



Important Update - Council News



COVID-19: A special message

Mayor Cr David Lowe and Acting CEO Mary Agostino

As you are aware, COVID-19 continues to impact our community. As a Council, we have been flexible and adaptable in our approach to the pandemic. We continue to work for our community to manage the impact of COVID-19 on our daily lives.

As a community, we must take action together. We implore you to follow all of the medical advice around Coronavirus and please stay home unless you need to leave for essential food, medical care or caregiving, daily exercise or work if you can't work from home. Please follow physical distancing rules, as advised by both the State and Federal Governments.

While our doors may be closed, we are here for our community. Please take the time to read over the latest service changes and Council's role in supporting our community. We are all in this together and we need to work as one to get through this crisis and save lives.

Hardship support for our community

We understand our community wants to know about rates and payments during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are advocating to State and Federal governments for support in recognition of our community's ability to pay and the essential services Local Government provides during a crisis like this.

We are aware that the ability for some people and businesses to pay has been significantly diminished because of the impacts of COVID-19. Be assured we will work closely with you, our community, and businesses to assist with support and options during the rating period. This means we will look at hardship provisions including deferment of fourth instalment rates payments from 31 May to 30 June in the first instance and further arrangements can be discussed based on individual circumstances if needed.

We have options around payment plans. We will cease interest charges for overdue accounts until 30 June 2020. If you need assistance please call us on **5734 6200** during business hours or email mitchell@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au.

COVID-19 Service Updates

Free online leisure classes and library stories

Online storytime on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10.30am (starting Wednesday 8 April). Tune in on our Mitchell Shire Facebook page. We're hosting weekday online exercise classes on the Mitchell Shire Leisure Facebook page.

Animal registrations

Animal registration renewal payments have been extended to 10 May. This gives owners another month to register their animals.

Latest service changes

While we have had to reduce many services, we are still open and supporting the community. At the time of printing these are the most recent service changes.

Recreation

- ⊖ Leisure centres and pools
- ⊖ Playgrounds
- ⊖ Skate parks
- ⊖ Outdoor gym equipment
- ⊖ BBQs
- ✔ Open space

Resource recovery centres

- ⊖ No e-waste drop offs
- ⊖ Seymour (closed)
- ✔ Broadford extended, Pyalong and Wallan normal hours
- ✔ Essential drop off for local businesses and residents

Kerbside bin collection

- ✔ Kerbside pick up will continue **(no changes for Easter public holidays)**

Customer and library services

- ⊖ Face-to-face services
- ✔ Phone and online services

Youth services

- ⊖ Youth rooms
- ✔ Phone and online outreach

Maternal and child health

- ✔ Initial in-home visit
- ✔ Key age and stage appointments
- ✔ Phone outreach

Immunisation

- ✔ Immunisation will continue with precautions in place

Animal management

- ✔ Wandering animals and livestock

For latest service updates, news and support information please visit www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/COVID-19.



Vale David Turnbull
29 January 1959 - 27 March 2020

It is with heavy hearts that we share the sad news that Mitchell Shire Council CEO David Turnbull has passed away following a battle with cancer. He joined Mitchell Shire Council as CEO in May 2016 and laid the foundations for a financially viable and professional organisation that is responsible and oversees Victoria's fastest growing Local Government area.

His professional life was dedicated to helping and assisting communities. Community values and interaction were at the forefront of his life in Local Government. He will be remembered for his commitment to social justice, ensuring the most disadvantaged communities were taken care of, a desire for quality services, strong community engagement, advocacy, innovation, strong financial management and, most of all, planning.

Want more information?

Next meeting: Community Questions and Hearing Committee 7pm, 14 April. Arrangements will be discussed with people presenting.
Ordinary Council Meeting, 7pm, 20 April

(03) 5734 6200 mitchell@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au

MitchellShire

