

WALGA Video re COVID – 19 Pandemic – 30 April 2020

Hello, my name is Logan Howlett, the Mayor of the City of Cockburn.

I am one of the three State Councillors representing the South Metropolitan Zone.

The COVID – 19 pandemic continues to be a major focus for communities across the world in the context of responses to it; and as we know changes are being announced on a daily basis.

The messaging from Premier Mark McGowan has a positive focus, however as he often says, we need to remain focused – the curve needs to continue to be flattened and every one of us needs to contribute to that goal.

The Premier announced an easing on the restrictions for gatherings of up to 10 people, effective from Monday, April 27 – with social distancing still to be followed.

The new limit applies to both indoor and outdoor gatherings; and also applies to exercise, with an increase in the number of participants for outdoor personal training to 10 people, however equipment is not to be shared.

Restrictions on recreational activities have also been eased to allow for picnics, fishing, boating, hiking and camping – all within the current travel restrictions and keeping to the new 10-person rule.

Public playgrounds, stake parks and outdoor gym equipment are to remain closed; and restaurants, cafes, food vans, food courts and roadhouses are still restricted to takeaway only.

In announcing the new restrictions, it was highlighted that everyone should continue to practise appropriate social distancing and stay home except for:

- shopping for what you need,
- medical or health care needs,
- exercise, including outdoor personal training without shared equipment;
- training or university study, where remote learning is unavailable;

- childcare or school;
- work; and
- home opens and display village openings, with appropriate record keeping and hygiene practices in place, and in compliance with the 10-person rule.

THE WALGA President and CEO continue to issue specific COVID – 19 Updates and webinars are held each Friday to keep the sector informed.

These are also available on the WALGA website to share with elected members and others.

The Australian Government has launched a voluntary coronavirus app, COVIDSafe with over 2 million people taking up the option already.

The app is designed to assist in finding close contacts of a person diagnosed with COVID-19, speeding up the current manual contact tracing process.

In closing, technology continues to be the way forward with ‘apps’ available for most things in our lives.

And as community leaders:

STAY SAFE; STAY WELL and STAY FOCUSED ON THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

Thank you