

16 April 2020

Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Flinders Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) would like to thank the Community for their co operation and diligence in adhering to all Covid-19 protocols & procedures directed by the lead agency Queensland Health.

Whilst Council has recently been in caretaker mode due to the March Local Government Elections, the LDMG has been actively responding to all directives and regulations implemented by the Federal and State Governments, in relation to the Covid-19 virus. Information provided from the lead agency, has been disseminated throughout the Community via Council's various media channels.

During this time the LDMG consisting of representatives from Queensland Fire and Rescue, Queensland Police, Queensland Health, Queensland Ambulance, Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Services, Hughenden State School, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Flinders Shire Mayor, Councillors and relevant Staff liaising together and working tirelessly to ensure the Flinders Shire Community is prepared in the event of a confirmed case of Covid-19 occurring.

There are:

- No positive tests of any person with Covid-19 within the Flinders Shire
- Nil active cases in the Far North West Region

We ask that you please continue to practice all good hygiene processes & social distancing practices until further notice.

Council facilities such as the Pool, Skate Park, Playgrounds, Flinders Discovery Centre, Diggers Entertainment Centre & RV Park have been closed in line with Federal Government restrictions during the Pandemic period.

Council Staff have received training in Covid-19 requirements and are adhering to all protocols and procedures whilst performing Council duties.

At this time the LDMG would like to ask all residents of the Flinders Shire to limit travel to only that which is deemed essential, to endeavor to keep our Shire Covid-19 free.

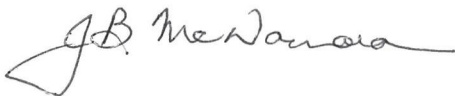
Flinders Shire small businesses are experiencing extreme difficulties in modifying their trading to be in line with all current restrictions/processes they are to be commended for their diligence in this area. The efforts of the whole Community has assisted in protecting the Shire from Covid-19.

Residents are encouraged to buy and shop local, more than ever in these very challenging times, ensuring our local businesses can continue to operate and survive the Pandemic period.

We thank Hughenden Hospital acting Don Karen Petrie, Dr Cathy Reto, Queensland Ambulance Mario Tinning & Queensland Police Troy Crompton for their encouragement of proactive approaches within their teams of employees, who are supporting the Community in endeavors to prevent an occurrence of Covid-19 in our Community.

The LDMG will continue to promptly provide updates when available to the Community via its agency members. Flinders Shire Community is encouraged to continue to adhere to current processes in relation to Covid-19, thus ensuring our Community remains free from the Covid-19 virus.

Regards



Jane McNamara

Flinders Shire Mayor & LDMG Chair