

Council Planning for COVID-19

The following is a statement from South Gippsland Shire Council CEO, Kerryn Ellis.

At the moment Council is continuing to provide its full suite of services to the community.

As I imagine all of you are, we are paying close attention to the advice being provided by the Commonwealth and State Health Departments.

Council does not have any venues that are likely to attract 500+ visitors at any one time, which is why we are not closing any facilities at this stage.

The exception to this is the Coal Creek Easter Egg Hunt, which has been cancelled.

The term 'social distancing' is being used a lot but many people are not sure what that means in practical terms. It simply means less contact between you and other people. It is important because COVID-19 is most likely to spread from person-to-person through:

- *direct close contact with a person while they are infectious or in the 24 hours before their symptoms appear.*
- *close contact with a person with a confirmed infection who coughs or sneezes.*
- *touching objects or surfaces (such as door handles or tables) contaminated from a cough or sneeze from a person with a confirmed infection, and then touching your mouth or face.*

So, the more space between you and others, the harder it is for the virus to spread. To that end, we are postponing any non-essential meetings or holding them over phone or via Skype.

We also encourage people to access Council services over the phone or internet and not come to our service centre unless absolutely necessary.

*A great deal of relevant information is available via the Council website:
https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/news/article/160/convid-19_update*

Further updates will be provided as circumstances change.

PR2518 18/03/20