



QSA - Attach #18



Industry Quarantine – QSA Update

5 November 2021

## Overview



**Home Affairs engaged DPG to help facilitate an Industry led and funded quarantine capability in line with Commonwealth Government policy.**

### Industry Solution – Industry Funded & Priorities Informed by Industry

**Private Sector Funded Quarantine** – QSA established as user funded and operated quarantine service capable of processing up to 80,000 Skilled Labour Immigrants (SLI) a year, together with a similar number of student visa holders, in State government compliant facilities across Australia.

**End-to-End coordination** - The service is an end-to-end managed process from Australian entry hubs to quarantine facilities (accommodation, food and security included), and return transport after two weeks' quarantine to their labour location. This includes aligning a provisional quarantine place with a Home Affairs travel exemption and assisting in matching air travel.

**Support for a wide set of industries** – This is a multi-jurisdictional program. The service is available to any industry requiring skilled labour. Service also provided to students of both state run and independent education sectors.

**Home Affairs Support** – priority processing of skilled labour applications, and student visas. Travel exemption granted only upon proof of a pre-booked space in a recognised Quarantine facility.

QSA is established as a not for profit entity based on the principle of mutuality



## Project Status

- Still awaiting Govt direction/policy on future quarantine/testing requirements
- A variety of quarantine requirements are under consideration:
  - 3 day – 7 day – 14 day periods
  - The length of quarantine is likely to be based on a combination of:
    - A person's vaccination status
    - The validity of the vaccination certification provided by the individual
    - Potentially, the point of embarkation (current outbreak levels/new strains)
- Currently 9000+ quarantine places have been identified & commercial negotiations have commenced; main locations include:
  - Sydney – 5000 rooms
  - Melbourne – 2000 rooms
  - Adelaide – 600 rooms
  - Brisbane – 670 rooms
- Engagement with the Department of Home Affairs has confirmed that the travel exemption process can be consistently reduced to less than 14 days
- Engagement with NSW has been positive, engagement with VIC & SA is ongoing & NT have declined to allow industry funded quarantine programs
- Commercial engagement has commenced to support the consolidation of potential passengers on aircraft – Qantas freight flights to Shanghai/HK/Singapore/Bangkok & Los Angeles identified as potential options to support 2500+ passengers per week



## The QSA Process & Challenges Ahead

The QSA proposal relies on coordinating a range of engagements & processes including:

- Business and educational sector skilled labour and student requirements – note an expression of interest forecast of 16,000+ pers in February 2022 already (informal demand is at least twice as high)
- Selective short to medium term facility leases to tailor quarantine places to incoming requirements
- Potential 3 day, 7 day or 14 day quarantine duration with 2-3 day deep clean in different jurisdictions

QSA is conscious that:

- Sections of the market are price sensitive, currently clinical and pathology requirements put pressure on the room rate
- Establishing competitive pressure in a range of area to ensure costs are feasible is important
- Companies may be reluctant to table general personnel forecasts – an expression of interest does not create an obligation or cost of any kind, register on [www.quarantineservicesaustralia.com](http://www.quarantineservicesaustralia.com)
- It may not be possible to meet every demand for quarantine (particularly for late demands or during concentrated periods)



# Questions

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