

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



to Community regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19)

For many of us the last week has been one of the most difficult and challenging in our lives.

I am sure most of you, like me, have been consumed by the information we have been receiving.

It is very important that you restrict your intake of information to that of a reliable source. I suggest both the Federal and State government sites are the best place to be accessing information: www.australia.gov.au/ and www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/.../health.../covid+2019/novel+coronavirus

I note the Federal Government have created an app - Coronavirus - that if you are able to access it is very comprehensive and current (we will post a separate post with information regarding this app).

We at the Council have been having regular updates from both the Premier and the State Minister for Local Government, and have been putting practices in place to ensure the safety of both our Staff and Community members. Many of our Community services have ceased and our staff are implementing practices that will ensure essential services can safely continue.

We have preempted a change in Legislation that would allow Council meetings to be held remotely, and over the last few weeks our IT Department have been streamlining a process to allow this to happen. Subject to us receiving the notice of the change in legislation by Wednesday, this month's meeting will occur whilst Elected Members remain in their homes, participating via Zoom. Public access will be available via a live stream, and a link to this stream will be available on our website/Facebook. Again, we will provide more information in a separate post today.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Financial hardship is high on the Agenda for all tiers of Government and we have seen the State and Federal Governments releasing many support packages. We will be reviewing our Hardship Policy and will be implementing changes to help those that have been financially affected by this pandemic. As these changes occur, I assure you everyone will be made aware and we will endeavor to help in whatever way we can for those effected.

In regards to travel, we will be encouraging anyone considering travelling into our area to follow the advice of both our Federal and State Leaders, particularly around the advice of non-essential travel and staying home.

I suggest that all:

- Consider if their visit enables them to practice social distancing.
- Remember that many services are not available due to current restrictions.
- Should consider if it is appropriate for them to come in the first place (i.e. is it ESSENTIAL).

We will consider any actions we can take to ensure all possible safety measures are taken. But please note, I DO NOT have the legislative power to close the Copper Coast, however, I note that the Premier has given the SA Police the necessary powers to enforce social distancing, and the very restrictive social gathering policies.

By working together and looking out for each other we will beat this Pandemic. As a Nation it is important that we take our guidance from The Prime Minister, and as a State, we will take guidance from the Premier. As Mayor of Copper Coast, I will strive to maintain both the physical health and economic health and wellbeing of the Residents and Ratepayers of the Copper Coast, and will implement any measures asked of me by our State and Federal leaders.

As you can understand, the Nation and States situation is constantly changing, and we are doing all we can to keep our Community updated. Please continue to follow 'Copper Coast Council' on Facebook for future updates, as this will be our up-to-date news source for everything concerning our region.