## Compassionate people, dedicated to care



13 October 2022

Dear Hall & Prior resident family members

Our number one priority is the safety and well-being of our residents and staff.

Hall & Prior is very proud of our efforts in managing COVID-19 to date and it is due to not only our dedicated and amazing staff but to our families and visitors who have supported us through this very uncertain and challenging time.

Our journey through COVID-19 is still not over and we kindly ask for your patience and understanding while we still have some restrictions to residential aged care homes.

From Friday, 14 October, it will no longer be mandatory for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 to self-isolate, as agreed at National Cabinet. The WA Government has not yet updated the Visitors to Residential Aged Care Facilities Directions. However, we expect that COVID-19 positive people (staff, visitors, contractors) will still be excluded from residential aged care facilities for seven (7) days. We will continue to update you should these Directions change. Hall & Prior will continue to do the following:

- exclude any person (other than a resident) who has tested positive for COVID-19 from our Homes for 7 days after their positive test.
- exclude visitors who are close contacts from our facilities for 7 days.
- ask any resident who tests positive for COVID-19 to isolate (as much as possible) for 7 days and will implement additional PPE and other precautions when working with positive residents.

All staff, contractors and visitors must wear a **surgical mask** (if you prefer a P2/N95 we have these available) while in the Home. This includes when you are outdoors but within the facility grounds. P2/N95 masks are still mandatory if a Home is in outbreak.

As a reminder we encourage Rapid Antigen Testing for visitors but this is no longer mandatory. If a Home has a COVID-19 outbreak visitors will be required to do a RAT on arrival.

Under current WA Public Health Directions, it is still mandatory for all people (excluding residents) entering a residential aged care facility to have a 2022 influenza vaccination and COVID-19 vaccination (at least 2 doses for visitors and a booster dose for staff and contractors).

Thank you once again for your continued support and understanding. Please do not hesitate to contact the Director of Nursing or RN on duty if you have any questions.

Yours truly

**GRAEME PRIOR** 

**Chief Executive Officer**