

**DIRECTIONS WHILE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DATED 4 SEPTEMBER  
2020 IS IN FORCE**

**Sections 263, 264 and 268(4) of the *Corrective Services Act 2006***

On 4 September 2020 I, Peter Martin APM, Commissioner, Queensland Corrective Services, with the approval of the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services, declared that an emergency exists in relation to all corrective services facilities for the period commencing on 7 September 2020 and expiring at 11:59pm on 2 October 2020 (the **Declaration**).

The Declaration was made following extensive consultation with the Chief Health Officer, Queensland Health and the State Health Emergency Coordination Centre who believed it was necessary to make the Declaration to assist in containing, or to respond to, the spread of COVID-19 within corrective services facilities and the wider community.

On 3 September 2020, I made a decision pursuant to section 157(1A) of the *Corrective Services Act 2006 (CSA)*, and effective at 12:00 am on 4 September 2020, to suspend all visitor access approvals for personal visitors to all corrective services facilities (the **3 September 2020 Personal Visit Suspension Decision**).

On 18 September 2020, I made a decision to lift the suspension on visitor access approvals for personal visitors to the following corrective services facilities only:

- Lotus Glen Correctional Centre;
- Townsville Correctional Centre; and
- Capricornia Correctional Centre.

Today, in recognition of the current low rate of COVID-19 transmission within Queensland and the subsequent easing of community restrictions, and in consultation with Queensland Health, I have decided pursuant to section 157(1A) of the CSA to revoke the 3 September 2020 Personal Visit Suspension Decision in its entirety effective 12:01 am on 28 September 2020.

I direct that:

1. the wearing of face masks as approved personal protective equipment is mandatory for QCS staff or approved visitors to the Escort and Security Branch (**ESB**) and any corrective services facility in circumstances where social distancing is not possible and as otherwise directed by Queensland Health personnel;
2. the wearing of face masks as approved personal protective equipment is mandatory for all prisoners while being transported by the ESB, in circumstances where social distancing is not possible and otherwise as directed by Queensland Health personnel;
3. the following QCS policies will apply to all corrective services facilities:
  - a. the 'Managing New Admissions Reception Prisoners and COVID-19 Isolation'
  - b. the 'Managing Employee Health Risks to COVID-19' policy;
  - c. the 'Managing Vulnerable Prisoners' policy;

These directions are made pursuant to sections 263(2), 264 and 268(4) of the CS Act. They have been made in consultation with Queensland Health and the Chief Health Officer and in accordance with the approach taken by the Queensland Government to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

Given the high risks to a vulnerable prison population if COVID-19 were to enter a corrective services facility, I consider that any impact on the human rights of prisoners, staff, family members or any other person as a result of these directions is demonstrably justifiable.

These directions take effect from 12:01 am on 28 September 2020, revoking and replacing the previous directions made by me pursuant to sections 263(2) and 268(4) of the CS Act on 18 September 2020. These directions will remain in place until revoked or replaced by me.



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Peter Martin APM

Commissioner, Queensland Corrective Services

24 September 2020