

11/1/2021

Dear HEC

I'm writing to provide feedback regarding the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2020. I applaud the fact that Queensland has achieved very few cases and that the role of the CHO has been very difficult in the current pandemic environment.

However I feel recent decisions regarding closures and lockdowns have lacked evidence and have been rushed reactions that have not considered the wider picture of the health of Queenslanders.

Where was the evidence that wearing a mask when driving will achieve anything? Surely running and cycling could occur without spreading CoVID with only one active case in an area of more than 2 million people?

Was the overall mental and physical health of Queenslanders considered when making these decisions eg as a family we are dealing with the consequence of two 80+ year old parents who were active members of their community and are now drinking a very significant amount of alcohol and gained excessive weight; and at the other end of the spectrum, we have children aged 17-24 years who are restricted from meeting friends and are not experiencing new social interactions.

I feel NSW seems to have taken a more sensible approach throughout the pandemic. However, overall I feel the decision regarding closures and lockdowns could have been done within a national management plan.

Regards

Robert Henderson

