

AROUND THE BAY

HOBSONS BAY WARD NEWS

HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL



Cherry Lake Ward

Altona, Altona North, Brooklyn, Seaholme



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Strand Ward

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Wetlands Ward

Altona Meadows, Laverton, Seabrook



Mayor Cr Colleen Gates

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COUNCIL'S ESSENTIAL SERVICES CONTINUE

With Stage 4 restrictions in place, Council is committed to adapting essential services to meet the requirements of the state government and to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Our **face to face customer service** at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre in Altona is closed until further notice. However, you may still contact Customer Service on 1300 179 944, at customerservice@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au. or via live chat from Council's website.

Kerbside rubbish and recycling collections to households and businesses receiving Council's service will continue. Struggling with rubbish volumes? Order a larger or an extra rubbish bin. (Larger bins are free for eligible households until 30 June 2021.)

Immunisations will continue, please book online.

Meals on Wheels Food Services will continue to deliver meals to registered residents.

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) will continue to have services delivered but this will be remotely via phone and video. We are seeking clarity from the state government whether 15 minute maximum face to face appointments for babies 0 to 8 weeks can continue. All New Parent groups will be delivered online only until further advice.

Hobsons Bay UP (Youth Services) will continue its youth counselling by skype or phone but will not proceed with face to face support services until further notice.

Planned Activity Group (PAG), Community Transport and Overnight Respite for older residents and residents with a disability will continue to be suspended until further notice, however the team will closely monitor and support our clients with regular phone contact and activity packs.

Council managed community centres - Newport Community Hub, Laverton Community Hub and Seabrook Community Centres are closed to the public.

Community consultation - While face to face meetings are not taking place, the community can still provide feedback on any current projects at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

Capital works program - All construction projects will be required to have a High Risk COVID Safe Plan in place and staff on site must wear PPE at all times. Construction is a permitted industry and the majority of projects will continue, however at reduced capacity in line with guidance provided from DHHS. While Council is working hard to have projects continue, unfortunately some works may be required to be temporarily shut down until stage restrictions are eased.

Hobsons Bay Libraries - all libraries and chutes are closed. All items currently on loan have been extended until Monday 14 September 2020.

Library members can still access over 10,000 eBooks, 5,000 eAudiobooks, films, magazines, and a range of online resources at **libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/collections**. Our librarians will continue to deliver virtual programs and events including Stay at Home Storytime, Baby Bounce, Online Book Clubs and author talks, find out more at **libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/whats-on**

For the latest on Council's services, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/coronavirus**

If you, or someone you know, speaks a language other than English, please call our **Language Line** on **9932 1212** to speak with an interpreter.

Working for Victoria

Council has partnered with the state government's Working for Victoria initiative, receiving \$5.9 million in funding that will go directly into our local economy. This will help us to create more than 130 jobs within Hobsons Bay for people who are currently unemployed - whether they have lost their job due to the impacts of Coronavirus or have been without work for a longer period. Once you have signed up to Hobsons Bay's Working for Victoria initiative through Sidekicker, you can check out lots of benefits such as free online training. If you're a registered job seeker looking to upskill yourself in an area that is now hiring or likely to be in the future, you can participate in a free online short training unit or a free online TAFE course. For FAQs and details on how to apply, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/WorkingforVictoria**

Altona Beach Precinct

Rain gardens, water play, extended sand areas, lush green spaces and a reconfigured car park are all future options being considered for the Altona Beach precinct that is now open for public comment. The vision incorporates a number of elements that cover Pier Street, the Esplanade, beach access points, Weaver Reserve, shared trails and seawalls. A state government project to redevelop the Altona Pier is also running concurrently and both consultations aim to complement each other. There are three concept designs proposed and Council welcomes feedback from the community on all ideas proposed. To view the concept options and provide feedback, visit **https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altonabeachprecinct-1** and comment by 23 August.

Free support services

Your mental health matters, especially in lockdown. Please reach out for help and stay connected with friends and family through phone or video chats.

Community Connector

Council has developed a 'Community Connector' program offering one-to-one assistance to link people who are isolated or need additional support with local networks that can help with practical needs and social activities. If you or someone you know needs support, email communityconnector@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Beyond Blue

Beyond Blue has dedicated COVID-19 mental wellbeing support services including trained counsellors available 24/7, online community forums and resources for young people. Call **1800 512 348** or visit **coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au**

Australian Red Cross

Volunteers from the Australian Red Cross can link you with local support on **1800 675 398**.

Lifeline

Lifeline has created mental health and wellbeing tips and strategies to continue looking after ourselves and each other. Visit: **www.lifeline.org.au**

Black Dog Institute

Black Dog Institute provide resources to reduce anxiety and stress Visit **blackdoginstitute.org.au/COVID-19**

Testing in Hobsons Bay

If you have symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) you should get tested (fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose and loss of sense of smell or taste). You must also isolate until you receive your test results.

- Altona North Medical Clinic, Circle Health (www.circlehealth.com.au)
- Laverton CoHealth (www.cohealth.org.au/get-tested-for-coronavirus)
- Your local GP can perform the test or refer you to a pathology provider for the test.

For more test locations, visit **www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19** or call **1800 675 398**.

Face masks

It's mandatory to cover your face with a face mask or covering when you are outside your home.

Face masks protect you and the community by providing a physical barrier to coronavirus (COVID-19).

Please remember:

- disposable masks should be used once, then put directly into a rubbish bin. No face masks of any sort should be placed in recycling bins
- cloth masks should be washed each day after use. It's a good idea to have two, so there's always a clean one available
- even while wearing a mask, try to stay 1.5 metres apart.