

Councillor Resolution Report

Year:

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-124	Mayoral Minute - COVID-19 Pandemic Response Report: I2020/460	26/03/2020
Directorate: Corporate and Community Services		
Resolved that Council:		
1.	In regards to Public Safety and Health:	
a)	Adopts a 'Byron Stay Home' campaign in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic. This campaign to inform council's decision-making, services and activities. The hashtag #ByronStayHome (or something similar) to be used in all Council public announcements and promoted through social media platforms.	
b)	Establishes a 3 month ban on the use of public spaces for busking or other activity within the definition, including: tarot cards and palm readers, fortune readers, or the display or demonstration of items, particularly multiples of items, with an implication that they are available for sale or otherwise in exchange for money.	
c)	Closes the Main Beach and Clarkes Beach carparks for 3 months.	
d)	Promotes effective social distancing practises particularly in common use spaces such as Apex park and if this fails to occur, provide delegated authority to close these spaces to the public.	
e)	Calls upon the Premier of NSW to reciprocate the closure of the QLD-NSW border to stem the influx of those from Queensland visiting Byron Shire.	
f)	Acknowledges and educates the community as to the delineating authority regarding enforcing social distancing.	
g)	Establishes and installs clear signage promoting effective social distancing.	
h)	Calls upon the Premiers of NSW and QLD to stop the use of long distance bus services to minimise the migration of people from cities to regional areas	
i)	That Council's Environmental Health Officers continue to guide and support food and grocery outlets in implementing all recommended COVID-19 hygiene strategies	
2.	In regards to Council operations:	
a)	Suspends footpath dining and therefore, suspend footpath dining fees for 3 months and review after that time.	
b)	Closes all halls and sporting centres for 3 months	
c)	Decreases opening hours of the customer service front desk and investigates ways to provide on-line services which meet the needs of the community and other alternative methods of fulfilling the traditional duties carried out at the front desk.	
d)	Reviews the current fees and charges to the Byron Bay Community Centre for the management and operation of the homeless shower and services provided at the Girl Guides Hall.	
3.	In regards to the Visitor Economy	
a)	Acknowledges the dramatic impact of COVID 19 on the Visitor Economy, by far the largest economic driver and employer in Byron Shire, with traditional occupancy rates of 80-90% over the Easter and April period set to drop to approximately 20%.	
b)	Writes to owners of backpacker hostels supporting the instructions by police for ensuring information on COVID 19 is readily shared and social gatherings are minimised and social distancing actively practised.	
c)	Supports the swift transition of backpacker workers currently in Byron Shire to agriculture areas for much needed seasonal employment and that Council's Sustainable Agricultural Officer explore opportunities to connect backpackers seeking work with farmers seeking workers	
d)	Notes with great concern and disappointment the recent promotion of Byron Shire as an attractive place to 'self isolate' by Air Bnb and other STHL properties and seek the support from Air BnB and Stayz and other platforms to remove this promotional messaging. That this concern also be conveyed to the Federal and NSW Ministers of Tourism.	
e)	Support the Federal Government recommendation to not travel for non essential reasons as Byron Shire does not need nor wish to receive visitors at this time	
4.	In regards to supporting the wider resilience of the community:	
a)	Supports the expansion of current regular farmers markets to other days and the establishment of new food share/market/swap activities if requested.	
b)	Notes the current draft Byron Shire Community Gardens policy soon to be placed on public exhibition also include the calling for expressions of interest proposals for the establishment of new community gardens.	
c)	Notes the current lack of delivery services of supermarket and other items and seeks staff to review opportunities for our staff to provide delivery services to our most vulnerable.	
d)	Supports the use of certain locations (on council owned and or managed land) for class 2 mobile vendors to operate weekly subject to a formal booking through council. Some possible locations that have been identified for consideration in the Commercial Activities on Road Reserves Policy are as follows: - Wategos Beach (1 location); - Denning Park (1 location); and - Brunswick Heads (2 locations).	
5.	To support individuals and businesses who may be experiencing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic:	
a)	Promote Council's Debt Management and Financial Hardship Assistance Policy and support people who are having difficulty paying to make payment arrangements under this policy;	

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- b) Amend the Debt Management and Financial Hardship Assistance Policy to include application to businesses within Byron Shire for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - c) Encourage cashless payment methods by suspending relevant merchant surcharge;
 - d) Waive the hall booking cancellation fee and provide full refunds to local groups and local businesses who cancel for the duration of the pandemic;
 - e) Explore the feasibility of a 'freeze' of fees and charges for next financial year.
6. In light of the fact that many parents have elected to keep their children home during the COVID-19 pandemic and are still being charged fees:
- a) That all families currently enrolled in Council's Children's Services including long day care services and Outside of School Hour Care Service (OSHC) be granted a 50% reduction in gap fees for services effective from 23 March 2020 for a 1 month period, regardless of whether their child/ren is attending.
 - b) This arrangement be reviewed at the end of the month period with an opportunity to be extended
 - c) That children services staff support families experiencing financial hardship to access government provisions
7. Adopts the standards continued in the *LGNSW Joint Statement (Revised): Responding to the Coronavirus (COVID-19 Pandemic)* that provides guidance to Local Government employers and employees on how to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mover: Simon Richardson

Seconder:

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-160	COVID-19 Financial Support Report:	16/04/2020
	Directorate: General Manager	
Resolved:		
1.	That Council calls on the Federal Government and NSW Government to urgently deliver comprehensive and multifaceted financial support and stimulus packages to local government to enable them to continue to operate effectively and provide essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic.	
2.	That Council calls for the packages to include the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing Financial Assistance Grants payments to 1% to help councils maintain essential functions and services, acknowledging the increased costs and mounting revenue losses arising from COVID-19 (and drought and bushfire where affected) as well as giving councils capacity to provide hardship assistance to businesses and residents.• Immediate financial assistance to support council employees, especially in early education and care.• Providing stimulus funding to councils for projects that will help sustain council operations and boost local economies. This could be achieved through increasing or bringing forward funding under existing funding programs or introducing new programs.• Increased access to TAFE, VET and other apprenticeship opportunities that council staff can undertake to address skill shortages, especially for staff in non-essential services who are unable to be redeployed.	
3.	That Council commends the NSW and Federal Governments on their stewardship during this crisis and commits to working in partnership to protect community health and sustain local economies through this crisis.	
4.	That Council write to the local Federal Member the Hon Justine Elliot MP, and State Member Tamara Smith MP, Prime Minister the Hon Scott Morrison MP, NSW Premier the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Federal Treasurer the Hon Josh Frydenberg MP, NSW Treasurer the Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, NSW Local Government Minister the Hon Shelley Hancock MP, Federal Minister for Local Government the Hon Mark Coulton, Federal Opposition Leader the Hon Anthony Albanese, NSW Opposition Leader Jodi McKay MP, Federal Shadow Minister for Local Government Jason Clare MP and NSW Shadow Minister for Local Government Greg Warren MP to confirm their support for increased financial assistance and stimulus funding for local government to help councils maintain essential services and employment during the COVID-19 pandemic.	
5.	That Council endorses Local Government NSW's sector-wide campaign to obtain financial assistance, employment support and stimulus funding for the local government sector.	
6.	That Council advise LGNSW President Linda Scott of the passage of this Mayoral Minute.	
Mover: Simon Richardson		
Seconder:		

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Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-171	COVID-19 Financial Assistance and Actions Report: I2020/543	23/04/2020
Directorate: Corporate and Community Services		
<p>Resolved that Council notes and endorses the actions taken or proposed to be taken, as identified in this report, including the following specific recommendations:</p> <p><u>Recommendation 1:</u> Council relaxes the owner/occupier rule to also allow payment arrangements from owners with multiple properties provided they enter into a suitable payment arrangement for each individual property.</p> <p><u>Recommendation 2:</u> Council suspends debt recovery action beyond issuance of a reminder notice or statement with a review to be conducted in December 2020.</p> <p><u>Recommendation 3:</u> Council agrees to a further deferment of six months as of 1 April 2020 of Developer Contributions for Section 64 Sewerage Contributions. The deferment does not mean the required repayments are reduced or written off but means that repayments due do not need to be made for the next six months and will need to recommence on 1 October 2020 subject to a review at that time.</p> <p><u>Recommendation 4:</u> Council establishes a bank overdraft facility for \$1,000,000 and authorises the General Manager to establish this facility.</p>		
Mover: Simon Richardson		Seconder: Michael Lyon

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-262	Footpath Dining Report: I2020/812	28/05/2020
Directorate: Sustainable Environment and Economy		
<p>Resolved that in relation to the implemented response to COVID-19, Council lifts, from 1 June 2020, the current suspension on the use of the footpath for dining purposes for those premises that have a valid footpath dining approval in place.</p>		
Mover: Simon Richardson		Seconder:

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-257	CONFIDENTIAL - Rent relief for commercial and non-profit tenants of Council during the COVID-19 crisis Report: I2020/442	28/05/2020
Directorate: General Manager		
<p>Resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">That council waive all rent and licence fees to businesses affected and identified in the report from 15 March to 30 June 2020That the General Manager is delegated to negotiate and enter into arrangements with each affected business on the payments due after 30 June until 31 October 2020		
Mover: Alan Hunter		Seconder: Simon Richardson

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Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-330	Rent relief for commercial and non-profit tenants of Council during the COVID-19 crisis Confidential Report: I2020/888 Directorate: General Manager	25/06/2020
Resolved that council waive 50% of the rent for the Society identified in the report for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.		
Mover: Alan Hunter		Seconder: Michael Lyon

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-360	Busking Licences Report: I2020/1122 Directorate: Sustainable Environment and Economy	30/07/2020
Resolved that Council in relation to the implemented response to COVID-19, extend the current suspension on the use of public spaces for busking or other activity within the definition, including: tarot cards and palm readers, fortune readers, or the display or demonstration of items, particularly multiples of items, with an implication that they are available for sale or otherwise in exchange for money until 31 January 2021.		
Mover: Simon Richardson		Seconder: Alan Hunter

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-478	Footpath dining and COVID-19 impacts Report: I2020/1270 Directorate: Sustainable Environment and Economy	17/09/2020
Resolved that Council grant a temporary reduction of 50% in licence fees for those businesses still wishing to use the footpath, but with restrictions on table numbers so they can comply with COVID-19 requirements for the 2020-2021 financial year in response to continuing impacts of COVID-19.		
Mover: Michael Lyon		Seconder: Simon Richardson

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Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
20-512	Extension of Ratepayers Payment Arrangements due to COVID-19 Report: I2020/1269	24/09/2020
Directorate: Corporate and Community Services		
Resolved that Council extends current payment arrangements for ratepayers impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic to 25 March 2021.		
Mover: Michael Lyon		
Seconder: Simon Richardson		

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
21-077	Expiry of Rates & Charges Financial Assistance due to COVID-19 on 25 March 2021 Report: I2021/401	25/03/2021
Directorate: Corporate and Community Services		
Resolved:		
1. That Council ceases to accept special temporary COVID-19 payment plan applications after 25 March 2021.		
2. For ratepayers that have registered for the special COVID-19 payment plan on or before 25 March 2021, that Council extends the interest write-off provisions to 30 June 2021.		
3. That Council extends the suspension of rates and charges debt management practices (except for the issuing of overdue reminder notices) under the current Debt Management and Financial Hardship Assistance Policy 2019 (Attachment 1 – E2019/63417) until 30 June 2021.		
Mover: Simon Richardson		
Seconder: Basil Cameron		

Res No	Report Title	Meeting Date
21-336	Rent relief to commercial lease and sub-licence holders due to COVID-19 Report: I2021/1100	26/08/2021
Directorate: General Manager		
Resolved:		
1. That Council authorises 28-day public consultation to amend Policy 5.52 Commercial Activities on Coastal and Riparian Crown Reserves to increase the term of Class 2 Sub-Licences by twelve-months to enable an extension of the current Class 2 Sub-Licences to 1 November 2024.		
2. That Council delegates to the General Manager, the authority to amend Policy 5.52 Commercial Activities on Coastal and Riparian Crown Reserves as stated in (1) above if no submissions are received from public consultation.		
3. That a report be brought to Council for consideration to amend Policy 5.52 Commercial Activities on Coastal and Riparian Crown Reserves as stated in (1) above if submissions are received from the public consultation.		
4. That Council:		
a. delegates to the General Manager, the authority to negotiate deferred rent relief, if any, with commercial surf schools, stand up paddleboard schools, sea kayak sub licensees and Golden Breed Corporation, at a rate to be determined by the General Manager for any period between 29 March 2021 and 12 July 2021.		
b. waives, in accordance with the recent ruling, the minimum of 50% of rent and licensee fees payable by commercial surf		

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schools, stand up paddleboard schools, sea kayak sub licensees identified in the Report and Golden Breed Corporation for the period between 13 July 2021 to 13 January 2022.

- c. Delegates to the General Manager authority to negotiate and enter into arrangements with commercial surf schools, stand up paddleboard schools, sea kayak sub licensees identified in the Report and Golden Breed Corporation for the balance of 50% rent between 13 July 2021 and 13 January 2022.

Mover: Alan Hunter

Seconder: Michael Lyon