



MEDIA RELEASE

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LOCAL BUSINESS BOOSTER PROGRAM

Local businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for up to \$1000 cash through Council's Local Business Booster Program launching today.

The Local Business Booster Program is part of Council's campaign to support local business and is intended to provide immediate financial support to businesses that are struggling to meet their operating costs. The program is being funded from an approved budget of \$720,000 in place for Financial Assistance due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the program, businesses can opt to receive a cash payment or a credit on their Council property account or sundry debtor account.

"We recognise this payment will not recoup the losses of business, but it will hopefully provide some short term relief fast," Council's General Manager Brad Cam said.

"This is in addition to the current payment extension Council is offering on rates notices until September to all individuals affected by COVID-19.

"I encourage businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19 to apply as soon as possible, this will ensure Council can review applications and distribute payments quickly."

Eligible businesses must have: an active ABN or ACN; have their main business location in the Mid-Western Region Local Government Area; provide evidence of entitlement to Job Keeper payment (through the ATO); and have met any previous Council grant acquittal requirements.

The maximum amount received by an organisation will be \$1000, however this will be dependent on the number of applications received.

Applications close Friday 12 June and will not be accepted after this date. Applications will be assessed by Council staff and then approved by Council at the June meeting (Wednesday 17 June). Payments to approved applicants will be distributed by Friday 26 June.

Applications for the Local Business Booster Program must be lodged on Council's website or in-person at Council's Administration. Further details regarding this program including the COVID-19 Financial Assistance – Local Business Booster Policy are available on Council's website.

ENDS

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