

# COVID-19 UPDATE

*from the SGSC CEO*

**17 April 2020**

*To all of our valued stakeholders, in an effort to keep everyone informed at a relatively regular and coordinated manner we are producing this Council update weekly for the foreseeable future.*

*I hope each week to cover the key topics of—Council Services, relevant Community Updates, Business Support and relevant internal Council matters such as Council Meetings and the like.*

*Mostly we will provide summaries and links to further information that can be found on various digital media of Council and others. We are working on OSOM (One Source One Message) so there is no confusion out there.*

*I am very keen to hear from your organisations in two regards—what you are doing and where can Council assist.*

*We all know there are trying and uncharted times we are in and with our focus on our people, our community and our environment—we are all in this together and we will get through it together.*

**Michael Tudball, Chief Executive Officer, Southern Grampians Shire Council.**

## Service Updates

### Business Support

The Economic Development and Tourism team continue to provide support to businesses through this current COVID 19 crisis.

Colin Thompson has continued to contact businesses and prepared reports on how each business can access the raft of federal and state government support available. Please see [attached](#) a number of graphs indicating the geographical area, type of business and number of businesses supported. This data does not include all businesses contacted by our unit just those that have taken up the assistance Colin is providing.

### Closure of Boat Ramps, Piers and Jetties

State Government has advised that all public boat ramps, piers and jetties must be closed for recreational boating and fishing until further notice. Piers and jetties can be used for walkers or people actively exercising.

To ensure that boat ramps remain accessible to commercial users and Emergency Services, ramps will not be physically closed or blocked during this period.

### Extension of State of Emergency

Please find [attached](#) media release from the Premier regarding the extension of the State of Emergency.

As advised last week the SGSC closure and other arrangements as a result of COVID-19 were extended through to Friday 15 May 2020 in line with State Government and other current advice.

# SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

## COVID-19 RESPONSE: UPDATE ON COUNCIL OPERATIONS

INFORMATION CURRENT - 16 APRIL 2020

The following measures will be implemented as of 5pm Friday 20 March:

**CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES** Brown Street and Market Place offices will be closed to the public but staff are on hand to take enquiries over the phone (5573 0444) or via email (council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au).

**VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES** Closed.

**HAMILTON GALLERY** Closed.

**HAMILTON CINEMA** Closed.

**HAMILTON LIBRARY** Closed, including mobile library. Scheduled events and programming, will not proceed. Digital services including eBooks, movies, eAudiobooks and more are still available to borrow through library memberships. Contact the Library on 5573 0470 for more information. After hours return chute remains open for returns. No fines and due dates will apply during this period.

**HAMILTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE** Closed. Upcoming events have been cancelled. Contact the PAC (5573 0429) to access a refund for tickets purchased.

**HAMILTON INDOOR LEISURE AND AQUATIC CENTRE** Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre (and all associated facilities and programs including Vitality Gym), and all outdoor pools throughout the Shire will be closed.

**OUTDOOR POOLS** Closed, including early morning swimming.

**HAMILTON REGIONAL LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE** Will remain open however access to HRLX weekly sales will be limited to buyers, stock agents, transport operators and council staff. The general public will not be able to attend, even if they are sellers.

<b>HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES</b>	Operating as normal.
<b>L2P PROGRAM</b>	Suspended.
<b>MEALS ON WHEELS</b>	Service continues to operate as normal, however meals will be delivered to clients by Council staff only.
<b>SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRE</b>	Flu vaccination programs will not be provided through the senior citizens centres this year, to avoid large gathering of at risk persons in one place.
<b>FAMILY DAY CARE</b>	Family Day Care will remain available until the Department of Education advises that the service should not be operated.
<b>HILAC OCCASIONAL CARE</b>	Closed.
<b>MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH</b>	Phone only basis. Anyone who had a scheduled appointment will be contacted by the Maternal Child Health nurses. If face-to-face appointments are required (immunisations, key age and stage appointments) 15 minute appointments will be scheduled. if you are unwell please reschedule your appointment. Contact the Frances Hewett Community Centre on 5551 8480 for concerns or queries.
<b>COUNCIL MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS</b>	The May Council Meeting will be held in Hamilton. While this meeting is still open to the public, it is anticipated it be live streamed via council's Facebook page and we would strongly encourage you to engage with the meeting in this format. All other Council organised engagement sessions and events (eg Listening Posts, community meetings) will also be cancelled for the foreseeable future.
<b>REGULATORY SERVICES</b>	Market Place office will be closed to the public. Services will be by appointment only. Please contact 5573 0227.
<b>KERBSIDE WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES</b>	Services will continue as normal.
<b>TRANSFER STATIONS</b>	Hamilton Transfer station will be open Saturdays (9:30-4:15). Please note the number of people let inside the gates at any one time will be limited. Electronic payments only. Other transfer stations across the Shire are closed to the general public but remain open to account holders and commercial operators. Anyone who is adversely affected may be able to arrange waste drop off by appointment. Please contact 5573 0444 to discuss.

## DISA FESTIVAL 2020

Cancelled.

## COUNCIL OPERATED CARAVAN PARKS: PENSHURST & COLERAINE

Closed to general public. Permanent residents and those placed in caravan parks by DHHS as emergency housing will not be impacted by these closures.

## PLAYGROUNDS

Playgrounds and skate parks across the shire will be closed til further notice from 26 March 2020.



**For more information, please contact Council on 55730444 or visit [www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)**

**THERE ARE ONLY  
FOUR REASONS  
TO GO OUT:**

<b>MEDICAL CARE &amp; CAREGIVING</b> 	<b>EXERCISE</b> 
<b>FOOD &amp; SUPPLIES</b> <i>THAT YOU NEED</i> 	<b>WORK &amp; EDUCATION</b> <i>IF NECESSARY</i> 

*Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or require any further information.*

Michael Tudball Chief Executive Officer, Southern Grampians Shire Council

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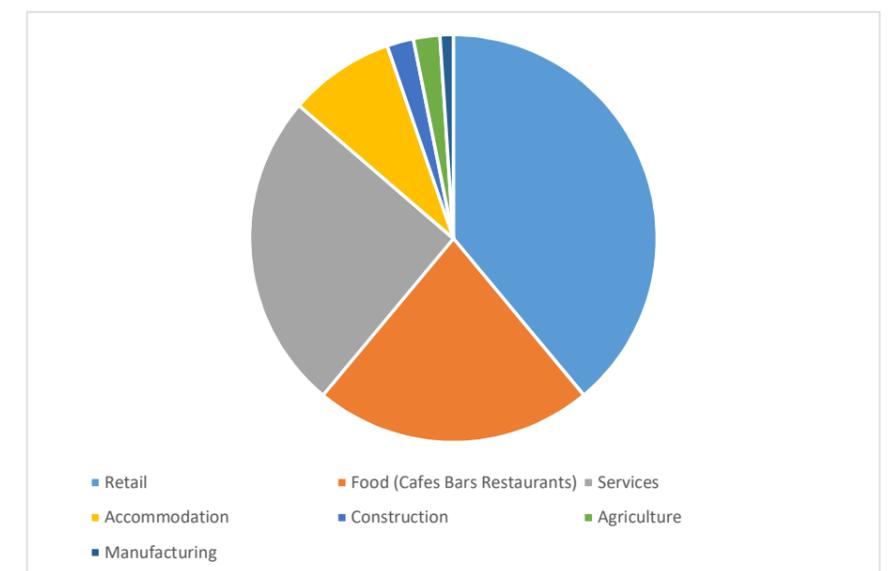
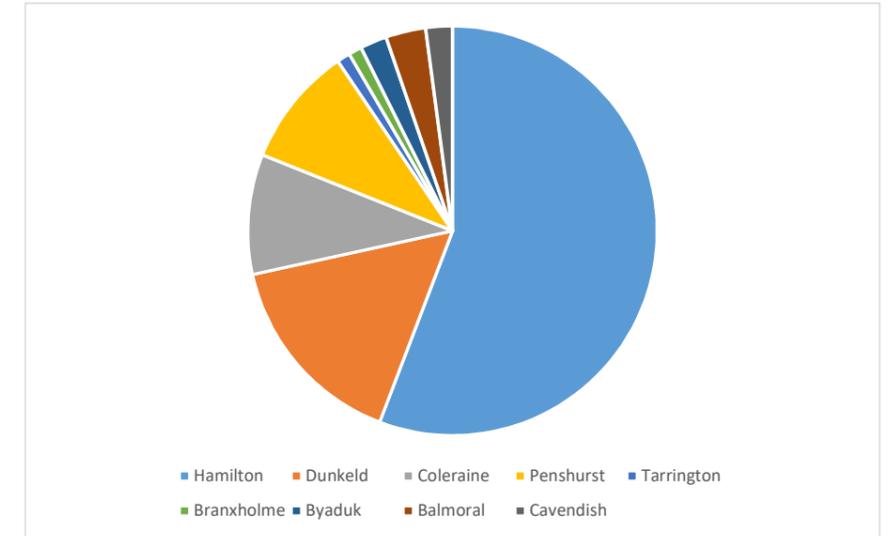
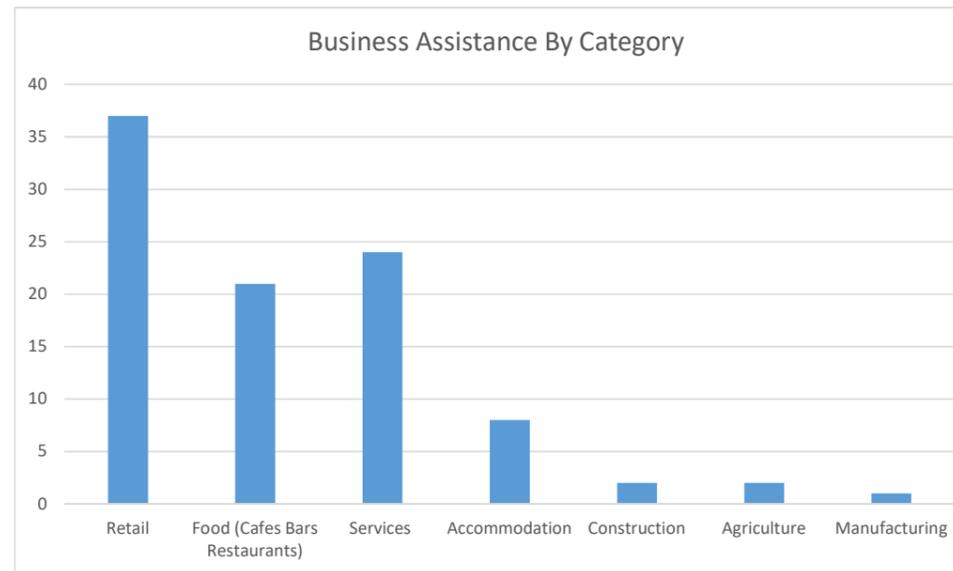
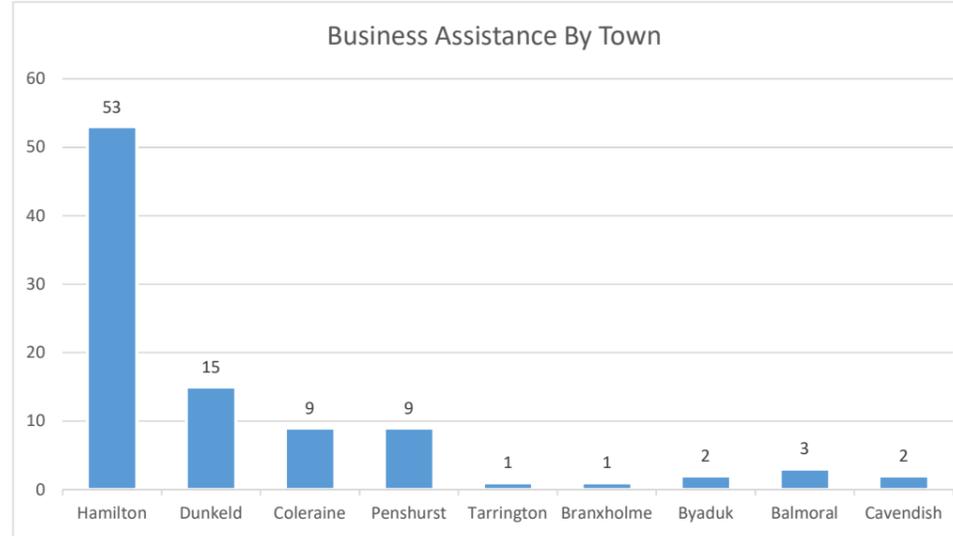
## SGSC - Business Assistance Data

Business Assistance By Town	
Hamilton	53
Dunkeld	15
Coleraine	9
Penshurst	9
Tarrington	1
Branxholme	1
Byaduk	2
Balmoral	3
Cavendish	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>

Business Referral Channel	
Email	8
Staff Referral	82
Facebook	1
Other	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>

Business Assistance By Category	
Retail	37
Food (Cafes Bars Restaurants)	21
Services	24
Accommodation	8
Construction	2
Agriculture	2
Manufacturing	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>

Date update: 16/04



**From:** Michael Tudball  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 April 2020 9:46 AM  
**To:** Elise Holmes  
**Subject:** FW: State Of Emergency For Coronavirus Extended To Save Lives

**Daniel Andrews**  
Premier

A red graphic element consisting of a white trapezoidal shape on the left and a red rectangle on the right. The text "DELIVERING" is in white on the red background, and "FOR ALL VICTORIANS" is in red on the white background.

**DELIVERING**  
FOR ALL VICTORIANS

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Display problems? [View this email in your browser.](#)

# State Of Emergency For Coronavirus Extended To Save Lives

**12th Apr 2020**

The State of Emergency in Victoria is being extended for another four weeks to give the Victorian Government the powers it needs to keep slowing the spread of coronavirus and save lives.

Premier Daniel Andrews announced today that the State of Emergency declared last month would be extended until midnight 11 May 2020 to continue the measures designed to 'flatten the curve' of coronavirus and give our health system the best chance of managing the virus. The State of Emergency was originally due to expire on 13 April.

Under a State of Emergency, Authorised Officers, at the direction of the Chief Health Officer, can act to eliminate or reduce a serious risk to public health by detaining people, restricting movement, preventing entry to

premises, or providing any other direction an AO considers reasonable to protect public health.

The month-long extension will ensure the Government can continue its strict enforcement of social distancing, isolation and other vital directions put in place by the Chief Health Officer to slow the spread of coronavirus.

While we are starting to see some improvement in the rate of transmission, now is not the time for complacency. We still have a long way to go. If we relax now, the virus will start spreading quickly and our health system will be overwhelmed.

We thank those Victorians who are doing the right thing by staying at home, but we must keep at it to save lives.

Our message to Victorians hasn't changed: Stay home. Protect our health system. Save lives.

There are only four reasons to leave your home: food and supplies, medical care and caregiving, exercise, and work or education.

Police have strong powers to enforce these directions and can issue on the spot fines, including up to \$1,652 for individuals and up to \$9,913 for businesses. Under the State of Emergency people who don't comply could also be taken to court and receive a fine of up to \$20,000. Companies face fines of up to \$100,000.

Since 28 March Victoria Police have conducted 19,303 spot checks at homes, businesses and non-essential services across the state and issued over 900 fines.

### **Quotes attributable to Premier Daniel Andrews**

*"There are positive signs our efforts are working – but if we relax now, our hard-won gains will evaporate and people will die."*

*"This is an unprecedented crisis – we need to extend the State of Emergency to help slow the spread of the virus, protect our health system and save lives."*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Health Jenny Mikakos**

*"This is the biggest public health challenge we've faced in our lifetimes, that's why it's so important that these measures remain in place – without them our health system will be overwhelmed."*

Connect with Daniel Andrews



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