

# Office of Local Government



## COVID-19 COUNCIL UPDATE

---

[subscribe](#) | [print](#) | [forward](#)

21 September 2020

### Launch of COVID Safe Summer Plan

The NSW Government has launched a new plan and resources to support public space managers in their efforts amid COVID-19.



The COVID Safe Summer Plan has five components aligned to the current public health orders:

- Mark out safe distancing in parklands and popular open spaces
- Promote the 'keep a towel length between you' campaign
- Deliver a COVID-Safe summer program of events in parklands and public spaces
- Support local businesses in high streets, plazas and precincts
- Work with councils

The [COVID Safe Summer Plan](#) also aims to support local businesses by encouraging more outdoor dining in the lead up to Christmas-New Year and the summer months.

The [COVID Safe Summer webpage](#) on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website includes the following resources for download:

1. COVID Safe Summer Plan
2. COVID Safe Summer Guide plus five attachments:
  - **New Local** - hidden gems of less known public spaces that local communities can walk and cycle to
  - **Case Studies** - a selection of local and international 'case studies' that demonstrate COVID Safe measures currently being undertaken
  - **Resources** - a guide for public space managers including insights and links to help keep the community stay safe during the pandemic
  - **Beach Messages** - a quick tool for public space managers so they can support local communities with COVID Safety around water
  - **How To Guide: Marking Out Places for People** – a quick tool for public space managers on how to mark out places for people.

Tiles for use on social media channels are also available on the webpage.



## Upcoming OLG webinar with Minister Hazzard

The Office of Local Government (OLG) is hosting a council webinar with Minister for Health and Medical Research Brad Hazzard (pictured) on Monday September 28 from 3-4pm.

Invitations will be distributed to mayors and general managers with information on how they can register for the webinar.

Councils are also encouraged to submit any questions they would like answered during the webinar when they register.

The webinars are part of a series coordinated by Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock with relevant Ministers and public officials across Government to keep mayors and general managers up to date on the latest COVID-19 information and answer their questions.

Recordings of webinars are available on [the OLG website](#).

Further council webinars will be announced in due course.

## Time to Explore NSW

The NSW Government is calling on all Sydneysiders and NSW residents to be a COVID Safe tourist and support local businesses by booking tours and visiting attractions in their own backyard.



To support the Time to Explore NSW campaign, the Government has released two new tools to inspire holidaymakers and help them 'value-add' to their stay:

- An [interactive 'Love NSW' map](#) that allows travellers to search for and identify tourism experiences based on theme. Users can also find experiences within three hours' drive of a selected location, or zoom in to street level to see links to even more tourism businesses
- A series of new [Sydney 'playcation' itineraries](#) highlighting the luxury, family, outdoor adventure, foodie, culture, romance and wellness experiences on offer across the CBD and Greater Sydney.

Visitors, locals and businesses are reminded to stay COVID Safe during the school holidays by maintaining social distancing, good hygiene, and staying home if unwell.

Holidaymakers are encouraged to phone ahead to confirm bookings and check local conditions with business operators.



## Information and resources

[Guidelines for COVID Safe workplaces](#)  
Safety plans for a range of businesses and organisations can be found [here](#), and those in the sport and recreation sector [here](#).

### [Beach management and COVID-19](#)

For information on the role of councils in relation to beach management amid COVID-19 please [click here](#).

### [Job Retention Allowance payment applications](#)

Councils can still apply for the Job Retention Allowance payment of \$1,500 per fortnight, per eligible employee. Find out how in this [circular](#).

### [Together against COVID-19](#)

A pack outlining strategy, plans, and controls for communication to build social

cohesion as the COVID-19 crisis evolves can be found [here](#).

#### [Stakeholder toolkit in community languages](#)

Downloadable translated resources and direct links to information on how to stay COVID Safe in the community and specific resources for businesses can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

#### [Detailed OLG guidance to councils](#)

Councils can access detailed guidance on:

- [Local government legislative amendments](#)
- [Local government economic stimulus package](#)

#### [Quicklinks](#)

Councils can access the latest information and resources about COVID-19 on the [NSW Government](#), [NSW Health](#), [Commonwealth Government](#), [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), and [NSW Office of Local Government](#) websites.

Please click here to [unsubscribe](#) from our mail list.