

19 June 2020

## Support for our local small businesses

Small businesses may be eligible for Council support under relief measures to assist them with getting back on track after the recent challenging times.

“Over the past few months many local businesses have been severely affected by the COVID-19 restrictions,” said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Denis Todd. “Council has resolved to offer flexible repayment plans and freeze interest for rates, water, sewer and waste charges for local small businesses, as well as waive food shop inspection fees for small businesses in the 2020/21 financial year.”

“These measures allow small businesses to apply for repayment plans and freeze interest on rates, water, sewer and waste on business classified properties until 30 June 2021. Small business owners will have to apply and be approved by Council for this to be applied to their rates,” Cr Todd explained.

“This is a big step in the right direction to hopefully seeing our local economy and small business owners and operators get back on their feet after such unprecedented and challenging times,” said Cr Todd.

“Council, through its Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee, has been a driving force for small business recovery throughout the Shire. There has been two (2) special recovery workshops held in recent months to explore ways to support our local business owners and operators, providing a forum for discussion and making recommendations to Council to support and promote tourism and development in the Warrumbungle Shire after COVID-19,” Cr Todd explained.

For more information on flexible rates for small business owners, contact Council’s Rates Department on (02) 6378 5000.

“Local businesses are encouraged to keep an eye out on Council’s Facebook page and the COVID-19 banner on Council’s website for all updates, and how to access Council support during the COVID-19 pandemic,” concluded Cr Todd.

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