

TO: QTU MEMBERS

Travel restrictions lifted

Following negotiations with the Department of Education, the medical screening check for western communities and the biosecurity restrictions in discrete communities have both been amended.

Medical screening check

The medical screening check required for return to western communities has been removed, effective this evening. This will mean that members travelling during the school holidays will not be required to undertake a medical screening check prior to returning to their teaching communities. The removal of this check is consistent with the decisions contained in the [Queensland Government's road map to recovery](#) announced on 1 June.

Biosecurity restrictions

The federal government's Biosecurity Determination was lifted at midnight last night and replaced by a [direction from the Chief Health Officer](#) (CHO).

The CHO's direction identifies education as an essential service and states that:

- essential services workers must have the [Queensland Risk Management Plan](#) on their person upon entry if coming from outside a declared travel zone
- essential services workers (teachers) **will not** quarantine upon return to community
- families of essential workers will need to quarantine in their place of residence within community if coming from outside of a declared travel zone.

As well as the CHO direction, the Department of Health has released an [explanatory document](#) to assist the understanding of the direction.

The Restricted Access to Remote Communities Direction released yesterday includes the ability for residents of biosecurity restricted areas to travel to and from declared zones without the requirement to quarantine. The declared travel zones for the various communities are listed below.

Designated Area	Declared travel zone
Cherbourg	South Burnett Gympie Noosa Toowoomba
Palm Island	Townsville Hinchinbrook
Yarrabah	Cairns Tablelands Mareeba Douglas Cassowary Coast
Woorabinda	Rockhampton Central Highlands Banana Livingstone
Burke	Mount Isa

Designated Area	Declared travel zone
Mornington Doomadgee	Cloncurry Carpentaria
Torres Strait Island Torres Shire Northern Peninsula Area Mapoon Napranum Aurukun Pormpuraaw Kowanyama Lockhart River Cook Shire Hope Vale Wujal Wujal Weipa Town Area	Cairns Carpentaria Mareeba Tablelands Douglas

The Union has been advised that Local Disaster Management Groups do not have the legal authority to make amendments to the CHO direction and put in place further restrictions on essential workers.

The QTU appreciates that members have been working closely with their communities to address concerns about travel over the school holidays. It is anticipated that the release of the CHO direction will address some of these concerns.

With these changes, all QTU members should be able to travel over the school holidays and return to their teaching locations without the need to quarantine.

Authorised by:

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General Secretary