

NSW JEWISH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Operated by the CSG NSW Crisis Management Team

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NSW Jewish Community Response to COVID-19

Update as at 18 March 2020



The Decision Makers Group (DMG) of NSW Jewish Communal Leaders is continuing to monitor the global spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. As previously advised a decision was made to activate the Jewish Emergency Management Plan (JEMP) on 12 March 2020. JEMP is operated by CSG's Crisis Management Team (CMT).

The DMG is chaired by the President of the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies (Lesli Berger) with the support of the ECAJ President (Jillian Segal) and NSW Council for Jewish Community Security Chair (Peter Wise). Other members of the DMG are the deputies and professional staff of those organisations, the leadership of CSG, and the President of JCA (Stephen Chipkin).

The DMG and CMT have taken the following steps:

1. The DMG is holding regular (daily) meetings in conjunction with the CMT and the Head of Security, Matthew Meyerson.
2. The DMG is continuing to assess and review the scope of any crisis or community needs and develop systems to support the community in areas where it's most vulnerable.
3. David Rothman, the immediate past Head of Security in NSW has been appointed to the DMG to assist in developing the committee's crisis strategies.
4. Meetings have been held with all relevant stakeholders from Jewish Schools, Synagogues, Institutions and Essential Community Services and technology platforms for the coordination and sharing of information have been established.
5. Sub committees of expert advisers have been established in relation to the potential medical and financial ramifications for the NSW Jewish Community.

Global events and the current pandemic have overtaken the routine function of society, business and community and we anticipate further developments in the coming weeks and months could potentially have a major impact on us, our community and our way of life. The CMT is working swiftly in its endeavour to coordinate and put in place measures which are designed to help Communal organisations tackle these issues. The aim is to ensure that every Jewish person in NSW has access to essential services and assistance when and if required. The CSG mantra is to protect Jewish Life and the Jewish way of Life. This is our priority.

We encourage you to continue to provide strong and confident leadership, to head the warnings and recommendations of our Government, and to feel comforted in the knowledge that we are quickly forming a coordinated approach, with the support and advice of experts in their fields.

To assist in ensuring you are receiving up to date information, we encourage you to join the CSG NSW Facebook Group, to download the CSG Alert app, and to check your emails regularly for updates.