



MEDIA RELEASE

BOURKE SHIRE MAYOR THANKS RESIDENTS AND CALLS FOR CONTINUED VIGILANCE AGAINST VIRUS

Mayor of Bourke Shire, Councillor Barry Hollman, today thanked Shire residents for their support in practising social distancing and good hygiene techniques as the nation continues the fight against the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

“To date, the Shire of Bourke has not experienced a case of COVID-19 and it would be a credit to the Shire if we can get to the end of the Pandemic with this record intact” Councillor Hollman said.

He continued, “Whilst the Prime Minister has announced a three (3) – stage plan to ease COVID-19 restrictions, with the NSW Government having also now announced its details in respect of relaxed restrictions effective Friday, 15 May 2020, I urge all residents to remain vigilant against the virus and continue to practice social distancing and good personal hygiene techniques”.

“This Pandemic still has quite a course to run and it is far from over. It is incumbent on each of us to act responsibly to protect not only ourselves, but also everyone we associate with”. the Mayor added.

Mayor Hollman advised that he had recently heard local Federal Member, the Hon Mark Coulton MP, speak as part of a Local Government New South Wales teleconference where, during a Question and Answer session, Minister Coulton spoke of the need for continuing with social distancing.

“Minister Coulton suggested that it should be assumed that you have the virus, or the person you are near has the virus. I thought that was an excellent way of thinking about social distancing,” the Mayor advised.

Mayor Hollman also made comment regarding the rapidly approaching cooler months of the year.

“If you experience a cold, a sore throat, a runny nose, please don’t go to work. Simple. If you are unwell make contact with your employer and stay at home. In addition, now is the time to be talking to your medical advisor about a flu shot,” the Mayor suggested.

The Mayor also took the opportunity to thank the nation’s political leaders and the frontline medical staff battling the virus for their tireless work.

“The work of medical staff and the strength of leadership displayed by our political leaders have both, in my view, been exemplary during these difficult times,” the Mayor said.

He continued, "I must say a big thank you to the Premier of NSW, the Hon Gladys Berejiklian, who last week went out of her way and called Bourke Radio Station 2WEB to touch base with western region residents via the radio to talk about the virus. At a time when she is undoubtedly extremely busy, her taking the time to call and contact residents is very much recognised and appreciated."

Councillor Barry Hollman
Mayor
11th May 2020

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Further information: Contact Mayor Barry Hollman or General Manager Ross Earl 0268308000.

For updates on the ever-evolving pandemic, access the "Bourke Community COVID-19 Information" page on Facebook.