



3 August 2020

Our Residents and Representatives
The Cairns Aged Care Centre
The Salvation Army Aged Care

RE: A COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear All,

On 2 August 2020, the Queensland Government updated their advice with regards to areas of increased community transmission of COVID-19 in Queensland. This will affect The Cairns Aged Care Centre under the Local Government Area of Brisbane City. According to the update, the Brisbane City Local Government Area is one of the restricted areas for visiting aged care facilities.

You can review more information about this direction at the following link: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/aged-care-restricted-areas-covid-19>

The direction applies from 12.01 pm on 2 August 2020 until the end of the declared public health emergency, unless it is revoked or replaced. The purpose of this direction is to identify Queensland COVID-19 restricted areas for:

- [Public Health Direction – Aged Care \(No.8\)](#) or its successor

According to Aged Care Direction (No.8), The Cairns Aged Care Centre is now a restricted residential aged care facility. Please see the following as extracted from the direction as it relates to The Cairns Aged Care Centre:

[PART 3 — REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE FACILITIES](#)

19. *The purpose of this Part is to provide requirements for **restricted residential aged care facilities**.*

Person Permitted To Enter A Restricted Residential Aged Care Facility

20. *A person must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a restricted residential aged care facility in the State of Queensland unless:*
- the person is an employee or contactor of the restricted residential aged care facility; or*
 - the person's presence at the premises is for the purposes of providing goods or services that are necessary for the effective operation of the restricted residential aged care facility, whether the goods are provided for consideration or on a voluntary basis; or*
 - the person's presence at the premises is for the purposes of providing health, medical, personal care, or pharmaceutical services to a resident of the restricted residential aged care facility, whether the goods or services are provided for consideration or on a voluntary basis; or*

- d. *the person's presence at the premises is for the purposes of end of life visit for a resident of the restricted residential aged care facility; or*
 - e. *the person's presence at the premises is required for the purposes of emergency management, law enforcement or the exercise of a power or function of a government agency or entity under a law; or*
 - f. *the person's presence at the premises is in the person's capacity as a prospective resident of the restricted residential aged care facility or as a **support person** of a prospective resident of the restricted residential aged care facility.*
21. *Despite paragraph 20, a person must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a restricted residential aged care facility in accordance with Part 1, paragraph 6.*

Residents

22. *The operator of a restricted residential aged care facility must not permit a resident, excluding an end of life resident, to leave the facility except:*
- a. *to receive or access health care; or*
 - b. *to attend a funeral; or*
 - c. *in the case of emergency or on any other compassionate grounds.*

Wearing of Face Masks

23. *Any person (other than a resident) must not enter, or remain on, the premises of a restricted residential aged care facility without wearing a single use surgical face mask.*

Note – a person who does not, or is unable to wear a mask, must not enter a restricted residential aged care facility.

The Department of Health has provided us with information to clarify these changes and it is extracted to read as follows:

Due to recently announced cases in Queensland extra restrictions have now been put in place for residential aged care facilities in listed [Local Government Areas](#).

These restrictions include:

- *Visitors*
 - *No personal visitors, including care and support visitors are allowed to enter*
 - *Only persons providing an essential purpose will be allowed to enter*



- *End of life visits will still be allowed*
- *Anyone entering a facility must wear a single use surgical face mask*
- *Residents*
 - *Cannot leave the residential aged care facility unless they are receiving health care, attending a funeral or for an emergency or for compassionate reasons*
 - *The residential aged care facility or the Chief Health Officer can provide an exemption for leave on compassionate reasons*

If you have any questions, please get in touch with your Centre Manager as they would be happy to assist.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Saddema".

Samantha Feddema

General Manager – Residential Services
The Salvation Army Aged Care