

Warrigal

Inspiring communities
for older people

From the desk of
**Executive
Operations**



28 June 2021

Warrigal Update

Dear resident representatives and relatives

There have been some significant developments with COVID-19 cases in NSW over the past 48 hours resulting in some significant restrictions impacting all of our care homes, while the 14-day lockdown that initially related to four Local Government Areas in Sydney has now been extended to the Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Government Areas. This is a result of 111 positive cases in the past week after more than 280,000 tests conducted.

As of 26 June 2021, the following restrictions are in place for care homes in the Wollongong and Shellharbour LGAs until midnight on 9 July 2021;

- All visitors are excluded from entering the care home unless they are providing essential care functions.
- Essential care functions include compassionate grounds where the resident/customer is at the end-of-life, or if the care being provided relies on the family or friend supporting the resident/customer. If you would like to clarify if you meet the criteria for essential care functions, please discuss with the local management team.
- All staff and any visitors that meet the above criteria must wear a face mask at all times.
- Residents/Customers from the Wollongong and Shellharbour LGAs should not leave the care home except for essential reasons such as a medical appointment.

For all other homes in NSW, Bundanoon, Goulburn and Queanbeyan, visits are still permitted with the following conditions;

- All staff and visitors must wear a face mask.
- Only two visitors for each resident/customer on a daily basis.
- Visits should be in the residents'/customers' room.
- No visitors are permitted from Greater Sydney, which includes Wollongong and Shellharbour.

While the ACT is yet to record a case of COVID-19 as a result of the current outbreak in NSW, there are a large number of people that have indicated that they have recently been on Greater Sydney, and as a result, mandatory face mask requirements were put in place from midnight on 28 June 2021. There are no restrictions on the number of residents entering the home, but it will be necessary for face masks to be worn.

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If there are any significant changes to the existing arrangements, then a further update will be provided.

If you have questions about how the COVID-19 outbreak in Greater Sydney affects you or your loved ones, Seniors Rights Service and the Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN) will be holding a Zoom meeting from 3.00pm – 4pm on Tuesday 29 June. This meeting will allow you to ask questions you may have about the current outbreak and how it affects you and your loved ones. To register for this free event, [click here](#).

On Tuesday, we will be reviewing the Outbreak Management Plans in our care homes, to ensure that the actions and responsibilities are still current.

We have continued to meet regularly this year on our preparedness for COVID-19, with a particular focus on the vaccine for staff and residents, and this is a timely reminder of the importance for visitors to also take the opportunity to be vaccinated.

As always, your feedback is always welcome and is important for us if we are going to establish trust and provide a quality service. There are many ways that you can provide this feedback including contacting your local management team, calling 1800 927 744 or by emailing us at warrigal@warrigal.com.au.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'CS' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Craig Smith
Executive Leader - Service Integrated Communities