



23 July 2020

Residents and Representatives
Barrington Lodge Aged Care Centre
The Salvation Army Aged Care

RE: UPDATE TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESTRICTIONS

Dear all,

On 13 July 2020 the Director of Public Health for Tasmania provided a direction with some additional changes in visiting restrictions for aged care centres in Tasmania. Senior Medical Advisor Dr Julie Graham from the Department of Health has provided us with clarification on this direction:

The restrictions

In summary, the Direction under Section 16 of Public Health Act 1997 – Residential Aged Care Facilities – No.9 states no persons can enter a residential aged care facility except:

- as a resident of that facility
- as an employee/contractor of that facility
- to provide goods or services to a resident of that facility; or
- to care for or support a resident of that facility.

Even if a person seeks to enter a facility for any of the purposes listed above, they must not enter or remain on the premises if they:

- should be in quarantine (i.e. they arrived in Tasmania or had known contact with a person with or suspected to have COVID-19 without effective personal protective equipment in the previous 14 days; or
- have not had the 2020 seasonal influenza vaccination; or
- have a temperature higher than 37.5 degrees or any symptoms of acute respiratory infection (including cough, sore throat, runny nose).

Exemptions

The Director of Public Health can provide exemptions to these restrictions on a case-by-case basis if the person seeking to visit the facility:

- is well (no fever or symptoms of acute respiratory infection)
- is a significant person to a resident; and
- seeks to provide end-of-life support to that resident.

Any person seeking an exemption must apply by email to covid.response@health.tas.gov.au detailing who they seek to visit, when and why.

For people arriving from interstate, an application for exemption to visit an aged care facility is in addition to any exemption the person receives to travel to Tasmania under the Direction under section 40 of the Emergency Management Act 2006 – Persons arriving in Tasmania.



For more information about seeking exemptions, please contact Public Health Services by calling the Public Health Hotline on 1800 671 738.

Please note that all other restrictions remain in place and that the above additional changes will be implemented at Barrington Lodge on Thursday 23 July 2020.

Temperature checks will still take place on arrival. During business hours, our receptionist will attend to this and after hours, our Registered Nurse will assist.

Please continue to maintain good hand hygiene and social distancing practices, particularly in public places. Additionally, we'd like to remind you that if you or your loved one is unwell, or if you have travelled within the last 14 days, not to visit the elderly. If you have any questions or feedback, please get in touch with your Centre Manager.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Feddema".

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