are worrying. Please do not attend an Anglican Care facility if you have attended one of the identified locations. These hotspots, in addition to Victoria, are located in:

- Casula, NSW Villawood, NSW
- Picton, NSW Kurnell, NSW
- Pyrmont, NSW Caringbah, NSW
- Canterbury, NSW Merimbula, NSW
- Narellen, NSW Murray Downs, NSW

If you have visited any of the above listed areas, please review the NSW Health website to determine if self-isolation and testing are required. Details can be found at:

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/Pages/20200713\_01.aspx

As stated above, the situation in South Western Sydney and Sydney Metropolitan area are of particular concern to us and we are increasingly concerned about further transmission beyond the Sydney metropolitan area. If community transmission continues with similar momentum to Victoria, we are greatly concerned for our consumers. Currently, there are 24 residential facilities in Victoria with confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks. While we are not currently making any further changes to our visitation, I feel the situation in Victoria is foreshadowing events to unfold in NSW over the coming weeks. If the situation continues to develop in NSW, as an organisation, we may be required to review our Connecting Families program at our residential homes, with the potential for the reintroduction of restrictions on visitation.

Unlike earlier phases in the pandemic, there is now a worrying trend for community transmission of the virus. Now more than ever it is vital for us all work together to stop the spread. This includes regular hand hygiene, cough etiquette, staying home if you're unwell and getting tested for COVID-19.

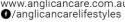
We hope everyone across the Anglican Care community can appreciate that some difficult decisions may need to be made in the coming days and weeks. We will continue to do our best to keep you informed of changes as they occur.

If you have any concerns or queries, please contact the Residential Care Manager or Kate McEwan, Infection Prevention Coordinator (<u>katemcewan@anglicancare.com.au</u>).

Kind regards,

Colin Osborne, Chief Executive Officer

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