

*Public Health Act 1997*

DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 16

I, MARK VEITCH, the Director of Public Health, in pursuance of section 16 of the *Public Health Act 1997*, in order to manage a threat to public health or a likely threat to public health posed by the disease known as COVID-19 ("the disease"), direct that each person who is within a class of persons specified in the Schedule to this direction and who arrives in Tasmania at any time on or after 20 March 2020 must, during the period of 14 days after he or she arrives in Tasmania, or for so long as there is an emergency declaration in effect, whichever is the shorter period ("the relevant period") –

- (a) take all reasonable steps to ensure that he or she will not be expected to sleep in the same room as another person or will not be residing in a dormitory or accommodation like a dormitory; and
- (b) monitor himself or herself for symptoms of fever, coughing, sore throat, muscular pains, shortness of breath or unexpected tiredness, which may be evidence that he or she is infected by the disease; and
- (c) if he or she believes he or she is displaying a symptom referred to in paragraph (b) –
  - (i) cease to attend a place, other than a place referred to in sub-paragraph (ii), for the purposes of work; and
  - (ii) as far as is reasonably practicable without putting his or her survival at risk, remain in, or return and remain in –
    - (A) the premises that are his or her ordinary place of residence; or
    - (B) if he or she does not ordinarily reside in Tasmania - the premises where he or she is temporarily residing while in Tasmania -except as necessary to attend at premises, nominated by his or her medical practitioner or the advisor on the Public Health Hotline, for the purposes of being tested for the presence of the disease or to obtain goods or services reasonably necessary for the preservation of life; and
  - (iii) contact the Public Health Hotline, or a medical practitioner, to determine whether to be tested or assessed for infection by the disease; and
- (d) as far as reasonably practicable, when outside premises referred to in paragraph (c)(ii), only be within 1.5 metres of any other person –
  - (i) for the purposes of obtaining supplies or services necessary for his or her bodily maintenance and that cannot be arranged for by use of electronic means such as internet shopping; or
  - (ii) for the purposes of testing or assessment for infection by the disease; or
  - (iii) if the Secretary of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, or his or her delegate, exempts the person on compassionate

grounds from the requirement of this paragraph in relation to the other person; and

- (e) cover his or her mouth when coughing or sneezing; and
- (f) use disposable tissues, and dispose of such tissues, after use, in a waste receptacle that other people will not touch except if protected from contact with the receptacle or its contents; and
- (g) wash his or her hands frequently and thoroughly with soap, or an alcohol-based sanitizing chemical, especially after using a toilet, before and after eating and before and after returning from outdoors; and
- (h) if the person –
  - (i) is within a category referred to in paragraph 2 or 5 of the Schedule; or
  - (ii) is otherwise in close contact with a person who, by virtue of the characteristics of the person, ought reasonably be regarded as especially vulnerable to infection or serious illness due to the disease (a “vulnerable person”) –

ensure that he or she, at all times when engaged in the provision of health services or health care to persons, or is in close proximity to a vulnerable person, wears a surgical mask or wears other personal protective equipment that is normally worn during such contact by persons engaged in the provision of those health services or that health care.

Dated 20 March 2020.

Signed.....

Director of Public Health

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## SCHEDULE

### SPECIFIED PERSONS

#### 1. National and State Security and Governance

- a. Any Government senior official who in the carriage of his or her duties is responsible for the safety of the Nation or Tasmania against threats such as terrorism, war, or espionage, and is required to be present in Tasmania for such purposes; and
- b. Active Military personnel required to be on duty in Tasmania while in Tasmania; and
- c. A member of the Commonwealth Parliament who is ordinarily resident in Tasmania.

#### 2. Health Services

- a. A clinician in relation to health who is ordinarily resident in Tasmania and who is requested by the Secretary of the Department of Health, or his or her delegate, to return to Tasmania to present for duty in Tasmania; and
- b. A clinician in relation to health who is requested by the Secretary of the Department of Health, or his or her delegate, to present for duty in Tasmania to perform, during the period in which the person will be present in Tasmania, duties unable to be appropriately performed by a person ordinarily resident in Tasmania.

**3. Transport, freight and logistics**

- a. Any person who in the carriage of his or her duties is responsible for provision of transport or freight and logistics into, within and out of Tasmania; and
- b. Flight Crew and ship crew-

for the purpose of delivery of persons, freight or logistics into, within and out of Tasmania.

**4. Specialist skills critical to maintaining key industries or businesses**

- a. Any specialists required for industry or business continuity and maintenance of competitive operations where the appropriate skills are not available in Tasmania, where the service is time-critical and where the provision of the service requires that the person be physically present in Tasmania; and
- b. Any person who, in the carriage of his or her duties, is responsible, while in Tasmania, for critical maintenance or repair of infrastructure critical to Tasmania; and
- c. Any person travelling from Antarctica directly to Tasmania.

**5. Paramedics and ambulance officers**

- a. A paramedic, or an officer of Ambulance Tasmania, each within the meaning of the *Ambulance Service Act 1982*, who is returning to Tasmania as soon as practicable after providing medical transport to a patient or who is returning to Tasmania while providing medical transport to a person; and
- b. A paramedic, or an officer of Ambulance Tasmania, each within the meaning of the *Ambulance Service Act 1982*, who is ordinarily resident in Tasmania and who is requested by the Commissioner of Ambulance Services, or his or her delegate, to return to Tasmania to present for duty in Tasmania.

**6. Other persons, or class of persons, exempted by the Secretary DPIPWE**

- a. Any other person, or member of a class of persons, in relation to whom, in the opinion of the Secretary DPIPWE, self-quarantine would lead to an unusual, undeserved or disproportionate hardship; and
  - b. Any other person, or member of a class of persons, who, in the opinion of the Secretary DPIPWE, is essential for the proper functioning of Tasmania.
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