

Northern Territory of Australia
Public and Environmental Health Act 2011
COVID-19 Directions (No. 1) 2020

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 52 of the *Public and Environmental Health Act 2011*, consider it necessary, appropriate and desirable to take action to alleviate the public health emergency in the Territory, declared by instrument entitled "Declaration of Public Health Emergency", dated 18 March 2020, by giving the following directions:

Part 1 Directions to prohibit non-essential large gatherings

- 1 While the public health emergency declaration is in force, an occupier of a place must not allow the following gatherings to occur on, in or at a single undivided area of the place:
 - (a) a gathering of more than 500 people outdoors;
 - (b) a gathering of more than 100 people indoors.
- 2 While the public health emergency declaration is in force, a person must not attend a gathering referred to in direction 1(a) or (b).
- 3 Directions 1 and 2 do not apply to a gathering of people on, in or at any of the following places or for any of the following purposes:
 - (a) at an airport for its normal business or operation;
 - (b) for the purpose of, or related to, public transport, including travelling in vehicles or gathering at a public transport facility such as a station, platform or stop;
 - (c) a medical or health service facility for its normal business or operation;
 - (d) for the purpose of conducting emergency services;
 - (e) a disability or aged care facility for its normal business or operation;
 - (f) a correctional centre, youth detention centre or other place of custody or detention for its normal business or operation;

- (g) a court or tribunal for its normal business or operation;
- (h) the Legislative Assembly for its normal business or operation;
- (i) a food market, supermarket, grocery store, retail store or shopping centre for its normal business or operation;
- (j) a school, university or other educational institution for its normal business or operation;
- (k) a child care facility for its normal business or operation;
- (l) an office building, factory, mine or construction site for its normal business or operation;
- (m) a hotel, motel, mining accommodation or other place of accommodation for its normal business or operation;
- (n) a place where 500 or more people may be present for the purpose of transiting through the place;
- (o) any place specified as exempt from direction 1 or 2 by me in writing.

Example for direction 3(n)

Smith Street Mall in Darwin.

Note for direction 3

The exclusions specified in direction 3 are subject to constant review and are expected to change as circumstances require.

Part 2 Directions for self-quarantine following overseas travel

4 Subject to direction 5, any person who arrives in the Territory from a place outside Australia must:

- (a) travel from the airport or other place or arrival to premises that are suitable for the person to reside in for a period of 14 days; and
- (b) remain in those premises for the period beginning on the day of arrival and ending at midnight on the 14th day after arrival except:
 - (i) for the purpose of obtaining medical care or medical supplies; or

- (ii) for an emergency; or
 - (iii) in circumstances in which the person is able to avoid close contact with other persons; and
- (c) not permit any other person to enter those premises unless:
- (i) the other person usually resides at the premises; or
 - (ii) the other person is also complying with this direction for the same 14-day period; or
 - (iii) for the purpose of delivering medical care or medical supplies; or
 - (iv) for an emergency or in other urgent circumstances.

5 Direction 4 does not apply to any of the following:

- (a) a member of a flight crew;
- (b) a person who arrives on a flight and does not leave the airport before leaving the Territory on a flight.

Notes for COVID-19 Directions (No. 1) 2020

- 1 *Section 56 of the Public and Environmental Health Act 2011 provides for an offence for failing to comply with a direction given by the Chief Health Officer under section 52(3) of that Act.*
- 2 *The maximum penalty for this offence is 400 penalty units.*
- 3 *A person is not guilty of this offence if the person has a reasonable excuse.*

Dated

Chief Health Officer