

MAYOR'S MESSAGE MAY 2020

Finally we are seeing some relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions and it seems that life as we used to know it will start to move some of the way back towards "normal". Of course those of us who live in the bush, especially on properties, have probably been less affected than anyone when it comes to lifestyle although the economic impacts will be long lasting and will infiltrate into most aspects of our lives.

The Federal and State governments have been very good in their communications with the Premier and relevant Ministers providing the most up to date information through a weekly telephone hook up with all the Queensland mayors. In the most recent announcements the Outback region was given special, more relaxed rules than the rest of the state. This was a direct response to our discussions at the weekly teleconferences.

For instance, the 500km travel limit, only for the Outback, was a direct response to queries made to the Premier last Wednesday from Outback mayors regarding extending the 50k limit that applies in the rest of the state. So while we are in this stage when you aren't meant to leave your area (i.e. Brisbane people aren't meant to go to the Gold Coast) we have had our range in the Outback extended to 500km which is a good result. This is only for travel within the Outback region however.

Again as a direct result of our phone hook ups we have had some relaxing for pubs etc. in the Outback that is different to the rest of the State. From June 12 Outback pubs can have 50 people while the rest of the state can only have 20. These are meant to be "locals" but I specifically asked the Premier if that includes allowed essential workers such as resource workers and contractors that have permits to be here and she felt that it would be OK but I am still awaiting confirmation.

By July 10 we will be back to full tourism (with distancing laws) but that could change depending on the virus movements in the interim. They are saying interstate as well as intrastate but that will depend on what happens with the virus both in Queensland and interstate. No one

really has any idea what that tourism season will look like.

I know there is still concern in the community about the possible incursion of covid-19 into western areas of the state but I would like to point out two things. Firstly, a council has no jurisdiction over its own borders so we are at the whim of the decisions of the Federal and State governments and secondly, the risk now is extremely low. As of last week there are only 40 known cases in Queensland with 8 in hospital and 3 in intensive care. Also, as I stated in the last newsletter, the backup health services on standby if there is a reported case out here are very good and should give everyone a high degree of confidence.

The Premier has asked that we pass on some very important advice for this time as restrictions are lifted and I quote: "If you are sick – stay at home and get tested – it doesn't matter how mild". The turnaround for tests in Quilpie to be sent away and get results back is about 3 days so, although an inconvenience, it would be wise to heed this advice over the next couple of months or so.

Council has had a series of meetings with affected businesses in the last couple of weeks and I feel we have a fairly good appreciation of where most people are at in the shire. We will be deliberating soon to determine what support we can provide where required. As I said last time, I would hate to see any business close, through no fault of their own, because of this virus.

In the last six months we have seen a number of businesses across the shire change ownership or engage new managers and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly welcome them and wish them every success. We already have a cohort of very well managed and successful businesses and I feel the new entrants are going to add to that. I can honestly say that, generally, I feel our businesses are operating at the highest standard that I have seen and that is great for all of us, residents and visitors alike. We certainly don't want to see this undermined by an insidious, microscopic invader from a distant land!

Kind Regards to all,

Stuart Mackenzie

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cr Stuart Mackenzie
Mayor
P: 4656 4771
M: 0429 069 314
E: mayor@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Jenny Hewson, Deputy Mayor
P: 4656 1311
M: 0428 461 294
E: jhewson@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Roger Volz
M: 0428 561 468
E: rvolz@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Bruce Paulsen
P: 4656 1421
M: 0476 166 378
E: bpaulsen@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Lyn Barnes
M: 0428 561 461
E: lbarnes@quilpie.qld.gov.au

LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

DOGS

In Queensland, all dogs must be registered with the local council.

All dogs over three months of age must be registered with Council. Residents may only keep three (3) cats and/or three (3) dogs on any land except if a cattery permit or kennel licence is held or an exemption has been granted.

When you register your dog for the first time, you will receive a registration tag which should be worn by your pet at all times. If the tag is lost at any stage please contact the Quilpie Shire Council Office on 4656 0500.

All dogs and cats born after 10 April 2009 must be microchipped before they are sold or given away. All regulated dogs must be microchipped regardless of when they were born.

In the lead up to ANZAC Day RSLs across the nation were asking you to show your ANZAC spirit, and at 6am light up the dawn standing at the end of your driveway, balcony or lounge room to remember those who have served and sacrificed.

As the sun peaked over the horizon in Quilpie many members of the community stood united to let our veterans know that their services and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

The Quilpie Shire Council would like to thank all those in the community for their commemoration of this very important day, and are grateful for the support in helping us find another way forward.

A special thanks is extended to Roger Volz, Mark & Heather Baker, Luke Baker, Janet Hennessey, Toby Ross and Michelle Donohue for all of your efforts in ensuring that this day was such a success.

On behalf of the Quilpie Shire Council we thank you for lighting up the dawn this ANZAC Day

Anzac Day

Thanks to the seniors who took part in making a wreath for Anzac Day and displaying it on their door or fence. The HPO Program supplied the wreath kits and the seniors had to create their own wreath. Well done to everyone they all looked amazing.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



From the CEO's Desk

The last Ordinary meeting of Council was held on Friday 08 May 2020.

Council resolved to enter into a water agreement with Wiljoy Property Pty Ltd for the purpose of supplying water (Toompine Town Common lease).

Following a request from Quilpie State College council will consider extending the concrete footpath in Boonkai Street to the covered sports area currently under construction as part of the footpath upgrade strategy and the 2020/21 budget deliberations.

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements have been approved for the February 2020 flooding event. Proterra Group was appointed as project manager for the funded works.

As part of the implementation of the Eromanga Master Plan, council will write to Eromanga properties requesting them to remove all materials from the Eromanga Town Common in an effort to improve the visual amenity of the town entrances.

David Wilkens, National Sales Manager, Australian Water Machines presented to Council at their meeting of 21 February 2020 on the subject of Council having an alternate electricity retailer and possibly being a retailer themselves to other residents / businesses within the Shire.

A report was presented to Council however the decision to not proceed at this point in time was made.

The current Quilpie Swimming Pool Management Contract with All About Aquatics expires on 31 July 2020. Council authorised the Chief Executive Officer to further renegotiate the Quilpie Swimming Pool Management Contract with the current manager.

As usual a range of other administrative matters were considered.

The full minutes of Council meetings are generally available on our website the Tuesday or Wednesday following a Friday meeting.

A Special Meeting of Council will be held this Friday 15 May at 8.00am to consider a number of items including the awarding of Flood Damage works and relief measures for businesses affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. The next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for Friday 12 June 2020. All meetings of Council are open to the public subject to maintaining the required distancing due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

I am happy to meet with anyone that would like further information on any meeting outcomes. Members of the community are also reminded that all Councillors are happy to speak with you on any issue.

Regards, Dave B.

Notice of Special Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of Council will be held on Friday 15 May 2020 in the Council Boardroom, 50 Brolga Street Quilpie, commencing at 8:00am.

The purpose of the meeting will be to consider the following matters:

- Awarding of Flood Damage works;
- Purchase of plant; and
- Rates relief measures for business operators impacted by COVID-19.

Council Bin Collection

Council wishes to reinforce that bins must be out **before 6 am** on bin days and that the lids must be sitting on the bin and not overflowing.



LUNG HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

May is Lung Health Awareness Month and we are raising awareness about the importance of lung health and the signs and symptoms of lung disease. Anyone can get lung disease – it affects approximately 1 in 4 Australians and is the second leading cause of death in this country. Despite this, many people ignore the signs and symptoms of lung disease for far too long. We are reminding people the steps they can take to check in with their lungs via our 2-minute online checklist.
<https://lunghealth.lungfoundation.com.au>

Tips to look after your lungs

1. **Make your life a smoke-free zone by quitting smoking and/or reducing your exposure to second-hand smoke.**
2. **Wear appropriate protective equipment if you work in environments that expose you to the inhalation of dust, gas, fumes or chemicals.**
3. **Protect yourself from influenza and pneumonia by having the vaccinations.**
4. **Exercise regularly and have a healthy diet.**
5. **Practice good hand hygiene to minimise the spread of germs.**





Mesquite
Prosopis spp.

Restricted invasive plant
Prohibited invasive plant



Prosopis velutina plant



Prosopis velutina flower



Prosopis velutina pods



Prosopis pallida plant



Prosopis pallida flower



Prosopis pallida pods

Description:

Species vary in growth characteristics. Mesquite can occur as a multi-stemmed shrub with branches drooping to the ground, around 3–5 m high, or as a single-stemmed tree with a spreading canopy growing to 15 m.

Methods of spread:

The major method of spread of mesquite is by dispersal of seeds in the faeces of stock. Mesquite pods are relished by stock, particularly horses and cattle, some feral animals such as pigs, and native animals such as emus.

Reporting:

All other mesquite species are prohibited invasive plants under the Biosecurity Act 2014. The Act requires that all sightings of Mesquite be reported to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours. By law, everyone has a general biosecurity obligation (GBO) to take all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risk of these mesquite species spreading until they receive advice from an authorised officer.

Please contact Quilpie Shire Council on 4656 500 if you require any assistance to fulfil your reporting obligations

Visiting Services

Child Health Nurse	12 & 13 May
Physiotherapist	21 May
Nurse Navigator	25 May
Social Worker	18 May
Dietician	19 May
Occupational Therapist	19 May
Speech Therapist	19 May
Mental Health	Every
Monday - except Public Holidays	

True's Outreach Clinic – Women's Health is not coming due to COVID-19 but can do over the phone consultations. Please contact the medical practice on 4656 1158.

Please contact the Hospital for details of the following services:

- Podiatrist;
- Diabetes Educator; and
- Early Intervention Parenting Service.

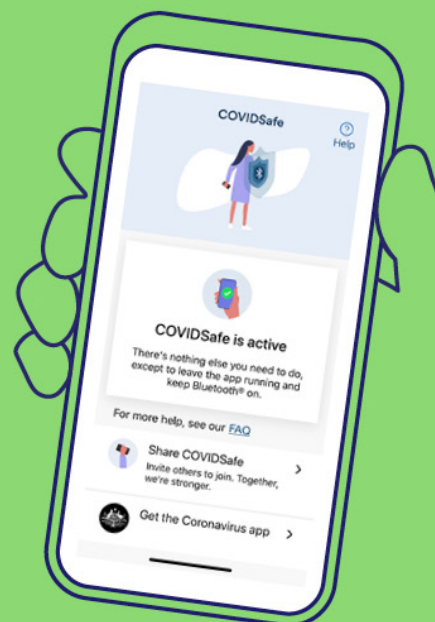
For more information contact the Quilpie Multi-Purpose Hospital Service directly on 07 4656 0100.

A range of specialist services visit CWAATSICH on a regular basis. Please contact them on 4656 1391 to make an appointment.

COVIDSAFE

Let's stop the spread. Stay home, save lives.

Download now



DON'T TAKE THE RISK THIS SEASON

GET THE FLU VACCINE.



The **INFLUENZA** vaccine is recommended for anyone aged 6 months and over and provided **FREE** for those most at risk from influenza and its complications.

Ask about the influenza vaccine today.

health.gov.au/immunisation



2020/2021 Training Opportunities

Council has been approached by an external training provider regarding interest within the community and local businesses in undertaking any of the following training courses in the upcoming 2020/2021 financial year:

- Operate and maintain chainsaws and fell small trees
- Work Safely at Heights
- Confined Spaces
- MS Office Word and Excel – basic and intermediate
- Responsible Service of Alcohol
- Food handling and hygiene

To assist Council in providing feedback, please register your interest in undertaking any of the above training options by contacting Council's HR Officer, Maree Radnedge on 07 4656 0500 or by emailing hr@quilpie.

NATIONAL 18-24 MAY 2020

VOLUNTEER

CHANGING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES. WEEK

If you drive in an area that has been affected by flooding, plan ahead and make alternative arrangements so you can avoid flooded roads - signs will warn you of the roads that are unsafe to use. Even if the floodwater has subsided, the road may not be safe to use.

If you ignore these signs, you may be fined.



The water over the road sign shows you that there is water over a road ahead—but the road can still be used by vehicles and traffic can still pass with care and attention.



This sign means that the road is temporarily closed to all traffic.

You can get approval to drive past this sign for special reasons—but if you use a restricted road when you shouldn't, you can be fined.



This sign means the road is temporarily closed to all traffic. This may be because the road is damaged or flooded. Penalties apply.

More than half of flood-related deaths are a result of driving through floodwater. Even if it looks calm, no one can predict what floodwater will do or what's happened to the road underneath. Any amount of swift flowing water can sweep away your car, no matter what you drive. Don't risk it.



HAD A NEAR MISS OR ACCIDENT ON THE ROAD?

(Particularly along the main state
controlled roads)

In an important move to collect data
in relation to safety issues on our
roads Council has established a
dedicated email address (roads@
quilpie.qld.gov.au) to allow residents
to advise Council of dangerous
experiences.

If you report an incident please
include location, time of day, and
details of the experience.

TENDERS T07 1920 AND T08 1920

PANELS OF PRE-QUALIFIED SUPPLIERS FOR 2020-2022

Tenders closing at 2pm on Friday 15 May 2020 are being called to
allow Council to establish panels of pre-qualified suppliers for the
engagement of contractors to undertake various works.

The tenders are only applicable to companies within the Quilpie Shire
Council area. Projects requiring contractors outside the Quilpie Shire
Council area will be called as individual project tenders.

Tender T07 1920 is for contractors to undertake a range of projects
including civil works and building and trade works while Tender T08
1920 is for the hire of plant and equipment.

Tenders will be in effect from 01 July 2020 to June 2022.

To submit a tender contractors must log in to Council's VendorPanel
platform and subscribe to the relevant list. If you haven't already you
must register with Vendorpanel.



Due to the current C-19
Pandemic regulations,
why not head to the
men's shed on line and
check it out.

[https://mensshed.org/
theshedonline/about-
amsa/](https://mensshed.org/theshedonline/about-amsa/)



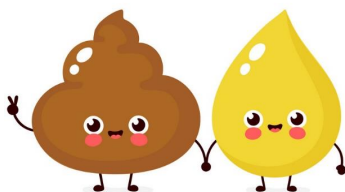
PLEASE REMEMBER



Only Flush The Three P's

Poo, Pee & Toilet Paper

Please Do Not Flush



Wipes Clog Pipes



Flushable Wipes
Baby Wipes
Disinfecting Wipes
Toilet Wipes
Paper Towel
Facial Tissues



Cigarettes

Condoms

Cotton Tips/Balls



Nappies



Medication



Needles



Paper Towel



Pads/Tampons



Flushable Wipes

Please

DON'T WASTE
WATER
TURN OFF
YOUR TAPS

We are very fortunate to have access to the artesian basin for our water supply. This does **not** mean we can waste this vital resource.

Council has received a number of concerns from community members who feel that a number of people are not proactively managing their water use.

Do not over water your lawns so water overflow simply runs into the drains. Do not leave hoses running all night to ensure hot water supply. If your property does not have adequate hot water, consider installing a hot water system.

Council thanks residents in advance for their cooperation on this matter.



5 Key Messages for a Healthy Lifestyle

Get More Fruit & Vegetables into Meals

Cook at Home

Sit less, Move More

Check Your Portion Size

Roasted Vegetable & Cheese Muffin



Quilpie QCWA hopes everyone is keeping well during this time.

This is a Healthy Recipe from our Country Kitchens Cookbook but if you find you don't have/use some of the ingredients it is fine to substitute (ordinary flour for wholemeal flour) just not as healthy.

Serves: 12

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

Fruit and Veggies ½ Serve per portion

Ingredients

3 cups roasted vegetables, any
2 cups wholemeal self-raising flour
1 cup grated cheddar cheese, reduced fat
1 cup buttermilk or natural yoghurt
2 eggs, lightly beaten
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
½ teaspoon fresh herbs, any, chopped
½ teaspoon pepper, freshly ground
2 teaspoons pepitas or sesame seeds

Method

PRE-HEAT oven to 180°C. Line a 12-cup muffin pan with baking paper.

COMBINE vegetables, flour, and cheese in a large mixing bowl.

PLACE remaining wet ingredients in a smaller bowl and mix together.

ADD the wet ingredients to the flour mixture and stir until only just combined; do not overmix.

FILL the prepared pans with the mixture and sprinkle seeds over.

BAKE for about 20 minutes or until the muffins are golden.

REMOVE from the oven and allow the muffins to rest in the tin for a few minutes before turning out onto a wire rack to cool.

What's Great About It

Muffins make a great snack to have on the go or after the school rush. Best of each muffin has half a serve of vegetables. Prepare on a Sunday night and enjoy throughout the week. Not sure which types of vegetables to use? Try roasting carrot, red onion, sweet potato or potato, and broccoli for something different.

Has COVID-19 got you feeling anxious?



Many people struggle and need support.

From time to time, most adults feel stressed, worried or sad. When these feelings last for long periods of time, such as days, weeks or months, it can stop you from living your life to the fullest potential.



Available in four country locations.

This service is available in four country locations across south west Queensland:

- Charleville
- Cunnamulla
- St George
- Roma



Connect remotely.

The service is delivered using popular online platforms and modern remote communication technologies. The delivery platforms include Skype, Messenger and phone calls.



MY CONNECTIONS MY WAY

Lifeline Darling Downs & South West Qld Ltd

You're not alone - the My Connections My Way team are ready to help.

You can find free help.

This service is provided FREE and has been developed specifically to equip people with tools and techniques to cope with anxiety, stress and other significant life events.

FREE CALL 1800 951 052



Up to 12 Sessions - no referral necessary.



My Connections My Way is designed to make it easy to connect when you need it most. With no referral needed, you can access up to 12 sessions of free, professional support.

We're here for everyone.

My Connections My Way is available to people from 12 years of age and older, with diagnosed mental health illness or at risk of developing low to moderate mental health issues. The program is developed specifically for people who may be struggling with grief, loss, stress, anxiety or other significant life events.

MY CONNECTIONS MY WAY

FREE CALL 1800 951 052

This program is funded by the Western Queensland PHN.

This program proudly run by Lifeline Darling Downs & South West Qld Ltd.

phn
WESTERN QUEENSLAND

An Australian Government Initiative



Lifeline

Darling Downs &
South West QLD Ltd

If you or someone you care for is in need of support you can contact call Lifeline on 13 11 14, or chat to a crisis supporter and text Lifeline on 0477 13 11 14 (6pm - midnight AEDT) or online at lifeline.org.au (7pm - midnight AEDT).



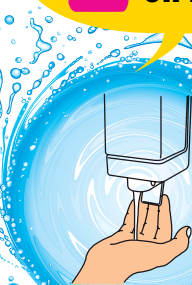
6 Steps to successful hand washing

Listen up Quilpie Shire wash your hands, regularly!
Use soap and water or an alcohol - based hand sanitiser to stop the spread of germs that might be lurking on your hands!

1 Wet hands with water



2 Put soap on hands



3 Rub hands for 20 seconds



4 Rinse hands under water



5 Dry hands with paper towel



6 Dispose of hand towel in bin



Halliebec Towing and Contracting (41 Chipu Street) is an approved Container Refund point for anyone wanting to recycle eligible beverage containers, bottles or cans. The exchange is open Tuesday from 4.30 - 6.00pm (subject to change). Quantities over 1500 will be taken by appointment. To set up your scheme ID visit consumer.containersforchange.com.au/create-account or for more information visit www.containersforchange.com.au





News from the P & C

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 12th May 2020 at 5.15pm
Quilpie State College Admin Building
All positions are open

President Vice President
Secretary Treasurer

COVID-19 has put a bit of a dampener on fundraising this year for the school, we still do have a couple of projects continuing though.

WE WANT YOUR USED BATTERIES AND CANS!

Please contact the school to arrange for collection if you have anything that can be recycled on 4656 0333!

Alternatively you can deliver your cans to Halliebec – Containers for Change using the P & C number C10235334

RATES NOTICES OVERDUE

Ratepayers of the Quilpie Shire Council are advised that rate notices for the period 01 January 2020 to 30 June 2020 were issued on 02 March 2020.

Rates are now OVERDUE, with the exception of rural landowners in rating categories 6, 8, 9 and 10.

Due to the ongoing drought conditions Council has granted an extension of time for these RURAL properties and the due date for payment will be MONDAY 29 JUNE 2020. Discount will be allowed if payment is received by 5.00pm on that date.

If you are having details making payment, please contact Council's Customer Service Centre on (07) 4656 0500 to discuss your options.

Rural Solutions Queensland Inc. (RSQ) is very pleased to announce that the Small Business Financial Counselling Service in Southern Queensland has recently received additional funding from both the Commonwealth and Queensland Government. Through this additional funding our small business counsellors will assist small businesses impacted by drought and manage the impact of the COVID 19 Virus.

RSQ is a not for profit organisation, established in 1998 and we have been providing Rural Financial Counselling Services to farmers and small rural businesses under a joint federal and state government program since 1998.

We now have a team of small business financial counsellors employed to help small business owners during this difficult time. These people bring a wealth of professional and small business skills to the roles and are able to provide practical and positive assistance to business owners as they navigate this very difficult period.

The service is free, independent and confidential. We can assist any small to medium sized businesses (up to 200 employees) requiring assistance due to many climatic and financial factors and more recently the COVID 19 which is impacting very high numbers of small businesses located in our region. Our region covers Rockhampton in the north, through to the western and southern borders of the state.

The Service offers a full range of free financial counselling services, all aimed at providing small business owners with the assistance they need to survive the current difficulties and emerge better placed to face the future.

If any small business in your area requires assistance we can help with the following challenges:

- How to pay creditors? Need more time to pay?
- How will things look in six months' time?
- Do you sell assets or draw on savings?
- Stay open, hibernate or close?
- Missing payments on loans or credit cards?
- Not able to buy enough stock, equipment or materials?
- Increasing business or personal debt?
- Facing legal action for debt recovery?
- Fearful of repossession?
- Spending more than is coming in?

If you would like further information about this initiative please call Ms. Fiona Hills on 0417 068 191 or myself (details below) We would be very pleased to provide you with details about the service.

Small Business Counsellors can be contacted on 1300 732 777 Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5.00pm or email at smallbusiness@rfcssq.org.au.

RSQ is fully committed to this program and will continue to develop ways of working with all involved in the small business community to make this initiative an overwhelming success for small businesses facing tremendously difficult trading conditions.

Council Works in Progress



Above: Work on the Adavale (Red) Road continues



Above: Recent resealing works carried out across the shire. Below: Work on Stage 2A of the Eromanga Natural History Museum is progressing well.

Overgrown or unsightly properties can be both a nuisance and a danger to neighbors and the community. All residents have a responsibility to keep their properties neat and tidy and to improve the appearance of our community, remove harborage for vermin to breed and reduce health risks.

Overgrown vegetation is visible from outside the property and is known to cause a significantly lower visual standard in the area, due to the visible lack of maintenance. Overgrown grass also has the potential to harbour or attract vermin and reptiles.

Unsightly properties can occur when objects or materials that are brought onto or allowed to accumulate on any vacant land, residential or commercial property, seriously affecting the aesthetic of the property. Materials generally classified as unsightly include discarded or disused machinery, second-hand materials and similar objects, as well as derelict vehicles, old whitegoods, building materials and household waste.

Ways to keep order in your yard include storing goods out of sight in your garage and shed, ensuring you put your rubbish out for collection each week, Store objects and materials out of view and neatly stacked to ensure they do not harbour vermin and dispose of old vehicles and machinery – some metal recyclers may collect and remove them free of charge.



The National Disability Insurance Scheme (also called the NDIS) is the new way of providing disability support.

The NDIS will provide all Australians under the age of 65 who have a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to enjoy an ordinary life.



The NDIS will help people with disability achieve their goals. This may include greater independence,



As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach, investing in people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life.



The NDIS also provides people with disability, their family and carers with information and referrals to existing support services in the community.



By 2019, the NDIS will support about 460,000 Australians with disability.



Can I access the NDIS?

To become an NDIS participant a person must:

- ✓ Have a permanent disability that significantly affects their ability to take part in everyday activities;
- ✓ Be aged less than 65 when they first enter the NDIS;
- ✓ Be an Australian citizen or hold a permanent visa or a Protected Special Category visa; and
- ✓ Live in Australia where the NDIS is available.

Can I still receive support if I do not meet the access requirements for the NDIS?

A person does not have to be an NDIS participant to receive support from the NDIS. The NDIS will connect people with disability, their families and carers, including people who are not NDIS participants, to disability and mainstream supports in their community.

**To find out more call or visit
Council's NDIS Support
Coordinator, Chris Houghton on
0436 816 827**

