



**W A V E R L E Y**  
COUNCIL

## **EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENT**

**7.00 PM, FRIDAY 3 APRIL 2020**

Waverley Council  
PO Box 9  
Bondi Junction NSW 1355  
DX 12006 Bondi Junction  
Tel. 9083 8000  
E-mail: [info@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@waverley.nsw.gov.au)

## GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENT

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**NOTICE OF MOTION**  
**CM/4.1/20.04E****Subject:** Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Council's Response**TRIM No:** A20/0245**Submitted by:** Councillor Nemesh  
Councillor Betts  
Councillor Goltsman

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**General Manager's comment**

Council has been working for a number of weeks in response to the threat to the community from Novel Coronavirus COVID-19. Generally, decision-making has been based on advice from governmental and health authorities, both publicly announced and provided via direct contact and/or on risk assessment exercises conducted by officers.

Council has closed all beaches within Waverley. This has had the effect of withdrawing much of the attractant to our beachside parks and localities. Council has not yet closed beachside parks. At the current time, beachside parks, along with other parks and reserves, are being monitored for numbers and compliance with social distancing. With beaches being closed, the large numbers seen in usual visitation patterns are not coming to the beachside parks.

The coastal walk is also being monitored. There are sometimes large numbers on this facility, but they are moving past each other and are not in 'close contact' with others. Health advice is that it is very difficult for coronavirus to be transmitted when two people walk past each other. Signage is being deployed to encourage people to maintain social distancing and to 'keep left'. There is some concern over contact created between walkers and joggers on the walkway. Methods for addressing this are being explored including encouraging joggers to use streets and other parks rather than the coastal walk. Closure of access points remains an option if risks cannot be managed.

NSW Government Ministers have called on Councils to keep parks open for people to exercise unless there are overriding public health risks associated with particular locations that mean closure is preferable.

Council is using a number of communication channels to communicate with the community on combatting the threat of Coronavirus. With the rapidly changing nature of the situation and governmental responses to it, broadcast and digital media is being preferred over print avenues of communication. Where print communications are used, people are being directed to websites where up-to-date communication material can be provided.

Council staff are working closely with NSW Government agencies such as NSW Police and Public Health Unit to address coronavirus issues, including both seeking and offering assistance to those agencies. There are strong working relationships in place. There has also been contact with the local Federal MP to seek assistance.

**Ross McLeod**  
**General Manager**