

The Queensland Government has worked with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership in remote communities to implement a three-stage plan to safely ease restrictions in **designated areas**.

Under this plan, designated areas have transitioned from the Commonwealth biosecurity arrangements to state-based arrangements (under the Queensland Chief Health Officer public health directions).

What this means for residents of Cherbourg is that you will be able to travel to more places without the need to quarantine when you return to your community.

## Declared travel zones

From 12 June 2020, there are now **Declared Travel Zones** for each **designated area**. A resident can leave their designated area to travel to a Declared Travel Zone for any purpose such as shopping or to visit friends and family.

Residents will not be required to quarantine after returning from a Declared Travel Zone and may visit the Declared Travel Zone for any length of time. A resident will also now be permitted to stay overnight in a Declared Travel Zone.

Designated area	Where you can travel (Declared Travel Zones)
Cherbourg	South Burnett Gympie Noosa Toowoomba

## Roadmap to easing access restrictions in Queensland's remote communities

### Stage 1: Completed

In response to community feedback, this stage allowed quarantine within a community under the previous Biosecurity Determination restrictions.

### Stage 2: From 12 June 2020

**Residents can travel** within a 'Declared Travel Zone' without needing to go into quarantine when they return home, but if they travel outside a zone they must go into quarantine on return.

**Family members** residing within the Declared Travel Zone are able to travel to a designated area to visit residents without needing to quarantine.

A person seeking to visit a family member in a designated area who is coming from outside a Declared Travel Zone must quarantine for 14 days.

### Stage 3: From 10 July 2020 (if area remains COVID free)

The Chief Health Officer can declare communities as Stage 3 which **removes all travel restrictions including entry and quarantine requirements** and applies the same provisions as other areas of Queensland under the Roadmap to easing Queensland's restrictions.

Stage 3 criteria includes no confirmed COVID-19 cases in a community. Approved plans, testing regimes and a clear rapid response framework need to be in place for the community.

Note: Decisions about whether communities can move safely to Stage 2 or Stage 3 will be made by the Chief Health Officer based on public health conditions for each community and in consultation with local leaders. If an outbreak of COVID-19 occurs in a community, they may transition back to Stage 2 and follow the Chief Health Officer direction.

### Chief Health Officer exemptions

If you do not meet the entry requirements to enter a designated area you can apply to the Chief Health Officer for an exemption to this direction. You can submit a request for an exemption online or speak to your local DATSIP office or council for assistance to lodge a request.

Key criteria for an exemption are if the Chief Health Officer determines:

- compassionate grounds or hardship
- they are essential for the the designated area
- exceptional circumstances; or
- entry would not pose health risks within the designated area.

### Information for essential workers

Essential workers are separated into two categories — 'essential and urgent' and 'essential and non-urgent' — and have two distinct entry processes.

### Essential and non-urgent workers

Essential workers with an approved Queensland risk management plan are exempt from the 14 day quarantine rule. Essential workers do not need to go into quarantine before entering a community but they must not have shown signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or been outside of Australia in the 14 days before entry.

Essential and non-urgent workers must carry with them an approved 'Queensland risk management plan'.

Essential workers may also apply for a Remote Communities Pass. This is designed to make the entry process easier. You can present your pass on your smart phone or as a printed hard-copy at police check points.

### Essential and urgent workers

Essential workers can enter a community without an approved plan for urgent activities (such as health and police activities to keep a community safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19).

### Remote Communities Pass

Essential service workers can apply for a Remote Communities Pass which is designed to make the entry process quicker and easier.

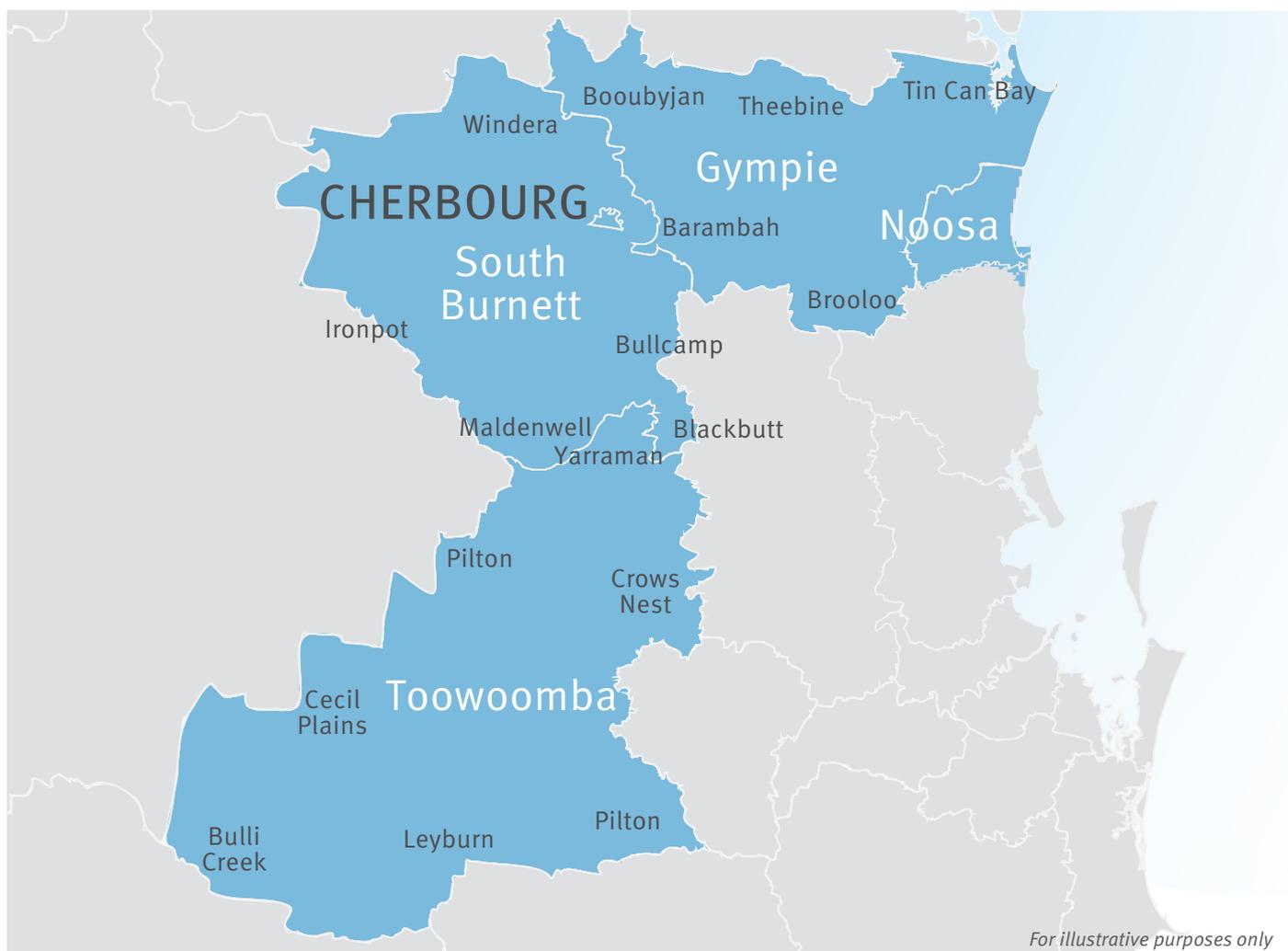
They are similar in concept to the border passes people apply for when they cross the Queensland border during COVID-19 restrictions.

They make it easier for essential workers to have all necessary information required for entry, ensuring they are on their way as soon as possible.

Essential workers can present their pass on their smart phone or as a printed copy at police check points.

#### More information

- [www.datsip.qld.gov.au/travel](http://www.datsip.qld.gov.au/travel)
- [www.qld.gov.au/border-pass](http://www.qld.gov.au/border-pass)
- [www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus)



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