

DIRECTIONS WHILE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DATED 8 JUNE 2020 IS IN FORCE

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

On 8 June 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 (the Declaration) for a period of 90 days from 9 June 2020 until 11:59pm on 6 September 2020.

The Declaration was made following advice from the Chief Health Officer 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 29 July 2020, in light of new cases of COVID-19 recorded in South East Queensland, the potential for community transmission of COVID-19 within those areas and in consultation with the State Health Emergency Coordination Centre and the Chief Health Officer, I made a decision (the Suspension Decision) to suspend all visitor access approvals for the following corrective services facilities pursuant to section 157 (1A) of the *Corrective Services Act 2006* (CS Act):

- Maryborough
- Woodford
- Numinbah
- Brisbane
- Brisbane Women's
- Wolston
- Arthur Gorrie
- Helana Jones
- Borallon
- Southern Queensland
- Palen Creek Correctional Centres

The Suspension Decision was to remain in place until further notice, for a period of up to one year. In light of the current low rate of COVID-19 transmission within South East Queensland, and in consultation with Queensland Health and the State Health Emergency Coordination Centre, I now direct that the Suspension Decision is revoked effective on and from 12 August 2020.

I also direct that while the Declaration is in force:

1. the Queensland Corrective Services 'Managing Employee Health Risks to COVID-19' policy will continue to apply to all corrective services facilities;
2. the Queensland Corrective Services 'Managing Vulnerable Prisoners' policy will continue to apply to all corrective services facilities; and
3. the Queensland Corrective Services 'Managing new admission reception prisoners and COVID-19 Isolation' policy continues to apply to all corrective services facilities.

These directions are made pursuant to sections 263(2) and 268(4) of the CS Act. They have been made in consultation with Queensland Health, the State Health Emergency Coordination Centre 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 revoke and replace the previous directions made by me pursuant to sections 263(2) and 268(4) of the CS Act on 29 July 2020.



Peter Martin APM

Commissioner, Queensland Corrective Services

12 August 2020