

11 May 2020

Our ref: LP-MC

Ms Margery Nicoll
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Law Council of Australia
GPO Box 1989
Canberra ACT 2601

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms Nicoll

COVID-19 laws and public health orders across Australian jurisdictions

Thank you for your memo dated 21 April 2020, requesting input from the Queensland Law Society as to whether it would be beneficial for the Law Council in consultation with Constituent Bodies to keep a list of the various public health and emergency management orders made in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We note that Queensland Parliament passed the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020* on 22 April 2020. In addition, there have been a number of Home Confinement, Movement and Gathering Directions issued under the *Public Health Act 2005* and regulations made under the *Disaster Management Act 2003*.

The public health directions of the Chief Health Officer can be accessed at the following link on the Queensland Department of Health Website -<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers>. Due to the ever evolving nature of the pandemic, the Home Confinement, Movement and Gathering Directions are constantly changing.

We are keeping abreast of these changes and publishing them on the COVID-19 resources page of the QLS website ([https://www.qls.com.au/For the profession/COVID 19 Resources](https://www.qls.com.au/For_the_profession/COVID_19_Resources)). We also communicate these developments to the membership via our QLS weekly newsletter and our social media channels.

We would be happy for you to reference these materials in your discussions.

If you have any queries regarding the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact our Legal Policy team via policy@qls.com.au or by phone on (07) 3842 5930.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
Luke Murphy
President