

*Public Health Act 1997*

**DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 16**

*(Quarantine – No. 4)*

I, MARK VEITCH, the Director of Public Health, in pursuance of section 16 of the *Public Health Act 1997* ("the Act"), in order to manage the threat to public health posed by the notifiable disease known as COVID-19 ("the disease"), direct that –

- (a) an identified contact must, on being notified that he or she is a primary close contact –
  - (i) travel directly to a suitable place in respect of the primary close contact; and
  - (ii) undergo a test for the disease as soon as is practicable; and
  - (iii) remain, subject to paragraphs (d) and (h), in quarantine at that place until the first of the following occurs:
    - (A) if the suitable place of the primary close contact is premises where there are no other identified contacts in quarantine or persons in isolation who are diagnosed with the disease, at least 14 days have passed since the primary close contact was last exposed, or was last suspected by the Director of Public Health or his or her delegate of being exposed, to the disease;
    - (B) if the suitable place of the primary close contact is premises where another identified contact is also in quarantine or a person diagnosed with the disease is also in isolation –
      - (I) if there is no person in isolation at the premises who is diagnosed with the disease, until all identified contacts in quarantine at the premises are no longer required to quarantine in respect of the disease; or
      - (II) if there is a person in isolation at the premises who is diagnosed with the disease, at least 14 days have passed since each person at those premises who is diagnosed with the disease has been released from that isolation under the Act;

- (C) the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, has notified the primary close contact that he or she may exit quarantine in respect of the disease subject to such conditions as may be specified in the notification; and
- (b) an identified contact who has been notified that he or she is a casual contact must, on being notified that he or she is required to quarantine under this direction –
- (i) travel directly to a suitable place in respect of the casual contact; and
  - (ii) remain, subject to paragraphs (d) and (h), in quarantine at that place until the first of the following occurs:
    - (A) if the suitable place of the casual contact is premises where there are no other identified contacts in quarantine or persons in isolation who are diagnosed with the disease, at least 14 days have passed since the casual contact was last exposed, or was last suspected by the Director of Public Health or his or her delegate of being exposed, to the disease;
    - (B) if the suitable place of the casual contact is premises where another identified contact is also in quarantine or a person diagnosed with the disease is also in isolation –
      - (I) if there is no person in isolation at the premises who is diagnosed with the disease, until all identified contacts in quarantine at the premises are no longer required to quarantine in respect of the disease; or
      - (II) if there is a person in isolation at the premises who is diagnosed with the disease, at least 14 days have passed since each person at those premises who is diagnosed with the disease has been released from that isolation under the Act;
    - (C) the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, has requested the casual contact undergo a test for the disease, the result of the test is that the casual contact is negative for the disease and the Director of Public Health, or his or her

- delegate, has notified the casual contact that he or she may exit quarantine in respect of the disease;
- (D) the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, has notified the casual contact that he or she may exit quarantine in respect of the disease subject to such conditions as may be specified in the notification; and
- (c) an identified contact must, on being notified that he or she is a secondary close contact –
- (i) travel directly to a suitable place in respect of the secondary close contact; and
  - (ii) remain, subject to paragraphs (d) and (h), in quarantine at that place until the first of the following occurs:
    - (A) if the suitable place of the secondary close contact is premises where there are no other identified contacts in quarantine or persons diagnosed with the disease who are in isolation, at least 14 days have passed since the secondary close contact was last exposed, or was last suspected by the Director of Public Health or his or her delegate of being exposed, to the disease;
    - (B) if the suitable place of the secondary close contact is premises where another identified contact is also in quarantine or a person diagnosed with the disease is also in isolation –
      - (I) if there is no person in isolation at the premises who is diagnosed with the disease, until all identified contacts in quarantine at the premises are no longer required to quarantine in respect of the disease; or
      - (II) if there is a person in isolation at the premises who is diagnosed with the disease, at least 14 days have passed since each person at those premises who is diagnosed with the disease has been released from that isolation under the Act;

- (C) the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, has requested the secondary close contact undergo a test for the disease and the result of the test is that the secondary close contact is negative for the disease;
  - (D) the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, has notified the secondary close contact that he or she may exit quarantine in respect of the disease subject to such conditions as may be specified in the notification; and
- (d) an identified contact must remain at a suitable place while he or she is required to quarantine under this direction unless –
  - (i) the identified contact is travelling directly to, or from, another suitable place; or
  - (ii) the identified contact is travelling directly to, or from, a location where he or she is undertaking a test for the disease as required under this direction; or
  - (iii) there is an emergency that requires the identified contact to leave the suitable place to protect his or her personal safety, or the safety of another, and the identified contact immediately returns to a suitable place as soon as the emergency has passed; and
- (e) an identified contact who leaves a suitable place before he or she exits quarantine must wear a fitted face covering that fits securely around the face and is designed, or made, to be worn over the nose and mouth to provide protection against infection –
  - (i) unless –
    - (A) the person has left the suitable place due to an emergency in accordance with paragraph (d)(iii); and
    - (B) it is not practicable in the circumstances for the person to obtain, or wear, the fitted face covering; or
  - (ii) unless the person holds an exemption, or is a person within a class of persons specified in an exemption, from the requirements of this

paragraph that is given by the Director of Public Health or his or her delegate; and

- (f) an identified contact must, while in quarantine in respect of the disease –
  - (i) monitor his or her health for clinical symptoms of the disease; and
  - (ii) if he or she develops clinical symptoms of the disease, undergo a test for the disease as soon as practicable; and
  
- (g) in addition to paragraphs (a)(ii) and (f), an identified contact who is a primary close contact must undergo a test for the disease if requested to do so by the Director of Public Health or his or her delegate; and
  
- (h) if an identified contact refuses to undergo a test for the disease as required under this direction, the Director of Public Health or his or her delegate may require the identified contact to remain in quarantine under this direction for such further period as is specified by the Director of Public Health or his or her delegate; and
  
- (i) in this direction –
  - (i) **casual contact** has the same meaning as a casual contact, or casual close contact, in the *Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units*; and
  - (ii) **clinical symptoms of the disease** means the following symptoms:
    - (A) a temperature of 37.5°C or more;
    - (B) night sweats;
    - (C) chills;
    - (D) coughing;
    - (E) shortness of breath;
    - (F) sore throat;
    - (G) loss of taste;
    - (H) loss of smell; and
  - (iii) **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units** means the national guidelines,

published on 29 January 2021 by the Communicable Diseases Network Australia and endorsed by the Australian Health Protection Principle Committee, as amended or substituted from time to time; and

- (iv) **identified contact** means a primary close contact, a casual contact or a secondary close contact; and
- (v) **premises** has the same meaning as in the Act; and
- (vi) **primary close contact** has the same meaning as in the *Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units*; and
- (vii) **secondary close contact** has the same meaning as in the *Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units*; and
- (viii) **suitable place**, in respect of an identified contact, means –
  - (A) if the identified contact requires medical treatment, the hospital, or another place, for medical treatment as directed by –
    - (I) the operator of the Tasmanian Public Health Hotline, operated by the Department of Health in respect of the disease, who is responding to a call to that Hotline by the identified contact; or
    - (II) a person registered under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Tasmania)* in the medical, dental, paramedicine or midwifery profession; or
  - (B) if the identified contact intends to be in quarantine at his or her primary residence, the primary residence of the identified contact; or
  - (C) if the identified contact does not intend, or is unable, to be in quarantine at his or her primary residence, other premises that are approved by the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, as suitable premises for the identified contact to be in quarantine; or
  - (D) the place where the identified contact has been directed, under the Act or the *Emergency Management Act 2006*, to complete his or her quarantine; or

- (E) if the identified contact is in quarantine at premises other than his or her primary residence and wishes to return to his or her primary residence, the primary residence of the identified contact if the Director of Public Health, or his or her delegate, has approved the relocation to the primary residence; and
- (ix) **test for the disease** means a nucleic acid detection test, for the genetic material of SARS-CoV-2, conducted by a laboratory with the relevant accreditation, for such a test, by the National Association of Testing Authorities; and
- (j) the direction under section 16 of the Act, entitled *Quarantine – No. 3*, given by me on 5 February 2021, is revoked.

Dated:.....18 February 2021

Signed:.....Mark Veitch

Director of Public Health