

8 January 2021

Dear Residents, Families and Visitors

This morning the Queensland Premier announced Greater Brisbane a hotspot and implemented a 3-day lockdown. The local government areas (LGA's) affected are listed below.

We anticipate NSW Health will shortly issue a directive to Aged Care supporting the declaration of Greater Brisbane as a hotspot.

The lockdown is an urgent response to a person in Queensland being confirmed to have the new UK variant of COVID-19 and that evidence shows is 70% more infectious than other strains.

For context, they advised that in the United Kingdom of the 2.9 million total cases of COVID-19 for the year, 1.1 million of these have been in the last month attributed to this new variant.

### **Impact on Visitor Restrictions**

Effective immediately anyone who on or after 2 January has been in the following QLD Local Government Areas must not enter the facility:

- City of Brisbane
- City of Ipswich
- Lockyer Valley Region
- Logan City
- Moreton Bay Region
- Redland City
- Scenic Rim Region
- Somerset Region

### **Impact on Resident Excursions**

The above locations will also be added to the Resident Excursion Escort Declaration along with the previously communication hotspots of the [Northern Area of the Northern Beaches](#), [City of Wollongong](#), [Cumberland City Council](#) or the [Canterbury Ward](#) of Canterbury Bankstown Council.

Our priority remains the ongoing health and safety of our residents and staff. Throughout this pandemic Crowley have managed the COVID-19 risk with a balanced and cautious approach. We will continue to take decisive action to protect our residents, who as you are aware, are the most vulnerable group to COVID-19 in our community.

Over the Christmas and New Year period we have all enjoyed far greater freedom of movement both in the community and within the facility. We were extremely grateful that easing of health restrictions enabled many residents to participate in Christmas celebrations at home.

However, this is our first Christmas in Australia during pandemic conditions. With more people travelling across state borders, attending large gatherings, sporting events and shopping centres, the risk of new cases of community transmission naturally increases.

There remain legitimate concerns in the health community about what the next few weeks post the holiday period may see in terms of new cases. These concerns are only increased with the new UK variant now identified in QLD.

We again ask for your continued understanding and support in keeping our vulnerable residents and clients safe over the coming weeks and months. We will continue to do all we can to keep this virus out of our facility with your help.

We will provide more updates as information is available.

Regards



Kelli Potts  
**EXECUTIVE MANAGER**  
**OPERATIONS & FINANCE**