

Office of Local Government



COVID-19 COUNCIL UPDATE

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Monday 17 August 2020

Border exemptions for additional remote communities

Residents in or near selected Remote Communities are now allowed to cross the NSW-Victorian border in order to obtain essential services.

The change comes as a result of an exemption made to the Remote Communities to the Public Health (COVID-19 Border Control) Order 2020 to include additional Remote Communities.

The current list of communities and conditions can be found [here](#).



Remote Communities

Public Health (COVID-19 Border Control) Order 2020
Made under the *Public Health Act 2010 (NSW)*



New projects determined through Planning System Acceleration Program

The transformation of an existing warehouse to a hand sanitiser factory in the Shoalhaven is part of the latest tranche of ten fast-tracked projects to be determined through the NSW Government's Planning

System Acceleration Program (PSAP).

Apart from the hand sanitiser factory, the fifth and latest tranche of proposed projects includes a new school in Sydney's South West, a multi-trades and digital technology hub at TAFE Meadowbank and a new road project linking WestConnex to Sydney's Kingsford Smith Airport.

Also included is the creation of the new Aerotropolis State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP), which will unlock rezonings for five new employment and environmental precincts around the new Western Sydney Airport including the Aerotropolis Core, Badgerys Creek, Northern Gateway and Agribusiness and Wianamatta-South Creek.

The PSAP has already accelerated 80 projects over the last four months pumping more than \$22 billion into the State's economy, creating opportunities for more than 48,000 jobs and delivering more than 400 hectares of open space, parks and conservation lands.

This will be the second last tranche of fast-tracked projects under the current program, with details on a new recovery focused acceleration program to be released in the coming weeks.

Decisions will be made on tranche five projects by September 11.

For more information click [here](#).

PPE manufacturing to skyrocket in NSW

The NSW Government has further ramped up its commitment to COVID safety by introducing a \$5 million grants scheme to locally manufacture critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).



The program will support domestic manufacturing of PPE in NSW by providing grants to local companies to help fund equipment, raw materials and recruitment of skilled staff.

The new grants will be awarded to manufacturers who can demonstrate their ability to ramp up or repurpose manufacturing of items including masks, gowns, disinfectant, hand-wash and soap or their components.

In April and May, nearly 2,000 companies across the State answered the NSW Government's call to register their ability to supply PPE through its Emergency Supplies Portal, including 235 in regional areas.

Local manufacturers and suppliers who registered to provide PPE have also been listed in a directory on the [Buy NSW website](#) with the list having already been downloaded more than 4,000 times.

More information on the scheme can be found [here](#), or by contacting the NSW Procurement Service Centre on nswbuy@treasury.nsw.gov.au or by calling 1800 679 289.

Alternatively, you can email the Scheme Management Team at cleaning@treasury.nsw.gov.au.



Upcoming OLG webinar with Minister Dominello

The Office of Local Government (OLG) is hosting a council webinar with Minister for Customer Service Victor Dominello (pictured) on Thursday (August 20) from 2-3pm.

Invitations have been distributed to mayors and general managers with information on how they can register for the webinar.

Councils are also encouraged to submit any questions they would like

answered during the webinar when they register.

The webinars are part of a series coordinated by Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock with relevant Ministers and public officials across Government to keep mayors and general managers up to date on the latest COVID-19 information and answer their questions.

Recordings of webinars are available on [the OLG website](#).

Further council webinars will be announced in due course.



Information and resources

[Guidelines for COVID Safe workplaces](#)
Safety plans for a range of businesses and organisations can be found [here](#), and those in the sport and recreation sector [here](#).

[Local government toolkit](#)

The Department of Customer Service has prepared a toolkit for councils regarding the [Victoria-NSW border closure](#).

[Job Retention Allowance payment applications](#)

Councils can still apply for the Job Retention Allowance payment of \$1,500 per fortnight, per eligible employee. Find out how in this [circular](#).

[Detailed OLG guidance to councils](#)

Councils can access detailed guidance on:

- [Local government legislative amendments](#)
- [Local government economic stimulus package](#)
- [The latest Public Health Order](#)

[Quicklinks](#)

Councils can access the latest information and resources about COVID-19 on the [NSW Government](#), [NSW Health](#), [Commonwealth Government](#), [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), and [NSW Office of Local Government](#) websites.

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