



Vince Di Pietro

Recovery Co-ordinator

Service Updates



Bushfire Recovery Page

A total of 14,200 visits have been recorded to the Shoalhaven Bushfire Recovery Page since launch.



Waste Removal

As of 5 April, our waste depot received 6,000 tonnes of demolition waste from 50 homes destroyed in the bushfires.



Playground Closures

All public playgrounds, skateparks and outdoor gyms are closed following increased COVID-19 restrictions.



From the Community

Many residents are taking up backyard bird watching. *Photo Credit; Facebook/ Ryan Jameson*

A Word From Vince

COVID-19 is the closest crocodile to the canoe at present and unsurprisingly at the front of most people's minds. Respectful of the constraints and restrictions of the precautions in force to bring COVID-19 under control, the face to face Recovery Centre has migrated to a **02 4429 5888** Recovery Helpline service.

Council, and sub-contractor Laing O'Rourke co-chaired a webinar last Wednesday; a first for NSW. Local companies and sub-contractors were briefed on how the clean-up process will work. Two hundred and fifty people dialled in and questions were answered directly. Local tradespeople and subcontractors are encouraged to register on the ICN site to participate in the clean-up/recovery.

The work of the Recovery Action Team has been of terrific value towards managing the COVID-19 contingency. For this reason, we are revising the format of this newsletter to have one page dedicated to updating on Council's COVID-19 matters.

I thank all who have been brilliant in pulling so much together to continue the Recovery from the fires and I wish everybody a healthy Happy Easter.



Shannan Perry-Hall

*Economic/Tourism
Recovery Action Team Leader*

Economic/Tourism

Spend here this year - Although visitor economy is important for the Shoalhaven, we are asking our visitors to postpone their trip. Shoalhaven Tourism are now promoting what people CAN do to support local businesses. **#Spendherethisyear**, a campaign focused on what people can buy online, do pick-ups and deliveries during the current restrictions. If you are interested in having your product featured, please complete the online survey **#Spendherethisyear** at bit.ly/3dZW0ut



Warwick Papworth

*Built Recovery
Action Team Leader*

Built Recovery

Red Cross Grant - Red Cross has made available a \$20,000 grant to assist with the early stages of rebuild planning. This includes building plans, council fees and safety assessments. It is open to homeowners whose primary place of residence was destroyed.

For more information, including eligibility criteria and how to apply, visit the Red Cross website at bit.ly/2URm9V3 and click on 'Rebuild Grant'.



Michael Paine

*Social Recovery
Action Team Leader*

Social Recovery

Support available - During these uncertain times, it is important to ensure that we do not lose sight of those affected by the compound impact of the bushfires, floods and COVID-19 and how this might be affecting people's health and wellbeing.

Council have established a Bushfire Assistance Helpline **02 4429 5888**. As always, Service NSW have dedicated Bushfire Customer Support Officers and a new COVID-19 Helpline service **13 77 88**.



Shane Pickering

*Environment Recovery
Action Team Leader*

Environment

Wildlife Recovery - Since the Currawong bushfire began the community has been aiding the large numbers of impacted wildlife. Thousands of people have pitched in to provide much needed medical assistance, water and food or dealing with the difficult job to euthanise. I am happy to report that the numbers of animals in care has now significantly reduced with a lot of animals successfully rehabilitated and returned to the wild. Fantastic work team!

COVID-19 Updates



Stay Home

Shoalhaven City Council is asking people to stay away this Easter and school holiday period, in a bid to protect the health and safety of residents.

With fears the rise in visitors could increase the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak, we are calling on travellers and residents to take the Government restrictions on travel seriously.

The NSW Government has put in place significant movement restrictions asking residents to stay at home, unless you are going to:

- work (where you can't work remotely)
- school or an educational institution
- shop for food and essentials
- get medical care or supplies
- exercise.

For further restriction details visit bit.ly/2x8WrC6.



Playgrounds and Skate Parks are closed

Following tighter COVID-19 restrictions put in place by the Government, Council have closed public playgrounds, skateparks and outdoor gyms.

Residents are asked to comply with the closures and to avoid taped off areas. It is important that we don't use the equipment, to avoid the opportunity for the virus to spread further. Council are in the process of placing signage and barriers at the relevant locations.

Council continues to deliver all essential services, including the cleaning of public amenities. The situation is being monitored daily and further restrictions may be implemented in response to advice from Federal and State health authorities.



Council Meetings Live Stream

To ensure the health and safety of our Councillors, staff and community, Council Meetings are being conducted through video conference technology until further notice.

Public viewing is available through Council's website. If you require help accessing the live or archived meetings, or Council meeting agendas and decisions, contact Council's Governance Unit on **02 4429 3111**.

Residents are still able to request a deputation, however, the way we facilitate deputations has changed. For information on the new process here visit bit.ly/2V5Tj24.

“ Whatever we can do to be **COVID-kind** is really important. Reaching out to those that are in our neighbourhood, in a safe way through social distancing skills is still really important. Just picking up the phone and giving someone a call to say, hi. I'm with you. I've got your back in this, do you need anything? These are all good things that we can be doing during this crisis. **”**

Mayor Amanda Findley.