



Smart Lockdown

- Summary of updated proposals -

DA working position paper: Updated 23 April 2020

Smart lockdown

On the 13th of April **the DA proposed a Smart Lockdown**, that is load-shedding like stages of economic and social activity coupled with smart interventions. This is the model we proposed:

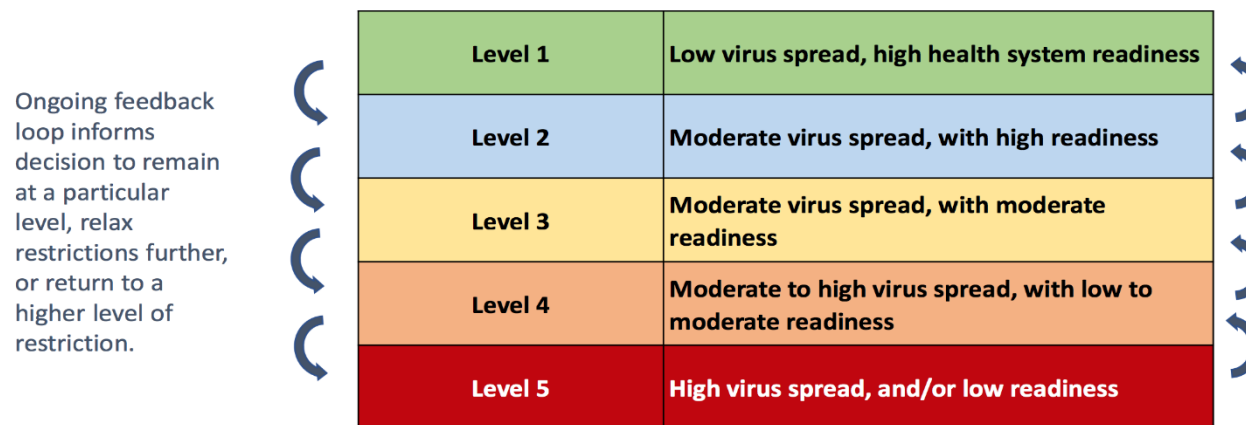
	PUBLIC SECTOR	PRIVATE SECTOR	INDIVIDUALS	GOODS	TRANSPORT
Stage 4: Hard lockdown	Institutions necessary for provision of essential services.	Workplaces necessary for provision of essential goods and services.	Obtain/perform essential service or good. Funeral < 10. Seek emergency, chronic care.	Essential goods or services.	Private vehicles, limited public transport.
Stage 3: Soft lockdown	Institutions necessary for provision of essential services.	Primary, secondary sector firms, retail stores open. All subject to social distancing regs. Places of entertainment, leisure and lifestyle to remain closed.	Obtain any service or good available. Go to work if permitted. Funeral < 10. Seek emergency, chronic medical care.	Extended consumer goods, with some restrictions still in place.	Private vehicles, limited public transport within area of residence, all domestic travel for commercial vehicles.
Stage 2: Soft open	All public institutions subject to social distancing.	All business to open, subject to social distancing and use of PPE (incl. other health protocols). Restricted opening hours.	Obtain any good or service available. Travel domestically. Attend social gatherings < 100 with use of PPE. Seek medical care.	All consumer goods.	Private vehicles, all public transport incl. domestic air travel, commercial vehicles, air travel to be limited.
Stage 1: Open	All public institutions subject to social distancing.	All business to open, subject to social distancing and use of PPE (incl. other health protocols). Unrestricted opening hours.	Obtain any good or service available. Go to work. Domestic and international travel to low-risk countries. Attend social gatherings < 500 with use of PPE. Seek medical care.	All consumer goods.	Private vehicles, domestic transport, commercial vehicles, air travel to/from all but high-risk countries.

*The content in this table is purely for illustrative purposes to show a lockdown in different stages.

**South Africa will need to develop at a national level stages in consultation with stakeholders.

***Stages are non-linear, country could move from stage 2 back to stage 4 if situation warranted.

There is **growing and broad agreement on a gradual return to economic activity**, with the national government having proposed the following:



Variables which are crucial to the next stage of a smart/phased lockdown

As we contemplate moving to a more moderate stage of restrictions the following will be critical to our country's success:

- **Data transparency.** Decisions cannot be made without reliable data and nor can policymakers gain the trust of the public and obtain support for their actions. There is agreement, between the national government and the DA, that how we move between stages will be dependent on epidemiological trends and risk of infection. This is an incredibly data intensive exercise, which requires transparency with the public. **Appendix A** contains a dashboard of all the necessary data which needs to be publicly available and regularly reported on. This includes the data to be drilled down to a local level, which allow for region specific stages of lockdown.
- **Progress on testing, tracking, and tracing.** This is the single most important factor in our fight against the pandemic. All the money we can spend must be directed at ensuring we can 1) conduct tests randomly, 2) at scale 3) with a 24 hour turn around, 4) coupled with the deployment of track and trace technology.
- **Free masks for all.**
- **Getting money into the hands of individuals and businesses.**
- **Sector specific health protocols and workplace risk assessment and mitigation measures.**
- **Parliamentary oversight.**

Therefore, in this next phase the DA will be placing its focus on the above.

No expense should be spared in ramping up testing and procuring free masks for all. Money spent in these areas will be less than what it will cost us economically should we fail to successfully implement these interventions.

Wherever we are unable to meet targets or to report on data there must be information on the specific challenges and backlogs. The public needs to be brought into the government's confidence on all aspects.

Proposed gradual lift of restrictions

The government at a national level is considering a risk adjusted approach to economic activity which priorities industries to return to work which meet the following criterion:

1. Have acceptably low transmission risk (or be able to attain this through mitigation measures) **and any of the following**
2. Be of critical value to the economy or
3. Be under severe near-term economic stress

We support this approach as it is in line with our proposal to pursue an effective health strategy at the lowest economic and social cost. We would urge that the first criteria take precedence.

Any business able to operate at acceptably low transmission risk, should be allowed to operate as soon as possible. Since it is the risk of transmission which is keeping economic activity closed. At this time every single business is of critical value to the economy and many are under near-term economic stress.

Transparency is absolutely crucial. The set of questions and/or indicators used to assess the risk of each industry need to be made publicly available. There might be room for industries to innovate and implement mitigation measures in areas which are responsible for pushing the industry into a higher risk category.

In order to open up there needs to be **health protocols put in place for each sector** which establish standards for what appropriate distancing and hygiene look like and how it is to be achieved in that environment. Ideally the protocols must be in line with every stage of the lockdown. Some sectors may well require protocols which are more stringent in higher stages of lockdown, and relax as the stage of lockdown lowers. Further still, other sectors may require the same level of protocol regardless of the stage in which the country is in. Every organisation and business must be able meet the relevant sectoral guidelines in order to reopen. This applies as well to public institutions such as schools.

Every organisation and business must fill in a workplace risk assessment and mitigation form. This form must be made available on the business premise and website. This will inform the public, policymakers, suppliers, and customers of the risks inherent to that business and the mitigation measures which the business has put in place to deal with those risks. An example of what this might look like can be found here <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/guidance-documents/risk-informed-decision-making-workplaces-businesses-covid-19-pandemic.html>

As the economy opens up public transport will be a central nexus of human interaction. Three criteria will remain crucial:

- Everyone on public transport to be masked
- Everyone on public transport to sanitise their hands
- Public transport vehicles to be sanitized regularly

Restrictions which can be lifted immediately

While health protocols for each sector and stage are being put in place in the next week, we would recommend the following be prioritised:

- Only stores selling essential items are permitted to be open to the public. However, ALL items that are stocked by these stores, should be allowed to be sold. This includes any electronics, stationery, books, beauty products and cigarettes.
- Stores selling non-essential items may open for the purpose of fulfilling delivery orders but may not have customers in the store. Those able to fulfill orders remotely without having to open physical stores are encouraged to do so.
- Any store offering a service which is possible to carry out without having customers in store may open e.g. laundromat, repair shops, courier services etc. may make drop and go/pick up and go point with set collection times for each customer.
- Any restaurant or fast food outlet should be allowed to open their kitchens through a home delivery service.
- All Ecommerce stores should be allowed to operate.

All of these approaches would require strict social distancing adherence and masks for all.

It is important that all retail outlets like food stores, pharmacies and hardware stores enable 1 hour of the day specifically for persons aged 60 and above as they are most at risk of infection and should avoid as much interaction with the population as possible.

Cigarettes:

The continued ban on cigarettes is illogical, unjustifiable and creating an illicit market worth Billions of Rands, as well as a criminal network surrounding it.

The only way to neutralise this threat is to allow the sale of cigarettes which will have the effect of stemming violence that is starting be seen around this and reignite much needed revenue into the fiscus through taxes on sales.

Alcohol sales:

The second illicit market that has developed is around alcohol which is fueling the looting of liquor stores and distribution centres. This is only set to get worse.

The argument for the ban on booze is that there is a link between alcohol and injuries that require hospital treatment. This statement is not untrue. However, these are normally seen in cycles in a week, particularly over the weekend period and are accompanied by on-consumption drinking at clubs, bars and restaurants. On-consumption outlets should remain closed and the consumption of alcohol should only happen in private households. Localised full ban on alcohol sales could be used where hospitals require immediate relief on load.

Stage 1 (Open): Normal sales resume in compliance with granted liquor license.

Stage 2 (Soft Open): Sale resumes in compliance with granted liquor license but with continued limited sales.

Stage 3 (Soft Lockdown): Sale is limited to less restrictive hours, 10am to 5pm weekdays, Saturday, 10am to 1pm with a limit on stock to be bought.

Stage 4 (Hard Lockdown): Sale is limited to restricted hours 10am to 3pm week- days with a limit on stock to be bought.

Appendix A: Data dashboard

Indicator	Currently available?	Available at:
Cases		
Total cases (national)	Yes	https://sacoronavirus.co.za/
Total deaths (national)	Yes	https://sacoronavirus.co.za/
Total recoveries (national)	Yes	https://sacoronavirus.co.za/
Testing		
Total tests (national)	Yes	https://sacoronavirus.co.za/
Average time between testing and reporting (national)	No	
Community health worker (CHW) infection rate (national)	No	
Results of continuous random testing for prevalence and symptoms classified by: - Age - Area - HIV status	No	
Total testing capacity per day (district/area)	No	
Total tests performed per day (area/district) by -Type of test (antigen vs antibody) -Randomised vs targeted -CHW or general public	No	
Case numbers by area/district -Daily new cases -Total cases -Active cases -Total recoveries -Daily deaths -Total deaths	No	
Hospital load/capacity		
Total hospital capacity (national) -Number of beds	No	

-Number of ICU beds -Number of ventilators		
Number of patients hospitalised (national) -All -Covid-related	No	
Number of patients requiring ICU/ventilator (national) -All -Covid-related	No	
Number of Covid patients by area/district -Total -Daily new cases -number requiring ICU/ventilator	No	
Total hospital capacity and occupancy by area/district -ICU beds - ventilators -ICU beds used by COVID patients	No	
PPE		
Total supply of PPE -PPE per health worker (area/district) -Cloth masks per person (area/district)	No	
Economic support		
SMME support (DSBD Debt Relief Fund) -List of business applying -List of businesses receiving -Rand amount loaned per business -Total Rand amount loaned	No	
Temporary Employee Relief Scheme (TERS) -Number employees receiving	No	

relief -Rand amount of total relief given -List of businesses that have received relief for employees including Rand amount		
UIF payments -Monthly rand amount paid out to the unemployed -Number of unemployed receiving relief	No	
Covid grant payments -Rand amount paid per month -Number of recipients paid per month	No	
Basic Income Grant payments to the unemployed not on UIF or grants (R350 per month) -Rand amount paid per month -Number of recipients paid per month	No	
IDC/DTI funding -Number of firms applying for funding -Number of firms receiving funding	No	
Solidarity fund -Rand value of assets -Rand value and details of expenditure	No	