



## COVID19 Stimulus Policy

<b>Policy identification:</b>	
Policy type:	Council
Summary:	Provide economic stimulus to local businesses affected by COVID19
Record number:	20/40471
Date of adoption or approval:	17 July 2020
Last review date:	New policy
Next review date:	July 2021
Authorised by:	Council
Responsible department:	Governance
Responsible officer:	CEO
Review officer	Chief Executive Officer
Consultation required:	Chambers of Commerce
Delegations:	CEO to add additional businesses to original agreed list or businesses outside the chamber areas ie Moorook
Legislation	N/A
Related policies	Rating Policy

### 1. Policy statement

COVID19 has had a large effect on those businesses that have been forced to close or scale back their operations because of the need to respond to the directives of federal and state governments. Council wishes to support those businesses.

### 2. Strategic reference

<b>1</b>	<b>Our Community</b>
1.1	Community Enablement - Enhance the quality of life of our community by encouraging community participation and building on our community spirit.
1.1.1	Support community development through funding, grant opportunities, planning, promotion and advocacy.

<b>2</b>	<b>Our Economy</b>
2.1	Economic Activity - To have a strong and prosperous economy build on diversifying our established industries, businesses and enterprises and attracting new industries and investors.

2.1.1	Support and encourage development and diversification of our local small business sector.
2.1.4	Facilitate our local businesses and industries to work together to bring greater prosperity for the community.

<b>2</b>	<b>Our Economy</b>
2.2	Population Growth - To address our population decline and have a population that is growing.

2.2.2	Advocate on behalf of the community to seek new employment opportunities and jobs growth across the district.
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### 3. Policy objectives

Council wishes to provide a short-term boost to the local economy that direct results in more local spend and supports those businesses that have been adversely affected by the closures required by the federal and state governments with a subsidised voucher system. Council also wishes to support membership of the local chambers of commerce.

Additionally, the federal government has announced a support package called “homebuilder” to target new homes and major renovations because the building industry has a strong multiplier effect.

This policy supports the relief provided to individuals and businesses adversely affected by COVID19 in the deferral of rates and fines on their properties.

### 4. Principles

1. The stimulus system should be fair and applicable across the district.
2. It should target businesses within the area.
3. It should be easy to administer

### 5. Policy

The Council will provide the following stimulus measures based on the following systems and eligibility criteria.

#### Voucher System.

1. A contribution by a resident of \$25 will be exchanged for \$100 worth of vouchers.
2. On a 1:3 basis a Council input of \$150,000 will result in \$200,000 worth of stimulus.
3. Eligibility based on enrolment on the Council Electoral Roll for area.
4. Only \$100 per household, with Council to require identification
5. Council to administer the system including reimbursements to traders
6. Only businesses physically located in the Council area and a member of either chamber of commerce to be eligible.

7. Vouchers to be printed and numbered with an individual value of \$20 per voucher, including Council identification one side and individual eligible business the other side, similar to the attached voucher from the Loxton Chamber of Commerce.
8. Vouchers to be a first come first serve basis with a minimum of \$75,000 per chamber area.
9. Voucher to expire on 31 December 2020 to ensure it is an immediate stimulus.

**Home buyer support**

4. Those eligible for federal government Homebuilder grants to have planning and building fees payable to the Council refunded on approval, fees paid to state government agencies can not be refunded.
5. New homes to receive a 50% reduction in rates for two years to assist with initial setup costs of a newly built home.

Both measures to be upon application

**7. Policy delegations**

The officers listed below have sub-delegations under this policy:

Chief Executive Officer and Director Corporate & Community Services

**9. Roles and responsibilities**

Chief Executive Officer

**10. Availability**

This Policy will be available for inspection at the Council Offices at Loxton or Waikerie during ordinary business hours at no charge.

Copies of this Policy will also be available from Councils website:

[www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au) or postal copies may be obtained from the Council Office free of charge.

**11. Document history and version control**

Date	Version	Authorisation - Council/	Amendment Details
17 July 2020	0.1	17 July 2020 Item 14.1.2	