

BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION • AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

**Next Ordinary Meeting of Council:
5pm, 15 September 2020**

Involvement of Community Members in the Process of Recruiting the New General Manager

Council will involve the community in the recruitment of the next Council General Manager. Mark Anderson from the Local Government NSW, an experienced recruitment manager, has been engaged to assist in the process.

A number of community members, drawn randomly from the list of people who made application to be on Council's newly formed advisory committees, will be invited to meet with Mark to have an informal discussion on what they would expect from the next General Manager from a community lead perspective.

The random selection process will be applied regionally to ensure representation from Balranald Township, Euston Township and our rural sector. The meeting will be held in Balranald on Wednesday 9 September with access facilitated via video conferencing technology for invited participants from Euston and the rural sector. All invited participants will be notified directly of the meeting access arrangements.

I will chair the meeting. I will not be inviting former Councillors elected in either the 2012 or 2016 council elections to attend as I am looking for a fresh start. The focus will be on the future and we will not be dwelling on the past.

One of the roles of a council General Manager is to ensure there is a strong level of community engagement so that the community is kept informed of current priorities and issues in the Local Government Area. This includes effective consultation when input submissions are sought on Council decisions. A disengaged community is not conducive to strong strategic planning.

This is an opportunity for residents to share thoughts so that the selection committee has a strong insight into those key attributes to use in the selection process. It will allow the selection committee to structure interview questions and use psychometric profiling to inform part of the decision making on the preferred candidate for the GM position in addition to the essential skills and experience required for the role.

I look forward to working with community representatives on important Council matters.

**Mike Colreavy
ADMINISTRATOR**

Extraordinary Meeting of Council

**Extraordinary Meeting of Council:
5pm, 3 September 2020**

Community is advised that Council will be holding an Extraordinary Meeting of Council tomorrow (Thursday).

The agenda is available on Council's website, and the meeting may be viewed via livestream or replay Council's Facebook page.

\$45 million for southern border small businesses

The NSW Government is providing a grant for small businesses in eligible local government areas (LGAs) that have been impacted by the closure of the NSW and Victorian border.

The 'Southern border small business support grant' is designed to provide immediate, short-term cashflow assistance to help businesses survive or adapt to the changed circumstances.

The grant amount will be tiered based on the business's decline in turnover:

- the first tier of \$5000 is for small businesses, with or without employees (including non-employing sole traders) that have suffered at least a 30% decline in turnover as a result of the border closure
- the second tier of \$10,000 is for small businesses that employ between 0.5 and 20 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, that have suffered at least a 75% decline as a result of the closure.

The grants can only be used for eligible expenses:

- incurred following the introduction of the New South Wales and Victoria border permit scheme on 8 July 2020
- for which no other government support is available. For example, the grant cannot be used to pay wages for staff eligible for JobKeeper.

Eligible LGAs: Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Bega Valley, Edward River, Federation, Greater Hume Shire, Hay, Murray River, Murrumbidgee, Snowy Monaro, Snowy Valleys, Wentworth

Further information on eligibility criteria will be available prior to the application opening date of 8 September 2020. The grants will be available from Tuesday 8 September for six weeks until Sunday 18 October 2020 and small business owners could apply via the Service NSW website.

For more information about this grant, and many others currently available, visit the Service NSW website: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/covid-19-help-small-businesses/grants-loans-and-financial-assistance>

Businesses can also access support from a specialised Business Connect advisor, free of charge, to help navigate the challenges of COVID-19. Business Connect is a dedicated and personalised NSW Government program that provides trusted advice to help you start or grow your small business. If your business has been affected by COVID-19 or bushfires, you can access free business advice and webinars including:

- developing a customised recovery strategy
- managing your cashflow
- accessing finance including grants and loans
- marketing your business to reach new customers
- connecting to other government support and local professional services.

Visit <https://business-connect-register.industry.nsw.gov.au/> or call 1300 134 359 to connect with your local Business Connect advisor.



Contact Council

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