

24 March 2020

For immediate release

## **Confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Kimberley**

The Shire of Broome is aware that there are now confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our region.

The Shire has been taking pre-emptive measures in anticipation that the virus could reach our community.

These have included the closure of the BRAC and Library physical sites, increased cleaning services and daily communication with the relevant emergency services stakeholders.

The State and Federal Governments are the lead agencies in relation to the COVID-19 response and the Shire is seeking immediate advice from them in terms of our next steps.

The Shire backs a unilateral travel ban to the region, and through the Kimberley Zone, has been pushing for the State Government to enforce this as soon as possible.

Shire of Broome president Harold Tracey said local authorities were taking directions from the lead agencies in relation to actions and measures.

“New measures are being established by the State and Federal Governments on an almost daily basis and the Shire is acting as directed to play its part in tackling COVID-19,” he said.

“Our residents are looking to us for guidance – please rest assured that we are doing everything we can to ensure community safety, as directed from the State and Federal Government.”

Moving forward:

- It is critical that residents heed advice from the State and Federal Governments around social distancing.
- Please do not visit Aboriginal communities.
- If you are displaying COVID-19 symptoms, **do not** present to the hospital. You should start a self-isolation period at home for 14 days and contact the Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080.

For more local information around COVID-19 in Broome, visit the [Shire's Frequently Asked Questions page](#), which will be updated as new information comes to hand.

For State and Federal Government advice and updates, visit the links below:

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>  
<https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/coronavirus>

The Coronavirus Health Information Line is also available on 1800 020 080.

**ENDS**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

**Gareth McKnight, Marketing and Communications Coordinator – 08 9191 3483 / 0408 599 134**