



# Advice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers

Queensland  Council of Unions

**COVID-19**  
FACT SHEET

Information  
for at-risk  
workers

## Employees Considered Vulnerable to COVID-19

Queensland Health advice is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons aged 50 years or older with one or more chronic conditions are considered a vulnerable person to COVID-19.

Current health advice recommends vulnerable people self-quarantine in their homes and limit contact with those outside of their immediate household members as much as possible.

This advice may create challenges for employees in the workplace and to ensure employee's health and safety is maintained, workplaces should consider a number of alternate arrangements:

If the work can be performed at or from home, then all workers, including vulnerable persons should work from home.

Where this is not reasonably practicable to do so, and vulnerable employees are concerned at the potential additional risk to their health, they should raise the matter with their supervisor.

A risk assessment should be undertaken and steps taken to eliminate or minimise the risk of harm to the employee. Responses could include:

- assigning other work that can be undertaken remotely in line with the employee's skill set, experience, and existing level
- temporarily transferring the employee to an alternate, non-customer contact role
- negotiate suitable changes to hours of work, or patterns of work that minimise the employee's contact with others
- providing special paid leave.

Contact your union for further advice and information.



**Queensland  
Council of Unions**

For further information,  
contact the QCU via:

Email: [info@qcu.asn.au](mailto:info@qcu.asn.au)

Phone: (07) 3010 2555

Post: 5/16 Peel Street,  
South Brisbane Qld 4101

[queenslandunions.org](http://queenslandunions.org)