



DEVONPORT CITY COUNCIL

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COUNCIL RESPONDS TO COVID-19 EMERGENCY

COVID-19 Update

COUNCIL UPDATE

Devonport City Council has announced a broad range of measures in response to the COVID-19 emergency.

This includes the closure of some facilities, the suspension of Council meetings and varied staff work arrangements to ensure the continuity of essential services.

A Committee has also been formed to develop financial support measures for those affected within the community.

As a result of latest advice from medical authorities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Council will close several facilities effective as from Wednesday morning.

From 8 a.m. on 25 March, Council's

Customer Service operations and meeting rooms in the paranapple centre and at the Works Depot, the Bass Strait Maritime Centre, the Devonport Regional Gallery, Visitor Information Centre, Providore Place food pavilion and paranapple convention centre will be closed until further notice.

Council officers will not be holding any non-essential face-to-face meetings with the public from that time but remote meetings for clients can be organised by telephoning 6424 0511 or by emailing council@devonport.tas.gov.au

Recreation centres and sporting clubrooms were closed from lunchtime on Monday.

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COUNCIL APPROVES GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Council has approved major and minor grants totalling \$72,223.65 to nine organisations as part of round two of its 2019-20 Financial Assistance Scheme.

The scheme supports projects, programs and activities developed for the benefit of Devonport's residents and visitors.

Major grants provide \$3,000 to \$25,000 and minor grants provide up to \$3,000 for organisations to deliver programs that enhance the Devonport community through development, community events, community facilities, cultural development, cultural heritage, festivals and events, economic development, sport, recreation and healthy living.

Thirteen organisations sought major or minor grant funding under the scheme.

Donations, individual development grants and in-kind assistance grants are open throughout the year and assessed on a monthly basis.

Successful organisations in round two were –

Major grants

• Devonport Little Athletics	\$24,000.00*
• Don River Railway	\$12,223.65
• Spreyton Cricket Club	\$10,500.00**
• Devonport Soccer Club	\$7,700.00
• Devonport Cricket Club	\$6,800.00
• Spreyton Cricket & Community Club	\$5,000.00*
• East Devonport Football Club	\$2,000.00

(*Subject to matching funds being successfully sourced)

(**Subject to capital request being approved and matching funds being successfully sourced)

Minor grants

• North-West Film Society	\$2,250.00*
• Soroptimist International of Devonport	\$1,750.00

(*Subject to movie being screened at the paranaple convention centre)

COUNCIL TO PURSUE TRAFFIC CONCERNS

Council will continue to push for improved traffic congestion and safety around Spreyton Primary School on Spreyton Main Road, a State Government road.

Last night Council endorsed a submission to the vulnerable road users program for funding to implement improvements.

It was told options to alleviate the congestion included stopping the right hand turn into the school car park or limiting school drop offs to Bay Drive, at the rear of the school.

COUNCIL'S COVID-19 RESPONSE (CONT.)

Café outlets in Providore Place and the paranaple centre have been only offering takeaway services from midday yesterday.

The Splash Aquatic Centre has also closed.

The Spreyton Waste Transfer Station will continue to operate in accord with its normal trading hours.

Paywave is the preferred payment method but cash will be accepted if the correct amount is offered. Receipts will not be issued, unless requested.

Many of Council's payments can still be made through its website at www.devonport.tas.gov.au and anyone who is having difficulty accessing this service can contact Council on 6424 0511 or by emailing council@devonport.com.au

Council has cancelled any further Council and Section 23 Committee meetings and Councillors' workshop until further notice.

It has also formed a COVID-19 Response Committee consisting of three Councillors and relevant senior staff to develop and implement strategies to provide assistance, support and relief for the inevitable hardship many in the community will experience during the crisis.