



UNIVERSITY of  
TASMANIA

Thursday, 12 March 2020

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## COVID-19 update

Please find below a copy of the message University of Tasmania Vice-Chancellor Professor Rufus Black send to staff and students this morning:

Dear staff and students,

I am writing to update you on information we have received from Public Health that we have had someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 on our Sandy Bay campus.

We have been advised:

*"A woman in her 30s has tested positive for coronavirus in Tasmania. She is currently in a stable condition in the Royal Hobart Hospital.*

*It is Tasmania's third confirmed case of coronavirus. The other two cases remain in medical care and are stable. This latest case is not related to either of the previous cases and is not due to local transmission in Tasmania.*

*The woman travelled to Australia from South America via New Zealand and arrived in Hobart on Sunday 8 March from Sydney aboard Jetstar flight JQ727 which landed about 10.20pm."*

*The woman also informed PHS that she visited UTAS' Sandy Bay Campus on Monday 9 March. She was at the Morris Miller library between 9.30am to 5.30pm.*

*While the risk to any other member of the public who was at these venues at the same time is very low, anyone who was at these venues at the above times who is feeling unwell in the 14 days after they were there should contact the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738."*

The advice from Public health is that:

- There have been no close contacts and for the people who were at those places there is very low risk.
- They need to monitor themselves for 14 days and if they become sick notify the public hotline on 1800 671 738.
- They should go on with their lives as normal.
- There is no need for the University to close or clean any of the settings above their normal routine.

We appreciate an event like this naturally causes anxiety and that people will be wondering what the next steps might be.

The University has a clear plan that when there is local transmission in Tasmania we will move to online delivery of teaching to the greatest extent possible, a model to rotate people to work from home where possible and careful management of those circumstances where people need to work on campus.

This current case is not a case of local transmission.  
If you have concerns or questions, please phone our help desk on 03 6226 2600.

Kind regards,

Professor Rufus Black  
Vice-Chancellor

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