



22 January 2021

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

RE: A CHANGE IN RISK LEVEL AND A NEW AGED CARE DIRECTION

Dear All,

We are writing to advise you that at 1am, 22 January 2021, the Queensland Government, in conjunction with Queensland Health, released a new Aged Care Direction for Queensland. Direction (No. 22) is now in effect and it revokes the previous Direction (No. 21). There are also no longer any restricted Local Government Areas in Greater Brisbane and your residential aged care centre is now not a Restricted Aged Care Facility as per the Direction.

Based on this, visitors are now permitted to enter a residential aged care centres in Queensland if they have been in Greater Brisbane since 2 January 2021. Certain restrictions continue to apply to residential aged care centres under the Aged Care Direction and these include restricting visitors, staff and volunteers from entering the centre if they:

- are unwell
- have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or asked to quarantine
- have returned from overseas in the last 14 days (excluding safe travel zone countries)
- have had contact with a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- has visited a [COVID-19 hotspot](#) in the last 14 days or since the hotspot was declared (whichever is shorter)
- have been tested for COVID-19 and is waiting for the result (except for tests due to surveillance testing obligations)
- have [COVID-19 symptoms](#) of fever (37.5 degrees or more), cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of smell or taste, runny nose, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting or fatigue.

Given the new Direction, we have reviewed our Risk Assessment Matrix and we will move your centre to Risk Level 3 effective immediately. Please see the following link to the new Direction for your reference: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/aged-care> If you have any questions, please get in touch with your Centre Manager.

Kind regards,

Samantha Jukes
General Manager – Residential Services
The Salvation Army Aged Care