

## COUNCIL NEWS

### Office closure for Christmas period

The District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula will be closed from 1pm, Friday, December 24 and reopening at 9am on Tuesday, January 4.

General enquires will be responded to upon return, however, in case of a genuine emergency please contact the following:

- Animal attacks - General Inspector - 0428 762 375
- Airport enquiries - Port Lincoln Airport - 8684 3400 (Please contact your airline directly for information relating to flights)
- All other (genuine) Council emergencies - 0488 578 636

We hope everyone has a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.



### Ant Hill Road

Council's Construction Team have finished re-sheeting Ant Hill Road.

### New Year's Eve dry zones

Notice is hereby given that short term Dry Zone areas will be applied from 9pm, December 3 to 8am, January 1, 2022 in the townships of Coffin Bay and Cummins. The possession and consumption of liquor is prohibited in public areas (excluding licensed premises and privately owned land) in the designated area within Cummins and Coffin Bay during this period. To view the maps please visit Council's [website](#).

### Employment opportunities

Applications are open for two full-time permanent positions - a [Horticulture Traineeship](#) and a [General Duties & Plant Operator - Maintenance role](#).

Applications close at 5pm on December 30. For more information visit Council's website.

### Online camping permits

Farm Beach and Louth Bay campground bookings are now taken through Council's website using an online portal. Council has introduced the system as part of efforts to better manage campgrounds. Visit Council's website and click the [link](#) to book at either of the two current campgrounds.

### Waste management over Christmas

Extra kerbside collections will occur in Coffin Bay during the school holidays on Friday, December 31, January 7, 14 and 21. All other collections (including recycling) will be as normal.

### Waste Transfer Stations

The Cummins Waste Transfer Station will be closed on Sunday, December 26 but will

otherwise be operating at its normal hours. The Coffin Bay Waste Transfer Station will be operating at its normal hours.



### North Shields playground

New soft-fall and hard stand has been installed at the North Shields Playground. Council's Southern Maintenance Team prepared the base for the soft-fall, constructed the hardstand and levelled area. This is the first time Council has used the rubber soft-fall product.

### Fortnightly Focus

This will be the last edition of the Fortnightly Focus until 2022. If you would like to be included on the distribution list please email [mail@dclep.sa.gov.au](mailto:mail@dclep.sa.gov.au)

## COMMUNITY

### COVID-19 Update

*A Message from the Eyre and Far North Local Health Network*

South Australia's borders reopened on November 23 and there has since been local transmission of COVID-19 in Adelaide.

The best defences against COVID -19 remain:

- Getting vaccinated
- Wearing masks
- Maintaining good hand hygiene
- Maintaining social/physical distancing

At this time, Cummins has among the best vaccination rates in the Eyre and Far North and are doing well against State averages too:

- 91% of the population 16+ have had a first dose
- 83% of that population have had a second dose.

Don't forget to have your second dose.

Evidence from across the world shows people are at much higher risk of severe illness or even death, if they remain unvaccinated and contract COVID-19.

There is a lot of misinformation being spread about COVID-19 and about vaccinations. All COVID vaccines in use in Australia have to go through a formal approvals process to be allowed to be supplied to the public and are only approved if the benefits outweigh the risks. There are still opportunities to get vaccinated, including at Lower Eyre Family Practice, Bayview Medical Service or the Port Lincoln COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic – visit [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidvaccine](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidvaccine) to check appointments and follow the EFNLHN Facebook page for updates about our mobile vaccination team clinic visits.

SA Health has put in place a COVID Response Plan for the State, which sets out that:

- 85% of COVID cases will be safely managed at home
- 10% will recover at supervised COVID-19 facilities (not hospitals)
- 5% will be cared for in hospital

This is to ensure there is capacity in the State's hospitals to care for those who become seriously unwell.

The majority of people who test positive for COVID-19 are planned to recover at home, monitored by a team in Adelaide using technology and regular checks, and supported if they deteriorate, to receive care and treatment.

In cases where people cannot recover safely at home, there are plans to set up supervised COVID-19 facilities. These are not hospitals but places where people can recover with some support.

At this point, the nearest facilities to Cummins are planned to be in Port Lincoln and Port Augusta, and there are also med-hotels in Adelaide.

EFNLHN has developed a local COVID-19 Response Plan, working with local General Practitioners, the SA Ambulance Service, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and Councils.

As the local health service, our top priorities are to:

- keep our communities and staff safe
- protect our vulnerable, elderly residents living in our aged care facilities.

We will do all we can to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to those vulnerable, elderly residents.

Under our local plan, Cummins Hospital will not be accepting COVID positive patients.

Three hospitals have been designated as COVID hospitals – Port Lincoln, Ceduna and Coorber Pedy. Our three COVID hospitals will be separated into COVID (red) and non-COVID (green) zones. Red zones will be restricted to essential personnel only and staff will wear full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times. Patients and staff in each zone will be separated to reduce any risk of transmission.

If there is a COVID outbreak in Cummins or surrounding areas, anyone who comes to the hospital's Emergency Department will be treated as potential COVID positive patients. They will undergo a risk assessment to determine if they are a high COVID risk or are COVID positive.

Patients who do not require admission but are still considered high risk, will be referred for a COVID test, discharged and advised to quarantine at home until they receive their test results. Many people who test positive are expected to be able to recover at home with home monitoring.

Anyone who requires admission will be taken to one of the three COVID hospitals, most likely Port Lincoln in this case. However, any COVID-19 positive patients who become unwell will be transported to Adelaide for treatment; they will be cared for at a COVID hospital while awaiting transport.

- Chief Executive Officer, Verity Paterson