

Circular 278:03:20



To: Club Captains
Patrol Captains
LSOC Delegates
Active Members
Area Lifesaving Operations Officers

Cc: Club Presidents
LSOC Executive
Club Secretaries

From: Kane Treloar, Director – Lifesaving Services

Date: 18 March 2020

Subject: **Statement on LSV Operations in response to COVID-19**

Action: Read, circulate and action as required

For additional details on this Circular please contact:
Lifesaving Operations on 03 9676 6930 or email lifesavingoperations@lsv.com.au
Circulars are available at www.lsv.com.au/circulars

Statement from Kane Treloar, Director – Lifesaving Services on LSV Operational response to the current corona virus [COVID-19]

Dear Clubs and Members,

Over the last few weeks, we have seen a number of communications coming out in relation to the everchanging corona virus (COVID -19) situation across the world, Australia and the state.

One thing that is clear is that Life Saving Victoria (LSV) has been proactive in its planning and actions, and has worked extremely hard to ensure there is a robust and adaptable plan that will guide us through the next few months. From an operational perspective I wanted to outline the strategy moving forward and highlight the expectations over the next few weeks.

Patrols/Protocols key points:

- At LSV we are asking you maintain your 'status quo' in relation to patrols on beaches.
- This is in-line with warmer states' approach and aligns with Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Federal Government advice; as well as the expectations on LSV from our emergency services partners.
- The risk to patrolling members in the patrolling environments can be mitigated if they follow this [First responder check list \(which has been developed with the support of Ambulance Victoria\)](#).
- Clubs will be sent an individual care package to their postage address in support of your need for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This should be received within the next week.

If there is a requirement to make an application to adapt or modify patrols we would ask that this be communicated in writing via this [Online Form](#). This will then prompt a discussion with your VSO, Manager of Lifesaving Operations or Director of Lifesaving Services to ensure we fully understand your circumstance and reason for adapting patrols.

I would emphasize that this approach is two-fold:

- 1) We are utilising the most recent and relevant advice and information to ensure the wellbeing of our members.
- 2) We are not ignoring the safety requirement of the Victorian public at our beaches.

Should government advice dictate we are to go to unmanned beaches, LSV will communicate this to all Clubs as well as ensuring there is a media brief to highlight changes.



We need to be proactive in our approach as first responders to ensure we are acting appropriately. Thank you for all you are doing and for your professional and considered approach in the delivery of what is a vital and ever-changing service.

There will be an opportunity for the Club Presidents to hear more from the team tomorrow evening at 5:30pm at the CLC COVID-19 briefing.

If you or any of your members have any questions, please do not hesitate to make contact with the Operations team on 03 9676 6930 or email lifesavingoperations@lsv.com.au.

Please keep up to date with the latest information which can be found at:

- 1) <https://lsv.com.au/healthalerts/>
- 2) <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

Regards,

Kane Treloar
Director – Lifesaving Services
Life Saving Victoria