

## RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

**From:** "Brett Sutton (DHHS)" [REDACTED]  
**To:** "Braedan Hogan (DHHS)" [REDACTED]  
 sandra.jeffery [REDACTED] "MCMILLAN, Alison"  
 [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** "Mat Williams (DHHS)" [REDACTED], "Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS)" [REDACTED], "Jason Helps (DHHS)" [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Fri, 27 Mar 2020 18:45:34 +1100  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg (5.86 kB)

Thanks so much, Braedan.

Brett

Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton MBBS MPHTM FAFPHM FRSPH FACTM MFTM  
 Victorian Chief Health Officer  
 Victorian Chief Human Biosecurity Officer  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
 Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St  
 ph. [REDACTED] <tel:[REDACTED]> e.

[REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

Please note that I work from home on Thursdays and am contactable on the numbers above.

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 March 2020 6:43 PM  
**To:** 'Sandra.Jeffery [REDACTED] 'MCMILLAN, Alison' [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) & [REDACTED]; Brett Sutton (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Jason Helps (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Sandra and Alison,

See Victoria's response below:

1. What arrangements does your jurisdiction have in place to provide quarantine accommodation? Please provide details of the accommodation that will be used for quarantine purposes, including how many beds are available. Victoria has access to 30,000 beds at various accommodation providers across the State, we are aligning accommodation options with close proximity to established COVID clinics.
2. What arrangements are in place to transport passengers from the airport to the accommodation? Arrangements with bus providers are in place to transport passengers and planning is underway to ensure supervision on transport.
3. What arrangements are in place to provide medical support to passengers while they are in quarantine? Planning for the use of Field Emergency Medical Officer teams to provide an initial needs assessment of passengers and can provide pharmaceutical scripts and medical advice – they will also provide intermittent screening and will be available to respond to medical concerns that are escalated to them.
4. What security arrangements are in place to ensure compliance with quarantine arrangements? Directions will be provided to passengers as they disembark and will be supported by Victoria Police at the airport. Private security is being contracted to provide security at the hotels with

escalation arrangements to VicPol as needed.

5. Who is the key contact in your jurisdiction for these arrangements? Braedan Hogan, DHHS Agency Commander, REDACTED  
REDACTED

6. Who is the 'on the ground' contact for ABF staff to arrange logistics at the airport? TBC

7. Do you require support from the Commonwealth to put these arrangements in place by midnight 28 March? If so, what support do you require? ADF currently providing planning support to Victoria at the State Control Centre, no further support required

Let me know if you need anything more.

Braedan

Braedan Hogan  
Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
p. REDACTED m. REDACTED  
e. REDACTED

From: Brett Sutton (DHHS)

REDACTED

Sent: Friday, 27 March 2020 6:39 PM

To: Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS)

REDACTED

RE: Mat Williams (DHHS)

REDACTED

'MCMILLAN, Alison'

>&gt;

Subject: RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Thanks.

Alison McMillan (in copy) is the Cth contact for this.

Regards,  
Brett

Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton MBBS MPHTM FAFPHM FRSPH FACTM MFTM  
Victorian Chief Health Officer  
Victorian Chief Human Biosecurity Officer  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St  
ph. REDACTED

REDACTED

Please note that I work from home on Thursdays and am contactable on the numbers above.

From: Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS)

REDACTED

Sent: Friday, 27 March 2020 5:55 PM

To: Brett Sutton (DHHS)

&lt;REDACTED>; Braedan Hogan

(DHHS) REDACTED

Cc: Mat Williams (DHHS)

&lt;REDACTED>

Subject: RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Braedan, Jason and the DJPR crew are onto it

Cheers

Dr Annaliese van Diemen MBBS BMedSc MPH FRACGP FAFPHM  
Public Health Commander- COVID-19 Department Incident Management Team  
Deputy Chief Health Officer (Communicable Disease)  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St  
e. REDACTED <mailto:REDACTED>  
REDACTED

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REDACTED

From: Brett Sutton (DHHS)  
&lt;REDACTED <mailto:REDACTED> &gt;  
Sent: Friday, 27 March 2020 5:52 PM  
To: Braedan Hogan (DHHS)  
&lt;REDACTED <mailto:REDACTED>  
Cc: Mat Williams (DHHS)  
&lt;REDACTED <mailto:REDACTED> Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS)  
&lt;REDACTED <mailto:REDACTED>  
Subject: Fwd: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

FYI.

Please respond directly, cc'ing me. If you need to talk anything through, please call me.

Brett

Get Outlook for iOS<[https://protect-au.mimecast.com/s/89A\\_C91ZWZUZEWRkuBeJmw?domain=aka.ms](https://protect-au.mimecast.com/s/89A_C91ZWZUZEWRkuBeJmw?domain=aka.ms)>

From: Sandra JEFFERY  
&lt;REDACTED <mailto:REDACTED>  
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 17:22  
To: Brett Sutton (DHHS)  
Cc: REDACTED National Coordination Mechanism  
Subject: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Dear Dr Sutton

Following the decision of National Cabinet that all overseas arrivals will be required to self-isolate in hotel accommodation for 14 days, I'm seeking to understand what arrangements are in place in your State, and who your key contacts are, so we can effectively coordinate arrangements between the Commonwealth and States/Territories.

Could please provide a response by 6pm (AEST) today to the following questions:

1. What arrangements does your jurisdiction have in place to provide quarantine accommodation? Please provide details of the accommodation that will be used for quarantine purposes, including how many beds are available.
2. What arrangements are in place to transport passengers from the airport to the accommodation?
3. What arrangements are in place to provide medical support to passengers while they are in

quarantine?

4. What security arrangements are in place to ensure compliance with quarantine arrangements?
5. Who is the key contact in your jurisdiction for these arrangements?
6. Who is the 'on the ground' contact for ABF staff to arrange logistics at the airport?
7. Do you require support from the Commonwealth to put these arrangements in place by midnight 28 March? If so, what support do you require?

Thanks for your assistance in ensuring a coordinated effort between the Commonwealth and States on this process. Please give me a call if you would like to discuss the arrangements.

Regards

Sandra

---

Sandra Jeffery  
Senior Director  
COVID-19 Taskforce (National Coordination Mechanism)  
Department of Home Affairs  
P:REDACTED M:REDACTED  
E:REDACTED

For-Official-Use-Only

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## FW: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

---

**From:** "Merita Tabain (DHHS)" </o=exchangelabs/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=791e73899d504e8ba78e8031091d9b65-vicqrj8">  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Date:** Fri, 16 Oct 2020 15:22:26 +1100

---

### OFFICIAL: Sensitive

**From:** REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 October 2020 9:06 AM  
**To:** Merita Tabain (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Brett Sutton (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** Fw: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Merrin and Brett

Resending Email 1

Regards  
 REDACTED

---

**From:** Brett Sutton (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** 27 March 2020 18:45  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; 'Sandra.Jeffery' <REDACTED>; 'MCMILLAN, Alison' <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Jason Helps (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Thanks so much, Braedan.

Brett

**Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton** MBBS MPHTM FAFPHM FRSPH FACTM MFTM

**Victorian Chief Health Officer**

**Victorian Chief Human Biosecurity Officer**

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
 Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St

REDACTED

[health.vic.gov.au/public-health/chief-health-officer](http://health.vic.gov.au/public-health/chief-health-officer)

[twitter.com/VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

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Let me know if you need anything more.

Braedan

[Braedan Hogan](#)

[Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy](#)

Emergency Management Branch

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

Department of Health and Human Services

50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

**REDACTED**

---

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Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

**REDACTED**

**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) **REDACTED**; 'MCMILLAN, Alison'

**REDACTED**

**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Thanks.

Alison McMillan (in copy) is the Cth contact for this.

Regards,

Brett

**Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton** MBBS MPHTM FAFPHM FRSPH FACTM MFTM

**Victorian Chief Health Officer**

**Victorian Chief Human Biosecurity Officer**

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management

Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St

**REDACTED**

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[twitter.com/VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

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**From:** Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS) **REDACTED**

**Sent:** Friday, 27 March 2020 5:55 PM

**To:** Brett Sutton (DHHS) **REDACTED**; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

**REDACTED**

**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
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 Cheers

**Dr Annaliese van Diemen** MBBS BMedSc MPH FRACGP FAFPHM  
**Public Health Commander- COVID-19 Department Incident Management Team**  
**Deputy Chief Health Officer (Communicable Disease)**  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
 Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St

[REDACTED]

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The Department of Health and Human Services respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays its respect to the ongoing living cultures of Aboriginal peoples.

**From:** Brett Sutton (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 March 2020 5:52 PM  
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 Brett  
 Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** Sandra JEFFERY <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 27, 2020 17:22  
**To:** Brett Sutton (DHHS)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; National Coordination Mechanism  
**Subject:** VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

### For-Official-Use-Only

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Regards  
Sandra

---

Sandra Jeffery  
Senior Director  
COVID-19 Taskforce (National Coordination Mechanism)  
Department of Home Affairs

REDACTED

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## Information - Chain of command - people in detention

From: "Finn Romanes (DHHS)" REDACTED  
REDACTED

To: "Maria Bubnic (DHHS)" REDACTED, "Noel Cleaves (DHHS)"  
REDACTED "Braedan  
Hogan (DHHS)" REDACTED  
REDACTED

Cc: "StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)" <"/o=exchangelabs/ou=exchange  
administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=60b3759a95354e6c85985e00267fe09c-  
semc@health"> REDACTED  
REDACTED "Anthony  
J Kolmus (DHHS)" REDACTED  
REDACTED  
REDACTED COVID  
Directions <"/o=exchangelabs/ou=exchange administrative group  
(fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=b003465612d644f9873b64025bd2fd27-covid direc">,  
sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au REDACTED  
REDACTED  
REDACTED "Meena Naidu (DHHS)" REDACTED REDAC  
REDACTED "Simon  
Crouch (DHHS)" REDACTED

Bcc: "Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS)" REDACTED "Brett Sutton  
(DHHS)" REDACTED "Andrea Spiteri (DHHS)"  
REDACTED

Date: Wed, 01 Apr 2020 20:03:10 +1100

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.

If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please, unless requested or overseen by the chain.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these

matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, [REDACTED], Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

[REDACTED]

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM

**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus  
(DHHS) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'

<sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks Noel, these are useful insights and a reminder of how challenging the current situation is for all concerned. I gather the nurses are screening all persons under quarantine to identify pre-existing health conditions, management and risks as well as those who may need further assessment for COVID etc. It would be good to include the advice re: smoking cessation options in the protocol to make this available wherever possible. We acknowledge access to smoking areas will still need to be carefully managed on a case by case basis taking account of individual needs, social distancing measures and environmental constraints.

**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

[REDACTED]

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: [REDACTED]

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:46 AM

**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]

REDACTED

Cc: StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'

<[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi to all,

I can add that the Crown Promenade has some smoking rooms (4 or 5 from memory) they are located on a different floor. To move a smoker to that floor, potentially many times a day, requires a security guard wearing PPE to escort them to that floor. We felt that the smoker needs to also wear some PPE so that don't potentially cross-contaminate surfaces that a security guard or other people then touch. We couldn't see how we could manage that process on a regular basis so as far as I'm aware we haven't used it.

It is pretty likely that there are smokers smoking in their rooms in the bathrooms etc but obviously that runs the risk of a fire alarm being triggered. We have had a complaint from one room at the Plaza that they could smell tobacco smoke in their room.

I haven't heard anything about smoking rooms at the other two hotels.

I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

**Noel Cleaves**

Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit  
Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000

REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:24 AM

**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED

Cc: StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED; COVID Directions

<[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health

[Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division](#)

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: REDACTED

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

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**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:22 AM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED  
 REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus  
 REDACTED Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
 <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi all – did this progress yesterday?

Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED StateEmergencyManagementCentre  
 SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED  
 REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)  
 REDACTED Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDACTED

Could you send through the smoking advice for people in detention – I can place it in the plan ASAP

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
 Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
 Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

From: REDACTED

Sent: Tuesday, 31 March 2020 12:04 PM

To: REDACTED COVID Directions

<[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

Cc: Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)

<[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED;

REDACTED; Maria Bubnic (DHHS)

REDACTED

Subject: RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks REDA

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

REDACTED

Manager, Tobacco Control  
Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



Health  
and Human  
Services



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

From: REDACTED

Sent: Tuesday, 31 March 2020 11:01 AM

To: COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

Cc: Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)

<[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

(DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)

REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED

Subject: RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi I'm advised that the key issue is really about people leaving their rooms securely. With the hotel's cooperation establishing a designated smoking room/s (such as how high roller room operates) would be the best solution that has appropriate density and hygiene parameters. (There is exemption under s5A(2) I've copied in REDACTED the tobacco manager and those involved in compliance and

enforcement.

REDACTED

Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection

REDACTED

---

**From:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 AM

**To:** REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDACTED

I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.

REDACTED advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be able to assist?

Regards,

REDACTED

Principal Community Recovery Officer  
Emergency Management and Health Protection  
South Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844

REDACTED

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 9:26 PM

**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED Merrin Bamert (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?

We don't have anyone

Braedan Hogan  
Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM

**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED Merrin Bamert (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM

**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) REDACTED, Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

[Braedan Hogan](#)  
[Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy](#)  
Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED

## FW: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

**From:** REDACTED  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Date:** Thu, 02 Apr 2020 09:17:42 +1100

Couldn't agree more! Respect

REDACTED

Manager, Tobacco Control  
 Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001  
 p. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 8:03 PM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED  
 REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>;  
 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED  
 REDACTED Meena Naidu (DHHS) REDACTED Simon Crouch (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** Information - Chain of command - people in detention

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.



If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please, unless requested or overseen by the chain.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, **REDACTED**, Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

**REDACTED**

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) **REDACTED**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM  
**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) **REDACTED**; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) **REDACTED**  
**REDACTED** Finn Romanes (DHHS) **REDACTED**  
**REDACTED**  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) **REDACTED**  
**REDACTED** Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) **REDACTED**  
**REDACTED** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; **REDACTED**  
**REDACTED** 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
<[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)> **REDACTED**  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks Noel, these are useful insights and a reminder of how challenging the current situation is for all concerned. I gather the nurses are screening all persons under quarantine to identify pre-existing health conditions, management and risks as well as those who may need further assessment for COVID etc. It would be good to include the advice re: smoking cessation options in the protocol to make this available wherever possible. We acknowledge access to smoking areas will still need to be carefully managed on a case by case basis taking account of individual needs, social distancing measures and environmental constraints.

**Maria Bubnic**  
Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

t **REDACTED**

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: **REDACTED**

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)> [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)> [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)> [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi to all,

I can add that the Crown Promenade has some smoking rooms (4 or 5 from memory) they are located on a different floor. To move a smoker to that floor, potentially many times a day, requires a security guard wearing PPE to escort them to that floor. We felt that the smoker needs to also wear some PPE so that don't potentially cross-contaminate surfaces that a security guard or other people then touch. We couldn't see how we could manage that process on a regular basis so as far as I'm aware we haven't used it.

It is pretty likely that there are smokers smoking in their rooms in the bathrooms etc but obviously that runs the risk of a fire alarm being triggered. We have had a complaint from one room at the Plaza that they could smell tobacco smoke in their room.

I haven't heard anything about smoking rooms at the other two hotels.

I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

#### Noel Cleaves

Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit  
 Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000  
 m [REDACTED]  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)> [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; COVID Directions [REDACTED]

<[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)> REDACTED  
 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

**Maria Bubnic**  
 Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040  
 t. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: REDACTED

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:22 AM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus  
 (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED; COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
 REDACTED; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
 <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi all – did this progress yesterday?

Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 p. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre  
 SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED  
 RED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED; COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi [REDACTED]

Could you send through the smoking advice for people in detention – I can place it in the plan ASAP

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

[REDACTED]

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 12:04 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]; COVID Directions

<[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

[REDACTED] StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)

<[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Maria Bubnic (DHHS)

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks [REDACTED]

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

[REDACTED]

Manager, Tobacco Control  
Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

p. [REDACTED]

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



Health  
and Human  
Services



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 11:01 AM

**To:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)  
 <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED  
 (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi I'm advised that the key issue is really about people leaving their rooms securely. With the hotel's cooperation establishing a designated smoking room/s (such as how high roller room operates) would be the best solution that has appropriate density and hygiene parameters. (There is exemption under s5A(2) I've copied in REDACTED the tobacco manager and those involved in compliance and enforcement.

REDACTED

Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection  
 t. REDACTED

---

**From:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)  
 REDACTED  
**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDACTED

I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.

REDACTED advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be able to assist?

Regards,

REDACTED

Principal Community Recovery Officer  
 Emergency Management and Health Protection  
 South Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844  
 m. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 9:26 PM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED Merrin Bamert (DHHS)  
 REDACTED  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?

We don't have anyone

Braedan Hogan

**Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy**

Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

p. REDACTED

e.

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED >  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED >; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
 Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
 Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
 State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED >  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM  
**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) REDACTED >; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan****Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy**

Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

p. REDACTED

e.

## FW: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

---

From: "Merita Tabain (DHHS)" <[REDACTED]>  
[REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Fri, 16 Oct 2020 15:22:06 +1100

---

### OFFICIAL: Sensitive

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 16 October 2020 9:07 AM

To: Merita Tabain (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Brett Sutton (DHHS)

[REDACTED]

Subject: Fw: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

Hi Merita and Brett

Resending email 2

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

---

From: SCC-Vic (State Controller Health) <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>

Sent: 02 July 2020 20:14

To: Jason Helps (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Fw: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

### SCC-Vic (State Controller - Health)

State Control Centre | 8 Nicholson Street East Melbourne Victoria 3002

Ph: 1300 368 722 (1300 EMV SCC) | Fax: 1300 13 4488 | DX: 210098

Email: [sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au) | Web: <https://cop.em.vic.gov.au>

---

From: Finn Romanes (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, 1 April 2020 8:03 PM

To: Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Noel Cleaves (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

[REDACTED]; State Emergency Management Centre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

[REDACTED]; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; SCC-Vic (State Controller Health) <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; Meena Naidu (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Simon Crouch (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain. If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

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This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, [REDACTED] Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes

Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning

Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

[REDACTED]

Department of Health and Human Services

State Government of Victoria

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM

**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) [REDACTED] (DHHS)

[REDACTED]; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDA

[REDACTED]; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'

<[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

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**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

t[REDACTED]

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EA Contact [REDACTED]

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

**From:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:46 AM

**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)



REDACTED >; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED

**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)

REDACTED

REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED >; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'

<[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi to all,

I can add that the Crown Promenade has some smoking rooms (4 or 5 from memory) they are located on a different floor. To move a smoker to that floor, potentially many times a day, requires a security guard wearing PPE to escort them to that floor. We felt that the smoker needs to also wear some PPE so that don't potentially cross-contaminate surfaces that a security guard or other people then touch. We couldn't see how we could manage that process on a regular basis so as far as I'm aware we haven't used it.

It is pretty likely that there are smokers smoking in their rooms in the bathrooms etc but obviously that runs the risk of a fire alarm being triggered. We have had a complaint from one room at the Plaza that they could smell tobacco smoke in their room.

I haven't heard anything about smoking rooms at the other two hotels.

I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

**Noel Cleaves**

Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit  
Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000

m. REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED >

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:24 AM

**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED >; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED >; REDACTED

**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)

REDACTED

REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED >; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED >;

REDACTED >; COVID Directions

<[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

t. REDACTED

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REDACTED

REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED

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REDACTED > COVID Directions  
 <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
 <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi all – did this progress yesterday?

Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

Braedan Hogan

Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy

Emergency Management Branch

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

Department of Health and Human Services

50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

p. REDACTED

e. REDACTED

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 PM

**To:** REDACTED

**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre

SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED

REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED >; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)

REDACTED >; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED >; COVID Directions

<COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDACTED

Could you send through the smoking advice for people in detention – I can place it in the plan ASAP

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes

Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning

Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services

State Government of Victoria

**From:** REDACTED

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 12:04 PM

**To:** REDACTED >; COVID Directions

<COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>

**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)

<semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED Maria Bubnic (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks REDACTED

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

REDACTED

Manager, Tobacco Control

Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

p. REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



Health  
and Human  
Services



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

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**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria  
 Hi I'm advised that the key issue is really about people leaving their rooms securely. With the hotel's cooperation establishing a designated smoking room/s (such as how high roller room operates) would be the best solution that has appropriate density and hygiene parameters. (There is exemption under s5A(2) I've copied in REDACTED the tobacco manager and those involved in compliance and enforcement.

REDACTED

Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection  
 t. REDACTED

**From:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
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**To:** REDACTED  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria  
 Hi REDA  
 I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.  
 Erin advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be able to assist?  
 Regards,  
 REDACTED  
 Principal Community Recovery Officer  
 Emergency Management and Health Protection  
 South Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844  
 m. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 9:26 PM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria  
 Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?  
 We don't have anyone  
 Braedan Hogan

**Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy**

Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

p. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM

**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Merrin Bamert (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes

Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning

Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
 State Government of Victoria

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM

**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**

**Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy**

Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

p. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED

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## Fwd: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

**From:** "Noel Cleaves (DHHS)" <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** "[REDACTED] (DHHS)" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Wed, 01 Apr 2020 20:24:15 +1100

FYI

Noel Cleaves  
 Manager, Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance  
 Health Protection Branch  
 Department of Health & Human Services

**REDACTED**

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Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 8:03:10 PM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Meena Naidu (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Simon Crouch (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Information - Chain of command - people in detention

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.

If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please, unless requested or overseen by the chain.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these

matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, **REDACTED**, Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency  
**REDACTED**

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM  
**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; Finn Romanes (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks Noel, these are useful insights and a reminder of how challenging the current situation is for all concerned. I gather the nurses are screening all persons under quarantine to identify pre-existing health conditions, management and risks as well as those who may need further assessment for COVID etc. It would be good to include the advice re: smoking cessation options in the protocol to make this available wherever possible. We acknowledge access to smoking areas will still need to be carefully managed on a case by case basis taking account of individual needs, social distancing measures and environmental constraints.

**Maria Bubnic**  
Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040  
**REDACTED**  
w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: **REDACTED**

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**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; Finn Romanes (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>; **REDACTED** (DHHS) <**REDACTED**>

RED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
 Cc: StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
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It is pretty likely that there are smokers smoking in their rooms in the bathrooms etc but obviously that runs the risk of a fire alarm being triggered. We have had a complaint from one room at the Plaza that they could smell tobacco smoke in their room.

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I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

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Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit  
 Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000

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**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

#### Maria Bubnic

Assistant Director, Population Health

[Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division](#)

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

REDACTED

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Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 REDACTED

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Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
 Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
 Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency



REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

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**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks REDA

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

REDACTED

Manager, Tobacco Control  
Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

REDACTED  
w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



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**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

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REDACTED

REDACTED

Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection

REDACTED

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<REDACTED>

**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDACTED,

I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.

REDACTED advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be able to assist?

Regards,

REDACTED

Principal Community Recovery Officer  
Emergency Management and Health Protection  
South Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844

REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

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**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS)

<REDACTED>

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?

We don't have anyone

Braedan Hogan

Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy

Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM

**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS)

<[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

[REDACTED]

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM

**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

<[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

[Braedan Hogan](#)  
[Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy](#)  
Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

[REDACTED]

## Information - Chain of command - people in detention

**From:** "Finn Romanes (DHHS)" REDACTED

**To:** "Maria Bubnic (DHHS)" REDACTED "Noel Cleaves (DHHS)"  
REDACTED "Braedan Hogan (DHHS)" REDACTED  
REDACTED

**Cc:** "StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)" <semc@health.vic.gov.au>, REDACTED  
REDACTED  
"Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)" REDACTED  
REDACTED COVID Directions <coviddirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>,  
sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au, REDACTED  
"Meena Naidu (DHHS)" REDACTED, "Simon Crouch (DHHS)"  
REDACTED

**Date:** Wed, 01 Apr 2020 20:03:10 +1100

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.

If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please, unless requested or overseen by the chain.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, REDACTED, Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes

Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning

Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services

State Government of Victoria

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM

**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED Braedan Hogan (DHHS)  
REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED  
REDACTED

**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS)  
REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus  
REDACTED  
REDACTED; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED

REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'

<sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks Noel, these are useful insights and a reminder of how challenging the current situation is for all concerned. I gather the nurses are screening all persons under quarantine to identify pre-existing health conditions, management and risks as well as those who may need further assessment for COVID etc. It would be good to include the advice re: smoking cessation options in the protocol to make this available wherever possible. We acknowledge access to smoking areas will still need to be carefully managed on a case by case basis taking account of individual needs, social distancing measures and environmental constraints.

**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

t: REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: REDACTED

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:46 AM

**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED

**Cc:** State Emergency Management Centre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)

REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED (DHHS)

REDACTED; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'

<[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi to all,

I can add that the Crown Promenade has some smoking rooms (4 or 5 from memory) they are located on a different floor. To move a smoker to that floor, potentially many times a day, requires a security guard wearing PPE to escort them to that floor. We felt that the smoker needs to also wear some PPE so that don't potentially cross-contaminate surfaces that a security guard or other people then touch. We couldn't see how we could manage that process on a regular basis so as far as I'm aware we haven't used it.

It is pretty likely that there are smokers smoking in their rooms in the bathrooms etc but obviously that runs the risk of a fire alarm being triggered. We have had a complaint from one room at the Plaza that they could smell tobacco smoke in their room.

I haven't heard anything about smoking rooms at the other two hotels.

I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

**Noel Cleaves**

Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit

Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000

m: REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:24 AM

**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** State Emergency Management Centre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)

REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED;  
 REDACTED; COVID Directions  
 <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au> REDACTED  
 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

t REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: REDACTED

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:22 AM

**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED

**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)

REDACTED

Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED;

REDACTED; COVID Directions

<[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'

<[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi all – did this progress yesterday?

Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**

Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy

Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

p REDACTED

e

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 PM

**To:** REDACTED

**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre  
 SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)

REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED; COVID Directions

<[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDACTED

Could you send through the smoking advice for people in detention – I can place it in the plan ASAP

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes

Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning

Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services

State Government of Victoria

**From:** REDACTED  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 12:04 PM  
**To:** REDACTED; COVID Directions  
[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) REDACTED  
[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au) REDACTED Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks REDAC

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

REDACTED

Manager, Tobacco Control

Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

p REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



Health  
and  
Human  
Services



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

**From:** REDACTED  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) REDACTED  
[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au); REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
 (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED  
 REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi I'm advised that the key issue is really about people leaving their rooms securely. With the hotel's cooperation establishing a designated smoking room/s (such as how high roller room operates) would be the best solution that has appropriate density and hygiene parameters. (There is exemption under s5A(2) I've copied in REDACTED the tobacco manager and those involved in compliance and enforcement.

REDACTED

Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection

t. REDACTED

**From:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED

REDACTED

**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDAC

I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.

RED advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be

able to assist?

Regards,

REDACTED

Principal Community Recovery Officer  
Emergency Management and Health Protection  
South Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844  
m. REDACTED  
e. REDACTED  
w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 9:26 PM

**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; Merrin Bamert (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?

We don't have anyone

Braedan Hogan

Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy

Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
p. REDACTED  
e. REDACTED

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM

**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Merrin Bamert (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes

Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM

**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

REDACTED

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

Braedan Hogan



Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy

Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

p. REDACTED  
e. [REDACTED]

## Fw: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

---

**From:** REDACTED  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Date:** Fri, 03 Apr 2020 23:05:37 +1100

---

Hi REDACTED

Sorry I forgot to send you this.

Kind regards

REDACTED

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.

If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please, unless requested or overseen by the chain.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, REDACTED, Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

## Fwd: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

---

**From:** "Brett Sutton (DHHS)" REDACTED  
 REDACTED  
**To:** AHPPC Secretariat <ahppc.secretariat@health.gov.au>  
**Date:** Fri, 27 Mar 2020 19:39:58 +1100

---

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---

**From:** Sandra JEFFERY REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, March 27, 2020 18:47  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS); 'MCMILLAN, Alison'; REDACTED; National Coordination Mechanism  
**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS); Brett Sutton (DHHS); Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS); Jason Helps (DHHS)  
**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

### For-Official-Use-Only

Thanks for the quick reply Braedan. Please reach out if you need anything further.

Regards

Sandra

---

Sandra Jeffery  
 Senior Director  
 COVID-19 Taskforce (National Coordination Mechanism)  
 Department of Home Affairs  
 REDACTED

### For-Official-Use-Only

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 March 2020 6:43 PM  
**To:** Sandra JEFFERY REDACTED 'MCMILLAN, Alison'  
 REDACTED  
**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) REDACTED Brett Sutton (DHHS)  
 REDACTED Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS)  
 REDACTED Jason Helps (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Hi Sandra and Alison,

See Victoria's response below:

1. What arrangements does your jurisdiction have in place to provide quarantine accommodation? Please provide details of the accommodation that will be used for quarantine purposes, including how many beds are available. Victoria has access to 30,000 beds at various accommodation providers across the State, we are aligning accommodation options with close proximity to established COVID clinics.

2. What arrangements are in place to transport passengers from the airport to the accommodation? Arrangements with bus providers are in place to transport passengers and planning is underway to ensure supervision on transport.
3. What arrangements are in place to provide medical support to passengers while they are in quarantine? Planning for the use of Field Emergency Medical Officer teams to provide an initial needs assessment of passengers and can provide pharmaceutical scripts and medical advice – they will also provide intermittent screening and will be available to respond to medical concerns that are escalated to them.
4. What security arrangements are in place to ensure compliance with quarantine arrangements? Directions will be provided to passengers as they disembark and will be supported by Victoria Police at the airport. Private security is being contracted to provide security at the hotels with escalation arrangements to VicPol as needed.
5. Who is the key contact in your jurisdiction for these arrangements? Braedan Hogan, DHHS Agency Commander, REDACTED
6. Who is the 'on the ground' contact for ABF staff to arrange logistics at the airport? TBC
7. Do you require support from the Commonwealth to put these arrangements in place by midnight 28 March? If so, what support do you require? ADF currently providing planning support to Victoria at the State Control Centre, no further support required

Let me know if you need anything more.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED

---

**From:** Brett Sutton (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 March 2020 6:39 PM  
**To:** Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS) REDACTED; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) REDACTED 'MCMILLAN, Alison' REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Thanks.

Alison McMillan (in copy) is the Cth contact for this.

Regards,  
 Brett

**Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton** MBBS MPHTM FAFPHM FRSPH FACTM MFTM  
**Victorian Chief Health Officer**  
**Victorian Chief Human Biosecurity Officer**  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
 Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St  
 REDACTED  
[health.vic.gov.au/public-health/chief-health-officer](http://health.vic.gov.au/public-health/chief-health-officer)  
[twitter.com/VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

Please note that I work from home on Thursdays and am contactable on the numbers above.

**From:** Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 March 2020 5:55 PM  
**To:** Brett Sutton (DHHS) REDACTED; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Braedan, Jason and the DJPR crew are onto it

Cheers

**Dr Annaliese van Diemen** MBBS BMedSc MPH FRACGP FAFPHM  
**Public Health Commander- COVID-19 Department Incident Management Team**  
**Deputy Chief Health Officer (Communicable Disease)**  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management  
 Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale St  
 REDACTED  
[health.vic.gov.au/public-health](http://health.vic.gov.au/public-health)

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The Department of Health and Human Services respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays its respect to the ongoing living cultures of Aboriginal peoples.

**From:** Brett Sutton (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 March 2020 5:52 PM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** Mat Williams (DHHS) REDACTED Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** Fwd: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

FYI.

Please respond directly, cc'ing me. If you need to talk anything through, please call me.

Brett

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**From:** Sandra JEFFERY REDACTED  
**Sent:** Friday, March 27, 2020 17:22  
**To:** Brett Sutton (DHHS)  
**Cc:** REDACTED National Coordination Mechanism  
**Subject:** VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

## For-Official-Use-Only

Dear Dr Sutton

Following the decision of National Cabinet that all overseas arrivals will be required to self-isolate in hotel accommodation for 14 days, I'm seeking to understand what arrangements are in place in your State, and who your key contacts are, so we can effectively coordinate arrangements between the Commonwealth and States/Territories.

Could please provide a response by **6pm (AEST) today** to the following questions:

1. What arrangements does your jurisdiction have in place to provide quarantine accommodation? Please provide details of the accommodation that will be used for quarantine purposes, including how many beds are available.
2. What arrangements are in place to transport passengers from the airport to the accommodation?
3. What arrangements are in place to provide medical support to passengers while they are in quarantine?
4. What security arrangements are in place to ensure compliance with quarantine arrangements?
5. Who is the key contact in your jurisdiction for these arrangements?
6. Who is the 'on the ground' contact for ABF staff to arrange logistics at the airport?
7. Do you require support from the Commonwealth to put these arrangements in place by midnight 28 March? If so, what support do you require?

Thanks for your assistance in ensuring a coordinated effort between the Commonwealth and States on this process. Please give me a call if you would like to discuss the arrangements.

Regards

Sandra

---

Sandra Jeffery  
Senior Director  
COVID-19 Taskforce (National Coordination Mechanism)  
Department of Home Affairs

REDACTED

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## FOR APPROVAL: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

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**From:** REDACTED  
**To:** "Brett Sutton (DHHS)" REDACTED  
**Cc:** REDACTED  
**Date:** Fri, 31 Jul 2020 15:31:27 +1000  
**Attachments:** RE: Nat Cab advice on next steps for physical distancing [SEC=OFFICIAL] (118.27 kB); RE: Quarantine Hotels [SEC=OFFICIAL] (146.94 kB); RE: Travellers [SEC=OFFICIAL] (1.15 MB); RE: Travellers [SEC=OFFICIAL] (327.17 kB); RE: VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] (195.58 kB); RE: Vic proposed recommendations [SEC=OFFICIAL] (248.83 kB); RE: Vic proposed recommendations [SEC=OFFICIAL] (215.55 kB); RE: Vic proposed recommendations [SEC=OFFICIAL] (284.67 kB); RE: Vic proposed recommendations (271.87 kB); Saved in TRIM ACTION: COVID-19 action levels [SEC=OFFICIAL] (339.97 kB); Saved in TRIM AHPPC Agenda and Papers - Monday 30 March 2020 [SEC=OFFICIAL] (545.28 kB); Saved in TRIM FOR DISCUSSION AT TODAY'S MEETING - Finalising statement on Vulnerable people in the workplace [SEC=OFFICIAL] (368.64 kB); Saved in TRIM FOR INFORMATION: NSW Health Operational Plan - Quarantine in hotels [SEC=OFFICIAL] (3.15 MB); Travellers [SEC=OFFICIAL] (297.47 kB); URGENT OOS item for response by 6pm and 20.03.27 TC COVID19 Outcomes [SEC=OFFICIAL] (742.4 kB); VIC Hotel Quarantine arrangements [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] (116.22 kB); COVID-19 Action Framework [SEC=OFFICIAL] (397.31 kB); DRAFT OUTCOMES - 20.03.31 [SEC=OFFICIAL] (344.58 kB); FOR INFORMATION: 20.03.30 COVID19 TC Outcomes [SEC=OFFICIAL] (361.98 kB); Quarantine Hotels [SEC=OFFICIAL] (125.44 kB); RE: AHPPC Agenda and Papers - 21 March 2020 [SEC=OFFICIAL] (518.66 kB); RE: Aircraft arrival [SEC=OFFICIAL] (375.81 kB); RE: Aircraft arrival [SEC=OFFICIAL] (436.22 kB)

Hi Brett, I was able to check with REDACTED when RE called. Confirmed with REDA that Annalise does not need to endorse these documents for release. Confirmed that your endorsement does not need to be done by COB today, given the time constraints you have. They are happy to receive your endorsement when you can - REDA

Hi Brett

Please find attached 25 emails and attachments relating to AHPPC, hotel quarantine and National Cabinet from 16 to 31 March 2020, which might be relevant to the hotel quarantine inquiry. This is on the request of the team coordinating the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Inquiry.

Would you advise if the attachments may be sent to the team. I believe these require your approval and Annalise Bamford's approval by the end of the day.

Many thanks

REDACTED

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**From:** REDACTED  
**Sent:** Thursday, 30 July 2020 7:02 PM  
**To:** REDACTED  
 REDACTED  
**Cc:** REDACTED  
 REDA  
**Subject:** RE: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Hi REDACT

Apologies for the delay – if it assists, a date range of 16 March (when National Cabinet was established) to 31 March would be great.



In particular we are after advice regarding hotel quarantine, including potential discussions on a voluntary program for individuals who would not be able to safely isolate as well as the decision to introduce mandatory quarantine. Kym did mention that the Chief Medical Officer had prepared some advice for Brett before 26 March, but not sure if there were other briefings as well.

Sorry I can't be clearer – we understand these discussions were being held, but it gets a little murky as to what was for AHPPC, National Cabinet or state briefings.

Many thanks

REDACTED

Departmental Engagement Team – Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program  
Department of Health and Human Services

REDACTED

*I am working from home until further notice, and am best contacted via Teams, mobile or email*

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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

From: REDACTED

Sent: Thursday, 30 July 2020 5:36 PM

To: REDACTED

REDACTED

Cc: REDACTED

REDACTED

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Hi REDACTED

Are you able to advise what period (date from to date to) for these papers?

I know you are looking from March but could you advise the end date, please? This is a tight turnaround and we will have to be very specific in our search.

Kind regards

REDACTED

**EA to Victorian Chief Health Officer**  
**Health Protection Business Coordination**

Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection and Emergency Management  
Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED



Health and Human Services

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

From: REDACTED

Sent: Thursday, 30 July 2020 5:31 PM

To: REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Cc: REDACTED

REDACTED

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Hi REDACTED

Many thanks for this – we’d appreciate any formal AHPPC papers/guidance, and also briefings prepared to support Brett in his AHPPC role.

I’m not sure how these may have been packaged up, but hopefully there will be emails from the Secretariat ([AHPPC.Secretariat@health.gov.au](mailto:AHPPC.Secretariat@health.gov.au)) with papers.

Not sure if there was a single point for briefings, however.

REDACTED

Departmental Engagement Team – Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program  
Department of Health and Human Services

REDACTED

*I am working from home until further notice, and am best contacted via Teams, mobile or email*

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

From: REDACTED

Sent: Thursday, 30 July 2020 5:16 PM

To: REDACTED

REDACTED

Cc: REDACTED

REDACTED

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Thanks REDACTED

Hi REDACTED, would you kindly advise which specific documents you are looking for, please? I was not at DHHS in March but will look through Brett’s Inbox.

Kind regards

REDACTED

**EA to Victorian Chief Health Officer**  
**Health Protection Business Coordination**

Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection and Emergency Management  
Department of Health & Human Services | 14 / 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED



Health and Human Services

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

From: REDACTED

Sent: Thursday, 30 July 2020 5:12 PM

To: REDACTED

Cc: REDACTED

REDACTED

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Hi REDACTED, REDACTED is taking a few days off, so you will need to talk to me about these – but It will be me, Emily. I’ll get back to you tomorrow but I don’t have every document from March.

REDACTED, REDACTED, do you have the full record?

Kind Regards

REDACTED

Senior Project Officer | Intergovernmental Relations  
 Strategy and Planning Division  
 Department of Health & Human Services  
 11/50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

I am currently working from home; if you need to speak with me urgently please call my mobile number above.

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

From: REDACTED

Sent: Thursday, 30 July 2020 4:57 PM

To: REDACTED

REDACTED

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Hi REDAC and REDA

I am hoping you are able to assist in providing AHPPC briefings that were prepared in March.

By way of background, I am part of the team supporting the department's engagement with the Board of Inquiry into the hotel quarantine program.

At this stage, we are requesting the documents for the purpose of preparing witness statements. The documents will be shared with our legal representatives (MinterEllison) and Counsel, but not directly with the Board at this stage.

We have already engaged with Brett and have some documents relevant to this scope, but for completeness were hoping you could assist in providing all briefings prepared.

Also, apologies, but we were hoping to be able to obtain these **tomorrow, 31 July**, as we are under very tight timeframes.

Very happy to discuss if you have any questions.

Warm regards

REDACTED

Departmental Engagement Team – Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program  
 Department of Health and Human Services

REDACTED

*I am working from home until further notice, and am best contacted via Teams, mobile or email*

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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

From: REDACTED

Sent: Thursday, 30 July 2020 3:41 PM

To: REDACTED

Cc: Intergovernmental Relations Directorate (DHHS)  
 <[IntergovernmentalRelationsDirectorate@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IntergovernmentalRelationsDirectorate@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED

REDACTED

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Hi RED,

I can certainly have a look and see what we have from March, but we only started the National

Cabinet team around mid-late March, so not sure how much we will have. I'll do some investigating!

As to AHPPC, **REDACTED** is the best person to contact for those requests. He can then make sure those docs go up via the right channels (i.e. the CHO and appropriate DepSec).

Thanks,

**REDACTED**

National Cabinet Directorate (Health and Public Health)  
Intergovernmental Relations, Strategy Planning and Impact Branch  
Strategy and Planning Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Level 11, 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**REDACTED**

e: [IntergovernmentalRelationsDirectorate@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IntergovernmentalRelationsDirectorate@dhhs.vic.gov.au) | w: [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

**PROTECTED – CABINET IN CONFIDENCE**

---

**From:** **REDACTED**

**Sent:** Thursday, 30 July 2020 3:28 PM

**To:** **REDACTED**

**Cc:** Intergovernmental Relations Directorate (DHHS)

<[IntergovernmentalRelationsDirectorate@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IntergovernmentalRelationsDirectorate@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** OFFICIAL - Sensitive: National Cabinet documents for the Board of Inquiry

Hi **REDACTED**

I'm hoping you may be able to assist in providing National Cabinet (and potentially AHPPC) papers to support the department's engagement with the Board of Inquiry into the hotel quarantine program.

In discussions with Kym this afternoon, she mentioned there were a number of briefings and/or input provided into National Cabinet processes, which are relevant to us responding to the Board.

In particular, we are seeking documents from March, including a paper prepared around 25/26 March.

Would you be able to assist with providing these? Also, would you be the best person to provide AHPPC briefings, or would **REDACTED** be the appropriate contact?

Very happy to discuss.

Many thanks

**REDACTED**

Departmental Engagement Team – Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program  
Department of Health and Human Services

**REDACTED**

*I am working from home until further notice, and am best contacted via Teams, mobile or email*

**Privileged and confidential** for the purposes of responding to the Judicial Inquiry into the COVID-19 Hotel Quarantine Program

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

## Fwd: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

**From:** "Braedan Hogan (DHHS)" <REDACTED>  
**To:** "Andrea Spiteri (DHHS)" <REDACTED>  
**Date:** Wed, 01 Apr 2020 20:07:03 +1100

Assume this is separate to operational control under Dept State health controller?

Not clear on this vs that role

Or is Finn just talking about P policy

Braedan Hogan  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 REDACTED

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 8:03:10 PM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Meena Naidu (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Simon Crouch (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** Information - Chain of command - people in detention

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.

If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please, unless requested or overseen by the chain.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, REDACTED, Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended

form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED  
REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM  
**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>;  
(DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks Noel, these are useful insights and a reminder of how challenging the current situation is for all concerned. I gather the nurses are screening all persons under quarantine to identify pre-existing health conditions, management and risks as well as those who may need further assessment for COVID etc. It would be good to include the advice re: smoking cessation options in the protocol to make this available wherever possible. We acknowledge access to smoking areas will still need to be carefully managed on a case by case basis taking account of individual needs, social distancing measures and environmental constraints.

**Maria Bubnic**  
Assistant Director, Population Health

[Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division](#)  
50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040  
t. REDACTED | m. REDACTED | e. REDACTED  
w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: REDACTED t. (03) REDACTED | e. REDACTED

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>; (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi to all,

I can add that the Crown Promenade has some smoking rooms (4 or 5 from memory) they are located on a different floor. To move a smoker to that floor, potentially many times a day, requires a security guard wearing PPE to escort them to that floor. We felt that the smoker needs to also wear some PPE so that don't potentially cross-contaminate surfaces that a security guard or other people then touch. We couldn't see how we could manage that process on a regular basis so as far as I'm aware we haven't used it.

It is pretty likely that there are smokers smoking in their rooms in the bathrooms etc but obviously that runs the risk of a fire alarm being triggered. We have had a complaint from one room at the Plaza that they could smell tobacco smoke in their room.

I haven't heard anything about smoking rooms at the other two hotels.

I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

#### Noel Cleaves

Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit  
Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000  
m. REDACTED | e. REDACTED  
w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED;  
COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

#### Maria Bubnic

Assistant Director, Population Health

[Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division](#)  
50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040  
t. REDACTED | m. REDACTED | e. REDACTED  
w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: REDACTED t. (03) REDACTED | e. REDACTED

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:22 AM

**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED];  
 COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED];  
 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi all – did this progress yesterday?

Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

[Braedan Hogan](#)  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 p. [REDACTED]  
 e. [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED];  
 COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi [REDACTED]

Could you send through the smoking advice for people in detention – I can place it in the plan ASAP

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
 Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
 Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency  
 [REDACTED]

Department of Health and Human Services  
 State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 12:04 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]



Maria Bubnic (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] (DHHS)

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks [REDACTED]

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

[REDACTED]

Manager, Tobacco Control

Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

p. [REDACTED] e. [REDACTED]

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

**From:** [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 11:01 AM

**To:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

<[REDACTED]>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)

<[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]

(DHHS) <[REDACTED]>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)

<[REDACTED]>; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi I'm advised that the key issue is really about people leaving their rooms securely. With the hotel's cooperation establishing a designated smoking room/s (such as how high roller room operates) would be the best solution that has appropriate density and hygiene parameters. (There is exemption under s5A(2) I've copied in [REDACTED] the tobacco manager and those involved in compliance and enforcement.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection

t. +61 [REDACTED] | m. [REDACTED]

**From:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] (DHHS) <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS)

<[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi [REDACTED]

I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.

RE advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be able to assist?

Regards,

REDACTED

Principal Community Recovery Officer  
Emergency Management and Health Protection  
South Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844  
m. REDACTED  
e. REDACTED  
w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 9:26 PM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?

We don't have anyone

**Braedan Hogan**  
Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
p. REDACTED m. REDACTED  
e. REDACTED

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency  
REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM  
**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**  
**Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy**  
Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
p. REDACTED m. REDACTED  
e. REDACTED

## RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

---

**To:** "Maria Bubnic (DHHS)" [REDACTED] "Noel Cleaves (DHHS)" [REDACTED], "Braedan Hogan (DHHS)" [REDACTED], "REDACTED (DHHS)" [REDACTED]

**Cc:** "StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)" <semc@health.vic.gov.au>, [REDACTED] (DHHS)" [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (DHHS)" [REDACTED], "Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)" [REDACTED] (DHHS)" [REDACTED], COVID Directions <coviddirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>, sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au, [REDACTED] (DHHS)" [REDACTED], "Meena Naidu (DHHS)" <[REDACTED]> "Simon Crouch (DHHS)" [REDACTED]

**Bcc:** "Annaliese Van Diemen (DHHS)" [REDACTED], "Brett Sutton (DHHS)" [REDACTED]

**Date:** Wed, 01 Apr 2020 19:50:09 +1100

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.

If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency  
[REDACTED]

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM  
**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

(DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS)  
 [REDACTED]; COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
 <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks Noel, these are useful insights and a reminder of how challenging the current situation is for all concerned. I gather the nurses are screening all persons under quarantine to identify pre-existing health conditions, management and risks as well as those who may need further assessment for COVID etc. It would be good to include the advice re: smoking cessation options in the protocol to make this available wherever possible. We acknowledge access to smoking areas will still need to be carefully managed on a case by case basis taking account of individual needs, social distancing measures and environmental constraints.

**Maria Bubnic**  
 Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040  
 t:[REDACTED] | m:[REDACTED] | e:[REDACTED]  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: [REDACTED] t. (03) [REDACTED] | e. [REDACTED]

*I work flexibly so sending this email now works well for me. However, I know we all work differently and respect that you will consider this email at a time that suits your working arrangements.*

---

**From:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi to all,

I can add that the Crown Promenade has some smoking rooms (4 or 5 from memory) they are located on a different floor. To move a smoker to that floor, potentially many times a day, requires a security guard wearing PPE to escort them to that floor. We felt that the smoker needs to also wear some PPE so that don't potentially cross-contaminate surfaces that a security guard or other people then touch. We couldn't see how we could manage that process on a regular basis so as far as I'm aware we haven't used it.

It is pretty likely that there are smokers smoking in their rooms in the bathrooms etc but obviously that runs the risk of a fire alarm being triggered. We have had a complaint from one room at the Plaza that they could smell tobacco smoke in their room.

I haven't heard anything about smoking rooms at the other two hotels.

I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

**Noel Cleaves**

Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit  
 Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000  
 m. REDACTED 194 | e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
 Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
 COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040  
 t. REDACTED | m. REDACTED | e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact REDACTED t. REDACTED | e. REDACTED

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**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:22 AM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
 COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi all – did this progress yesterday?

Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 p. REDACTED | m. REDACTED

. REDACTED

e.

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 PM  
**To:** REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED  
 StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J  
 Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED  
 COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDACTED

Could you send through the smoking advice for people in detention – I can place it in the plan ASAP

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
 Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
 Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
 State Government of Victoria

**From:** REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 12:04 PM  
**To:** REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)  
 <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J  
 Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
 Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks REDACTED

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

REDACTED

Manager, Tobacco Control  
 Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001  
 p REDACTED e REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)





I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

**From:** REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi I'm advised that the key issue is really about people leaving their rooms securely. With the hotel's cooperation establishing a designated smoking room/s (such as how high roller room operates) would be the best solution that has appropriate density and hygiene parameters. (There is exemption under s5A(2) I've copied in REDACTED the tobacco manager and those involved in compliance and enforcement.

Ming

REDACTED  
 Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection  
 t. REDACTED | m. REDACTED

**From:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDA

I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.

RED advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be able to assist?

Regards,

REDACTED  
 Principal Community Recovery Officer  
 Emergency Management and Health Protection  
 South Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844  
 m. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 9:26 PM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>



**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?

We don't have anyone

[Braedan Hogan](#)  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 p. REDACTED m. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED

---

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
 Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
 Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency  
 REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
 State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM  
**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

[Braedan Hogan](#)  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 p. REDACTED m. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED

## Fw: Information - Chain of command - people in detention

**From:** "SCC-Vic (State Controller Health)" <"o=exchangelabs/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=e530fde44a03494db1c5b55ca5a5b173-sccvic.sctr">  
**To:** "Jason Helps (DHHS)" [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Thu, 02 Jul 2020 20:14:00 +1000

### SCC-Vic (State Controller - Health)

State Control Centre | 8 Nicholson Street East Melbourne Victoria 3002  
 Ph: 1300 368 722 (1300 EMV SCC) | Fax: 1300 13 4488 | DX: 210098  
 Email: [sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au) | Web: <https://cop.em.vic.gov.au>

**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 8:03 PM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; SCC-Vic (State Controller Health) <sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Meena Naidu (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Simon Crouch (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Information - Chain of command - people in detention

Dear colleagues

Thank you for your work.

Just an important reminder: all policy and oversight of **people in detention** is being handled in a strict chain of command, from:

- Chief Health Officer to
- Deputy CHO (today – Simon Crouch) to
- Deputy Public Health Commander Planning (Finn Romanes) to
- Director Health Regulation and Reform (Meena Naidu) to
- Authorised Officers (under Noel Cleaves and some other managers).

It is important that all direction, policy, reporting and arrangements do not break this chain.

If you have any insights or advice – please provide to the individual in the chain you deem most appropriate.

**No policies, directions, exemptions, reporting, meetings to agree policy on these people or other activity outside this chain please, unless requested or overseen by the chain.**

This strict view is vital to safeguard the wellbeing and duty of care owed by the State to these people and legal and other risks to the department and its staff, who are administering this detention regime on behalf of the Deputy Chief Health Officer and Chief Health Officer.

Legal advice is being provided on a near continuous basis to Meena and myself today on these matters.

I do reiterate a gratitude to Maria, [REDACTED], Noel, Braedan and colleagues for facilitating content for

policies and raising important issues for resolution, which we have negotiated in amended form to appear in the soon-to-be released draft Physical Distancing Plan. Thanks all.

Kind regards

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

---

**From:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 7:46 PM  
**To:** Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS) REDACTED (DHHS)  
REDACTED COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
<sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks Noel, these are useful insights and a reminder of how challenging the current situation is for all concerned. I gather the nurses are screening all persons under quarantine to identify pre-existing health conditions, management and risks as well as those who may need further assessment for COVID etc. It would be good to include the advice re: smoking cessation options in the protocol to make this available wherever possible. We acknowledge access to smoking areas will still need to be carefully managed on a case by case basis taking account of individual needs, social distancing measures and environmental constraints.

**Maria Bubnic**

Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division

50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040

t. REDACTED | m. REDACTED | e. REDACTED

w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: REDACTED t. (03) REDACTED | e. REDACTED

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**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** Maria Bubnic (DHHS) REDACTED; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus

(DHHS) REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED ; COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDA  
 REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
 <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

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I am aware that some of our AO's have made the call to allow two people to leave the Plaza hotel with a security guard to smoke to reduce an escalating situation.

I have also seen nicotine patches and gm at one hotel (Metropole) that is administered on request by the nurses.

#### Noel Cleaves

Manager Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance | Environmental Health Regulation & Compliance Unit  
 Health Protection Branch | Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000  
 m. REDACTED | e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter [@VictorianCHO](https://twitter.com/VictorianCHO)

---

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**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) REDACTED; Finn Romanes (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; Anthony J Kolmus  
 (DHHS) REDACTED; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) REDACTED;  
 REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED; COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS) REDACTED;  
 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au' <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>; REDACTED (DHHS)  
 REDACTED  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Yes it did. We plan to finalise the physical activity policy advice today.

#### Maria Bubnic

Assistant Director, Population Health

Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3040  
 t. REDACTED | m. REDACTED | e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

EA Contact: [REDACTED] t. (03) [REDACTED] e. [REDACTED]

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**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 April 2020 11:22 AM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS)  
 [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS)  
 [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (DHHS); [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus  
 (DHHS); [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] (DHHS); [REDACTED]; COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; 'sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au'  
 <[sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au](mailto:sccvic.sctrl.health@scc.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi all – did this progress yesterday?

Keen to land this and the physical recreation policy today as a priority.

Braedan

**Braedan Hogan**  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 p [REDACTED]  
 e [REDACTED]

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**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) [REDACTED]; StateEmergencyManagementCentre  
 SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>; [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)  
 [REDACTED]; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]; COVID Directions  
 <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] (DHHS) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi [REDACTED]

Could you send through the smoking advice for people in detention – I can place it in the plan ASAP

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
 Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
 Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency  
 [REDACTED]

Department of Health and Human Services

State Government of Victoria

**From:** REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 12:04 PM  
**To:** REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED> COVID Directions  
 <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS)  
 <REDACTED>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)  
 <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Anthony J Kolmus  
 (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <REDACTED>;  
 REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Maria Bubnic (DHHS)  
 <REDACTED>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks REDACTED

We have prepared some advice that we will be sending through any second now. Our recommendation is that people will be supported to manage cravings through the provision of nicotine replacement therapy and telephone counselling.

REDACTED

Manager, Tobacco Control  
 Prevention and Population Health, Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services | GPO Box 4057, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001  
 p. REDACTED e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)



I acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of country throughout Victoria and pay my respect to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future

**From:** REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 11:01 AM  
**To:** COVID Directions <COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS)  
 <REDACTED>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS)  
 <semc@health.vic.gov.au>; REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>; REDACTED  
 (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Anthony J Kolmus (DHHS)  
 <REDACTED>; Noel Cleaves (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi I'm advised that the key issue is really about people leaving their rooms securely. With the hotel's cooperation establishing a designated smoking room/s (such as how high roller room operates) would be the best solution that has appropriate density and hygiene parameters. (There is exemption under s5A(2) I've copied in REDACTED the tobacco manager and those involved in compliance and enforcement.

REDACTED

REDACTED

Principal Regulatory Policy Advisor Health Protection

t. REDACTED | m. REDACTED

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**From:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 March 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** REDACTED (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Subject:** FW: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi REDA

I have started today monitoring the COVIC directions inbox. Nice to e-meet you.

RED advised you may be able to assist with this or point me in the direction of someone that may be able to assist?

Regards,

REDACTED  
 Principal Community Recovery Officer  
 Emergency Management and Health Protection  
 South Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 8-12 Seymour Street (PO Box 1661), Traralgon, Victoria, 3844  
 m. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED  
 w. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

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**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 9:26 PM  
**To:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Thanks – do we have a health prevention person that can develop this?

We don't have anyone

Braedan Hogan  
 Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy  
 Emergency Management Branch  
 Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
 Department of Health and Human Services  
 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
 p. REDACTED | m. REDACTED  
 e. REDACTED

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**From:** Finn Romanes (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:53 PM  
**To:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>  
**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

There is in principle support in here for allowing a person – if monitored in some way – to have a smoking break on a balcony or outdoors if that is the lesser harm option.

Can you put a proposal up with parameters / strict parameters and I will ask Annaliese to endorse as a policy?

Finn

Dr Finn Romanes  
Deputy Public Health Commander - Planning  
Novel Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

REDACTED

Department of Health and Human Services  
State Government of Victoria

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**From:** Braedan Hogan (DHHS) <REDACTED>

**Sent:** Monday, 30 March 2020 5:23 PM

**To:** Merrin Bamert (DHHS) <REDACTED>; Finn Romanes (DHHS)

<REDACTED>

**Cc:** COVID Directions <[COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDdirections@dhhs.vic.gov.au)>; StateEmergencyManagementCentre SEMC (DHHS) <[semc@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:semc@health.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Smoking policy - Operation Soteria

Hi – we need to develop a policy position on allowing smoking at the hotels.

I think this need to be considered with input with AO on the ground and how this can be operationalised.

Braedan

[Braedan Hogan](#)  
[Deputy Director, Strategy and Policy](#)  
Emergency Management Branch  
Regulation, Health Protection & Emergency Management Division  
Department of Health and Human Services  
50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne Victoria 3000

REDACTED

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