

Auckland City Centre Residents' Group

AUCKLAND COUNCIL UPDATE | COVID-19 (coronavirus) Update #5 | 29 March 2020

Over the past week Auckland Council has transformed the Our Auckland website to give Aucklanders everything they need to know in one place about council's response to COVID-19, along with key updates on the whole-of-government response.

Council has created a section called [COVID-19](#) where you can find all relevant articles and updates. We also publish a summary story at the end of each day with all the day's key information, which includes links to the full articles – you can find it [here](#).

How to share

To share content click the share arrow at the top right side of each article, which gives you the option to share via Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn or Email. Alternatively you can share the OurAuckland site – ourauckland.nz – which once clicked on will take visitors through to the homepage.

Auckland Council has a number of work streams currently running to respond to COVID-19 and ensure we can continue to provide essential services to Aucklanders.

Public inquiries can be referred to the Auckland Council on 09 301 0101. Visit OurAuckland.nz for the most up to date information.

Burial, cremation and funeral services

The Alert Level 4 restrictions mean that we have to limit cemetery and burial services in line with national guidelines.

Details of services not operating under Alert Level 4 are available on our website. They include chapel and graveside services, cremation charge viewings, ash collection, genealogy research and non-essential plot purchases.

We recognise these cemetery service restrictions will create added distress for people grieving the loss of a loved one. The Funeral Directors Association of New Zealand has prepared a helpful resource to support families to commemorate and farewell loved ones while we are all in isolation.

Auckland Council essential services update

Playgrounds

In line with the Government's advice regarding Alert Level 4, all playgrounds are closed to the public as the risk of community transmission of COVID-19 is too high to keep them open.

Mowing

We are continuing to do a minimal amount of mowing and maintenance so that people can still walk and cycle in their local parks. Mowing is also required to manage fire risk and to reduce the risk of hidden hazards, vermin and illegal dumping.

Tree maintenance

Some continued tree maintenance will also be required where the work is deemed essential. This includes the clearing of vegetation from powerlines, roadways, street trees, walkways and critical requests for service.

Parks

Our parks are open for people to enjoy for exercise and general mental wellbeing. Two metre distances should be observed at all times.

Above all, you must stay local

Where you live near a park, you can walk, run or cycle through your local park but must not play on playgrounds or use exercise equipment

Regional park vehicle access gates are all closed and on-site facilities (like toilets and playgrounds) are closed. BBQs and drinking fountains have been turned off.

For some people who live next to a regional park, this may be their local exercise area

Walk-in access to regional parks for locals arriving on foot is allowed

At regional parks, follow all normal dog access rules, noting that dogs are prohibited at some or required to be on-leash at regional parks.

Auckland Emergency Management

Auckland Council's Auckland Emergency Management function is activated to support the All of Government (Health-led) response.

It is helping to prioritise and lead non-health civil defence and emergency management activities, including the provision of materials, services and information.

Auckland Emergency Management's Welfare team has been working with health and border control teams at Auckland Airport to assist arrivals with no accommodation arrangements and help these people self-isolate safely.

It has also set up Pouwhakarae (a Māori liaison function) to distribute health-related information provided by the National Health Response Coordination Centre (run by the Ministry of Health) to Māori communities; respond to enquiries and requests from iwi, hapū, whānau and marae and collate offers of support they may receive in return.

Follow Auckland Emergency Management on [Facebook](#) and share their posts to your own audiences.

General advice and information

The Ministry of Health is the lead agency and all official information will be shared via www.covid19.govt.nz. This website has plenty of advice and information, including downloadable and translated resources.

Like the flu, COVID-19 can be transmitted from person to person, that is why it is really important to practice good hygiene, regularly wash and thoroughly dry your hands, and practice good cough etiquette.

If a person becomes unwell and COVID-19 is suspected, the individual should contact Healthline on 0800 358 5453 or their GP by phone and follow their instructions.

The government has implemented a four-level COVID-19 alert system that specifies public health and social measures to be taken against COVID-19. We are currently at alert level FOUR.

