

# Easter Message from the Mayor and CEO



## COVID-19 Update 8 April 2020

At Council, we are committed to keeping our community safe during these unprecedented times. We call upon all of you, who individually and collectively make up the Alexandrina community, to partner with us to help **“stop the spread”**.

We can only do this through a shared understanding and commitment to what the public health experts tell us – social distancing is our ‘new norm’; a concept we have no choice but to embrace, now and into the foreseeable future.

### Stopping the Spread

To demonstrate the leadership our community rightly expects, Council has embraced a range of measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, some of which are enforceable by SA Police, and also some extra measures that we believe are necessary to better protect our resident population, which is one of the oldest and therefore most vulnerable in South Australia.

We have closed our play grounds, dog parks, outdoor gym equipment, indoor and outdoor swimming pools and BBQ areas. We have also closed a number of our public toilets to ensure that adequate supplies of hygiene products are available in those that remain open.

On the advice of State Government our beaches and open spaces remain open. We are lucky to live in a beautiful area where we can connect with nature and de-stress, but we strongly urge you to keep your distance from others when exercising in the great outdoors. Gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited and minimising the number of people gathering to 2 is encouraged.

In practical terms, all South Australians are being urged to stay at home with our immediate families as much as possible this Easter and school holidays, only going out for the essentials. The curve is flattening here in SA but this is no time to be complacent – staying home will save lives. The sooner we get through this, the sooner we can welcome our valued visitors back to beautiful Alexandrina.

### Supporting Each Other

We need to work together to stop the spread, but while we are staying home, we also need to work together to stay connected and look after our collective wellbeing. One of the things people love most about living in Alexandrina is our strong community spirit, and right now, looking after each other has never been more important. Be sure to pick up the phone, check in with your friends and loved ones, and support each other as best you can. If you are someone in need of extra support, our Community Hotline is available on 8555 7000 during normal business hours or visit our website for a list of trusted COVID-19 support services.

## Supporting Local Business

Local businesses create local jobs. Supporting them has never been more important. As a customer, you can help our local food businesses survive this downturn and bounce back stronger than ever.

- Commit to buying a meal once a week from your local pub, restaurant or café now offering takeaway.
- Order your meat, seafood and groceries from the local butcher or grocer to prepare a delicious meal at home.
- Stuck for a present idea? Purchase a meal or gift voucher to use later in the year.
- Alexandrina Council has compiled a list of your favourite local food businesses that are open for take away and home delivery. View the local takeaway and home delivery food guide at [alexandrina.sa.gov.au](http://alexandrina.sa.gov.au)

## Serving our Community

As an essential service to community, we are ensuring that Council staff remain as well as possible by following stringent work health and safety guidelines. Our focus is ensuring Council staff remain available to continue the valuable work they do every day to ensure our region continues to operate effectively – by maintaining our 1200 km road network, continuing to collect rubbish and recycling, maintaining our parks and gardens for families to exercise, providing helpful advice through our community and business hotlines, and importantly, by ensuring we are ready to mobilise a speedy recovery response when we come through the other side of the current COVID-19 situation.

Whilst most of our facilities are currently closed for face-to-face contact, we are still here for you by phone and email.

- Visit [alexandrina.sa.gov.au/coronavirusresponse](http://alexandrina.sa.gov.au/coronavirusresponse) for more information on Council services and support.
- For coronavirus specific enquiries, call the Community Hotline on 8555 7000 during business hours or email [coronavirus@alexandrina.sa.gov.au](mailto:coronavirus@alexandrina.sa.gov.au)
- For business support, call Alexandrina Business Hotline on 8555 7455 during business hours or email [business@alexandrina.sa.gov.au](mailto:business@alexandrina.sa.gov.au)

We wish all of you a safe and happy Easter. Together we can “stop the spread”!

Kind regards



**Glenn Rappensberg**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Keith Parkes**  
Mayor