

## COMMUNITY VISITOR SCHEME

### Report under section 10A(5) of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020*

I publish the following report as required under section 10A(5) of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020* for the reporting period of 15 November 2020 to 14 December 2020.

This report may be accessed at [www.communityvisitorscheme.sa.gov.au](http://www.communityvisitorscheme.sa.gov.au).

#### 1. Visits by the Community Visitor Scheme that have occurred by audiovisual or other electronic means <sup>1</sup>

(a) Volunteers of the Community Visitor Scheme have undertaken 25 audiovisual visits for the reporting period, comprised as follows:

a. Visits under the *Disability Services (Community Visitor Scheme) Regulations 2013*

Nil. There were no visits undertaken by audiovisual or other electronic means during this reporting period.

b. Visits under the *Mental Health Act 2009*

There were 16 visits undertaken by audiovisual or other electronic means during this reporting period

Method of visit	Date of visit	Time of visit	Name and Location of premises
Video	18/11/2020	9:30am	Western Intermediate Care Centre
Video	19/11/2020	10:00am	Noarlunga Hospital
Video	24/11/2020	2:00pm	Ward 18V & Ward 4GP, Flinders Medical Centre
Video	3/12/2020	10:00am	Southern Intermediate Care Centre
Video	3/12/2020	11:00am	Trevor Parry Centre
Video	3/12/2020	10:00am	Jamie Larcombe Centre, Glenside Health Services

<sup>1</sup> Section 10A(5)(a)-(c) of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020*

Video	3/12/2020	11:00am	Inpatient Rehabilitation Service, Glenside Health Services
Video	7/12/2020	11:00am	Whyalla Hospital
Video	7/12/2020	11:00am	Northern Community Mental Health Service
Video	9/12/2020	10:00am	Woodleigh House, Modbury Hospital
Video	10/12/2020	2:00pm	Northgate House
Video	10/12/2020	2:00pm	Helen Mayo House, Glenside Health Services
Video	10/12/2020	3:00pm	Rural and Remote, Glenside Health Services
Video	14/12/2020	11:00am	Wondakka Community Rehabilitation Centre
Video	14/12/2020	2:00pm	Tarnanthi Sub-Acute unit, Glenside Health Services
Video	14/12/2020	3:00pm	Boylan Ward, Women's and Children's Hospital

c. Visits under the *COVID-19 Emergency Response (Schedule 1) Regulations 2020*

The CVS was informed of nine detention orders made under these regulations during the reporting period. The CVS undertook audiovisual visits for the nine people detained under those orders at three locations.

One person was detained at a premises in Seaford, two people were detained at a premises in Kilburn and six people were detained at a premises at Brompton. Details of the visits follow below.

<b>Method of Visit</b>	<b>Date of Visit</b>	<b>Time of Visit</b>	<b>Number of persons detained at this location</b>	<b>Location</b>
Video	24/11/2020	9:30am	2	Kilburn
Video	27/11/2020	9:30am	1	Seaford
Video	2/12/2020	9:30am	6	Brompton

**(b) Reasons why each such visit or inspection may occur by audiovisual or other electronic means <sup>2</sup>**

The CVS is required to visit and inspect mental health treatment centres and authorised community mental health facilities. The CVS also undertakes annual visits and inspections of state funded disability services accommodation, and at other times as requested. Visits must be conducted by myself or by volunteer Community Visitors in person.

Section 10A of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020* came into effect on 15 May 2020, authorising the CVS to undertake visits and inspections by audiovisual means, where practical.

From mid-May to mid-July 2020, CVS visits were conducted by audiovisual means to protect volunteers and clients of the CVS from the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Some facilities have also restricted access to residents and patients to minimise the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

The CVS has scheduled audiovisual visits and inspections based on the availability of volunteer Community Visitors and the mental health and disability accommodation facilities.

Visits are undertaken using audio-visual technology. If this is not available, a visit is undertaken by telephone.

The CVS reinstated in-person visits, where appropriate, from mid-July 2020 but returned to audiovisual visits in November 2020 in accordance with public health advice. The CVS will resume in-person visits as soon as possible.

All in-person visits are conducted in a COVID safe manner and in compliance with the policies and procedures of the local sites. CVS will continue to undertake a mix of in-person and audiovisual visits, tailored to the individual circumstances of the client and facility or residence.

**2. Visits under the *Mental Health Act 2009*<sup>3</sup>**

The CVS is required to visit and inspect mental health treatment centres and authorised community mental health facilities bi-monthly.

It was not possible to visit the following mental health facility in person or by audiovisual means during the reporting period:

<b>Name and Location of premises</b>
Ashton House
North East Community Mental Health Service

**Anne Gale**  
**Acting Principal Community Visitor**  
15 December 2020

<sup>2</sup> Section 10A(5)(d) of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020*

<sup>3</sup> Section 10A(5)(e) of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020*