

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

Australian Government's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Written question from 21 August 2020

PDR Number: IQ20-000520

Advice from AHPPC on medical concerns and border closure between states

Written

Senator: Perin Davey

Question:

1. What advice has the AHPPC provided to State and Territory governments regarding border closures within Australia?
2. What role has the AHPPC had concerning border arrangements between New South Wales and Victoria?
3. Has the AHPPC considered the necessity for cross-border travellers to only travel by air and only to one location in another state such as the current requirement for all travellers from Victoria to New South Wales?
4. If the AHPPC has not provided specific advice, are you aware of, and can you share, any medical advice that recommends closing state borders or limiting entry into a state to air travel only?
5. Are there medical concerns regarding funnelling people via a Covid-19 hotspot to facilitate travel as is currently the case for people wishing to travel from Victoria to NSW regardless of the number of Covid-19 cases they are travelling from?

Answer:

Decisions on domestic border closures are the responsibility of the state and territory governments. This includes any changes to exemptions and restrictions, and how traffic is managed in relation to transit across borders.

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Department of Health

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Written question received 21 August 2020

PDR Number: IQ20-000574

Recent modelling undertaken reviewing the effectiveness of domestic border measures

Written

Senator: Katy Gallagher

Question:

Please provide the "recent modelling undertaken to specifically review the effectiveness of domestic border measures" referred to in the Department's answer to QoN IQ20-000356

Answer:

There has been no recent modelling undertaken to specifically review the effectiveness of domestic border measures.

The Department of Health is correcting the answer to QoN IQ20-000356.

Details of the modelling being produced for the Commonwealth, and the methods used, can be found on the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity website:
www.doherty.edu.au.