IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION
Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Coochiemudlo Island (Goochie Mudlo) – 27 March 2020

Redland City Council has business continuity and pandemic plans to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and manage the impact on our Redlands Coast communities. This includes a special focus on our island communities.

The Redland City Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) has stood up to ensure a coordinated response across agencies.

The LDMG continues to request to the State Government that all of our islands, including Coochiemudlo Island, have enforceable travel bans, allowing for essential travel only. A travel ban has already been accepted by the State Government for North Stradbroke Island. In the absence of a state-enforced travel ban for Coochiemudlo Island, the LDMG and Council continue to communicate to the broader community to not holiday on Coochie.

COVID-19 Working Group

The LDMG has formed COVID-19 Working Groups to look after vulnerable residents on Redlands Coast, including those on our islands.

These working groups are being led by Council and include health and other government agencies and key community members.

Testing clinic

At the moment there is one fever clinic for COVID-19 testing at Redland Hospital. Investigations are underway by Queensland Health into possible locations for more clinics on Redlands Coast. Please note there are criteria for those who will be tested. Contact 📞 **13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84)** before visiting a clinic.

Who's most at risk of COVID-19?

Queensland Health advises that while most people will only experience mild illness from COVID-19, others appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill.

These are elderly people and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes and heart disease).

COVID-19 symptoms

The symptoms of COVID-19 are flu-like and include:

Fever   Cough   Fatigue

Sore throat   Shortness of breath

If you have these symptoms contact 📞 **13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84)** or your GP. Please do not go to your GP surgery or any other medical facility without telephoning ahead first to ensure the appropriate infection controls are in place.

How to avoid infection and stop the spread of the virus

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay at home if you are unwell.
- Practise social distancing, keeping 1.5m away from others.
- Cover your mouth or nose with your elbow when coughing or sneezing.
- Use disposable tissues and dispose of them in a bin.
- Regularly wipe down surfaces with disinfectant.
- Avoid contact with anyone showing adverse respiratory symptoms.
- Adhere to the Australian Government's 14-day self-quarantine requirement if returning from overseas or interstate.

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🌐 **redland.qld.gov.au**   🌐 **health.qld.gov.au**

Council's social and economic stimulus package

Redland City Council has announced a $2 million plus social and economic package to support Redlands Coast residents, businesses and community groups through the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic:

- Double the amount of time to pay next rates bill (due date extended from 11 May until 11 June 2020)
- $288,000 in grants for business and community groups experiencing hardship due to COVID-19
- Working directly with businesses, social enterprises and community groups to help them access state and federal economic stimulus packages
- Reduced red-tape for businesses and community groups
- Provide a one-off contribution towards electricity costs for clubs and associations registered under Council's community electricity scheme
- Strengthen Council's local buy preference and fast-track payments
- Expand Council's Wi-Fi to assist businesses
- Promote, review and update Council's financial hardship policy to ensure eligible ratepayers can access hardship provisions in relation to their statutory rates and charges
- Seek to fast-track $60 million in Council infrastructure works within the community by taking advantage of potential state and federal government grants announced.

There are also state and federal government packages available:

⊕ **www.qld.gov.au/about/industry-recovery**
⊕ **health.gov.au**

Access to services

The LDMG is working to ensure island communities have access to the services they need, including groceries, transport and pharmaceuticals.

Ferry services

The LDMG has contacted the Coochiemudlo Island Ferry and Vehicular Barge Service (Amity Trader) to ensure ferry operators are prepared to transport people on and off the islands.

Council advises:

- Passengers to try and maintain a distance of 1.5m from other passengers
- Consider sitting in the open air
- Use the hand sanitisers provided by ferry operators when embarking and disembarking the vessel

For ferry travel advice and information, please visit Amity Trader ⊕ **amitytrader.com**

Check in on each other

While you are not encouraged to physically interact with your neighbours, you can check in on them via the phone, social media or while exercising social distancing of at least 1.5m.

If you need help, please don't be shy in asking for it through friends and family, a community group, medical services or Council.

Council closures

Council has also temporarily closed all non-essential services including:

- Customer Service Centres at Victoria Point and Capalaba
- Redland Performing Arts Centre (RPAC)
- Libraries
- Art galleries
- IndigiScapes
- Visitor Information Centre
- Community halls
- Cleveland and Russell Island pools
- RecycleWorld, Redland Bay

A range of other community-run events have been cancelled. Please see Council's website for details.

Stay up-to-date

We encourage you to regularly check Australian Government, Queensland Health and Redland City Council's websites and social media.

Council (including Coronavirus webpage):
⊕ **redland.qld.gov.au** ☎ **3829 8999**

Health advice:
Queensland Health ⊕ **health.qld.gov.au**
Australian Government Health ⊕ **health.gov.au**

Travel advice:
⊕ **smartraveller.gov.au**