

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 12:00am 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**).

Today, in light of there being no known cases of community transmission in central and northern Queensland, and with the support of Queensland Health, I have 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 (the **Stage 1 corrective services facilities**).

The 3 September 2020 Personal Visit Suspension Decision remains in place for all corrective services facilities other than the Stage 1 corrective services facilities until further notice, for a period of up to one year from 3 September 2020.

I direct that:

1. In addition to the suspension of access approvals for personal visitors under the 3 September 2020 Personal Visit Suspension Decision, all visitor access to a **Stage 3 corrective services facility** is prohibited other than access by:
 - a. an accredited visitor where access is approved by me;
 - b. a government visitor where access is approved by me;
 - c. a casual site visitor where access is approved by me;
 - d. a law enforcement visitor;
 - e. an emergency services officer;
 - f. a professional visitor whose attendance is necessary to perform health duties or provide psychological care and access is approved by me;
 - g. a commercial visitor whose attendance is necessary to perform essential maintenance or delivery of essential goods and services and access is approved by me;
 - h. elders, respected persons and spiritual healers, where access is approved by me; and
 - i. religious visitors, where access is approved by me.
2. 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 other than the Stage 1 corrective services facilities;

3. 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;
4. the following QCS policies will apply to all corrective services facilities:
 - a. the 'Managing Prisoner Receptions' policy (including 14-day isolation of new admissions under that policy);
 - b. the 'Managing Employee Health Risks to COVID-19' policy;
 - c. the 'Managing Vulnerable Prisoners' policy;
5. for the purposes of these directions:
 - a. Each of the following is a **Stage 3 corrective services facility**:
 - Borallon Training and Correctional Centre;
 - Brisbane Correctional Centre;
 - Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre;
 - Wolston Correctional Centre;
 - Southern Queensland Correctional Centre;
 - Princess Alexandra Hospital Secure Unit;
 - Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre.

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 21 September 2020, revoking and replacing the previous directions made by me pursuant to sections 263(2) and 268(4) of the CS Act on 11 September 2020. These directions will remain in place until revoked or replaced by me.



Peter Martin APM

Commissioner, Queensland Corrective Services

18 September 2020