



BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL PRESS RELEASE

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF BOURKE SHIRE "RESIDENTS NEED TO STAY HOME THIS EASTER"

As Easter approaches, residents of Bourke, who may have previously looked to travel away or perhaps host visitors over the holiday period, are requested to urgently reconsider their plans.

The COVID-19 virus is spread by contact between humans. The less human movement and contact, the greater the chances of reducing the virus's spread.

Key to the overall goal of reducing the spread of COVID-19 are the clear strategies of practicing social distancing, ceasing public gatherings beyond two (2) people and the need to stop non-essential travel. Throughout Australia, individual states have locked down their borders and enforced self-isolation requirements for returning residents in their bid to achieve the goal.

Easter is traditionally a festive period in Bourke. Easter 2020 needs to be a very different story. To contain the spread of COVID 19, not just in our own communities but within broader Australia, residents need to **STAY AT HOME OVER THE EASTER PERIOD AND ADVISE POTENTIAL VISITORS TO BOURKE TO RESCHEDULE THEIR VISIT TO A DATE MUCH LATER IN THE YEAR.**

Situations such as what we currently face with the COVID-19 Pandemic require each and every one of us to make an individual contribution. Adhering to social distancing, public gathering and non-essential travel requirements go a long way towards doing our part in this crisis. In addition to reducing illness and the potential death of loved ones, our individual contributions greatly assist those tasked with caring for those already effected by the virus.

The reduction of the spread of the virus will take a whole of community effort.

Resist potential travel or hosting visitors this Easter. In Bourke, unless you need to go out for essential reasons, please just stay at home.

END

Contact Mayor, Councillor Barry Hollman on 0409 037 903 or General Manager, Ross Earl on 0409 362 307
7th April 2020