



# TORRES STRAIT ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Lot 12 Francis Road Hammond Island QLD 4875  
p: (07) 07 4034 5700 f: (07) 4069 1692 e: corporate.affairs@tsirc.qld.gov.au

PO Box 7336 Cairns QLD 4870  
ABN 15 292 645 165

## MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE ISSUE

14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS UPDATE COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PANDEMIC

The paramount focus of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC) remains on the prevention of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) from entering our jurisdictional region and enact the best possible mitigation strategy to avoid spreading of the virus should an outbreak occur.

Although Federal and State restrictions are easing progressively over the next month, in Council's capacity as trustee for our DOGIT communities, and in consultation with local leadership, the decision was made to continue travel restrictions within the TSIRC outer island communities until further notice.

#### What this means for Torres Strait Regional travel:

- Travel will continue to be restricted between the outer islands of Boigu, Dauan, Saibai, Mabuiag, Badu, Moa, Iama, Warraber, Poruma, Masig, Ugar, Erub and Mer.
- A ban on cross-border travel for traditional purposes under the Torres Strait Treaty remains in place until further notice.
- From the 15/05/2020, you can travel within 150km of your home for recreation purposes or certain activities such as fishing, however this travel must not be between communities within the outer islands or outside the Torres Strait designated area. If you go outside of these areas, you will need to go into quarantine for 14 days before you can return home.
- Travel is permitted between the inner islands around Thursday Island (incl. Horn, Prince of Wales, Friday, and Hammond).
- Travel exceptions may apply for essential activities as defined under the relevant Biosecurity instruments, or under the LDMG Chair's approval.

- ENDS -

#### Media Enquires & Interviews:

Luke Ranga – Corporate Affairs & Engagement  
Phone: 0427 794 730 | Email: [luke.ranga@tsirc.qld.gov.au](mailto:luke.ranga@tsirc.qld.gov.au)