



## **MEDIA RELEASE RICHMOND SHIRE COUNCIL MARCH 19, 2020**

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### **COVID 19 PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES**

Richmond Shire Council is joining the Nation implementing precautionary measures to minimize the impact of COVID 19. Receiving daily updates from State and Federal authorities, Council is distributing information to the community such as hygiene, prevention methods, how to identify symptoms and other relevant information as it is received.

Mayor John Wharton wants to reassure the community "At the moment there are no cases of COVID 19 in our Community nor are there any individuals requiring isolation due to COVID 19." "Public Health is our main priority" he said.

Effective from March 17 Council has implemented measures to encourage social distancing. All Council facilities and venues will be closed for a period of 30 days to organized social gatherings, further, all future bookings for these venues will also be unavailable for the foreseeable future.

Richmond Aged Care will carry out essential services only and all Centre Based Activities will be postponed for 30 days. The Outside of School Hours Care Program will continue as normal as will the Library and Centrelink Hub.

Kronosaurus Korner and Moonrock Café will reduce trading hours from 9 am to 3pm. The Lakeview Caravan Park and RV Park will remain open.

Council parks and reserves will also remain open for use, but large public gatherings and events are no longer permitted

Mayor Wharton said he "understands the impacts Government restrictions have on our community and social events, however this is an unprecedented crisis and we must err on the side of caution to ensure our medical staff and facilities are not overwhelmed".

Richmond Surgery Practice Manager Mandy Gillatt said that "We are encouraging people to remain in their cars until called into the Surgery. This is to assist with social distancing within our small waiting area" Mandy also said "Please phone ahead for an appointment, walk ins are discouraged"

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**Please direct all enquiries to Mayor – John Wharton – 0427 777 660**