

COUNCIL NEWS

Airline business support (Excerpt from Media Release – 17 April 2020)

Businesses operating from the Port Lincoln Airport will benefit from a new COVID-19 support package from the District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula.

Council considered the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the aviation industry and the Port Lincoln Airport at its meeting on Friday (April 17).

Mayor Jo-Anne Quigley said the Coronavirus and subsequent government travel restrictions had resulted in a drastic drop in travel demand and Council had received requests from a number of businesses based at the airport seeking support ranging from rental assistance through to agreements spanning eight years.

“As a result Council has resolved to offer fair and equitable support packages for businesses operating out of the airport, including the airlines.

“This package shows that Council are working co-operatively with each business at this hard time.”

The support package is provided in two distinct ways. Council is offering QantasLink and Regional Express the following:

1. A waiver of all rental charges on leased areas for a period of six (6) months beginning in April 2020.
2. A complete waiver of passenger levy for the period 1 April to 30 June 2020.
3. In order to assist cash flow, the value of passenger levy payments, up to \$200,000 can be accrued and payment deferred until October 2020 at which time a payback plan may be negotiated.

Council acknowledges that the airlines are not the only businesses in need of support and has also resolved to offer the commercial tenants operating out of the airport

terminal a Fee Reduction Package.

Hardship Policy / COVID-19 Assistance

Council have adopted a new Financial hardship policy to assist ratepayers who are experiencing financial difficulty, with the policy including reference to emergency events - refer council website.

In relation to the current health pandemic Council have resolved to waive fines and interest on payments for March through to August (inclusive) for those customers that can demonstrate a reduction of 30 per cent or more in business income, or who are experiencing a reduction in working hours due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Anyone experiencing difficulty is encouraged to contact the council office and discuss the options available to them on 8676 0400.

Moveable Signs Policy

Feedback is invited on a new policy drafted by Council which provides guidance to businesses on the placement of moveable signs. The policy also outlines the materials signs should be constructed from and how many are permitted per premises (amongst other items). Comments on the draft policy can be sent to mail@dclep.sa.gov.au prior to 22 May 2020.

Minute Book project

Council's Minute Book project is using an online program to transcribe historic handwritten minute books into a digital format which can then be shared on our websites. If you are interested in participating and bringing this history to a wider audience let us know – the advantage is you can log on from your computer at home and transcribe minutes while social distancing. Help is also available via a messenger group to answer any questions. Further information on how to

participate is available by calling Jeannie at the Cummins Library on 86762476 and she can set you up with all the log-in details you need.

Road works update

Council is currently re-sheeting Mena road, having completed works on Coles Point Road, Douglas Well Road, Hyde Road, Farm Beach Road and Duck Lake Road in this financial year. Further re-sheeting works are proposed at Smith Road, Yeltukka Road and Warrow Road in coming weeks. Works on Fishery Bay Road will commence after the completion of the Runway Upgrade project.

New bins for Coffin Bay

Four new bin enclosures have been placed on the foreshore at Coffin Bay.



These bins have replaced the older standard type bins that were located at the wharf area.

Council operations

Council advise of the following changes due to COVID-19:

Cummins Council Office: Monday to Friday, 9am-12pm
Port Lincoln Branch office: Monday only, 10am-1pm & 2pm-4pm

Council encourage contact via phone (8676 0400) or email (mail@dclep.sa.gov.au) from 9am and 5pm daily as staff will continue to be on site at this time and appointments can be made outside of these hours via prior arrangement with the relevant staff members. The following Council managed facilities have been temporarily closed until further notice:

- All Playgrounds owned and maintained by Council;
- Cummins & Coffin Bay Skateparks;
- All public BBQs owned and maintained by Council;

• Farm Beach campground & Louth Bay campground

Note: public conveniences attached to the camp grounds will remain open.

Other suspended services:

- The hiring of the community bus is suspended as we cannot meet social distancing requirements within the bus environment.
- Creating Connections (over 50's program) has been postponed indefinitely.
- The Cummins Institute Hall has been closed to the public (including the public toilets).

Battery recycling

With the recent introduction of the battery recycling tubes Council is pleased the Coffin Bay 20L battery recycling tube has been the first to fill.

There are three recycling tubes in the Cummins Council office, North Shields and Coffin Bay post offices. These tubes are for recycling household batteries only.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Grants SA COVID-19 Support Grant

Funding of up to \$10,000 to help community groups continue to deliver services during the Covid-19 public health restrictions. Could be used for IT equipment, data, software, PPE, website upgrades, salary. This opportunity is open until October 20. For more information visit

dhs.sa.gov.au/services/grants-for-organisations/grants-sa

Cummins Community Assistance – COVID-19

Register for the Cummins Community Assistance COVID-19 group of volunteers that are available to assist other members of the community us in following the instructions to slow and stop the spread of COVID-19 by staying home as much as possible.

This service is available to everybody – for more info visit facebook.com/CumminsCommunityAssistance/