



- **Interim Administrator Minute - Covid-19 Temporary Fees and Charges Relief**
Attachment 1 Covid-19 Temporary Fees and Charges Relief..... 3
Attachment within Attachment 1 7

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COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA

24 MARCH
2020

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ITEM:

SUBJECT: INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR MINUTE - COVID-19 TEMPORARY FEES AND CHARGES RELIEF

AUTHOR: GENERAL MANAGER (PLANNING AND REGULATORY SERVICES)

DATE: 23 MARCH 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the temporary waiver of certain Ipswich City Council fees and charges to assist Ipswich businesses impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Interim Administrator of Ipswich City Council resolve:

That the amendments to the 2019-2020 Fees and Charges as detailed in Attachment 1 be adopted in recognition of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Ipswich businesses.

RELATED PARTIES

There are no related parties associated with this report.

There are no declarations of a conflict of interest by any officers.

ADVANCE IPSWICH THEME

Strengthening our local economy and building prosperity

Caring for community

Listening, leading and financial management

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

In late 2019, a new coronavirus, now known as COVID-19, emerged in China.

On 29 January 2020, the Queensland Government declared a public health emergency in response to the outbreak and the risk that the virus' potential spread posed to the health of Queenslanders.

On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organisation declared COVID-19 a global pandemic.

COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA24 MARCH
2020

To limit COVID-19 transmission, health authorities have encouraged the adoption of social-distancing in the community with restrictions introduced limiting non-essential outdoor gatherings to fewer than 500 people, and non-essential indoor gatherings to fewer than 100 people.

On 22 March 2020, the prime minister announced that pubs, hotels (excluding accommodation), gyms, indoor sporting venues, cinemas, casinos, entertainment venues, restaurants and cafes (which will be restricted to take away and/or home delivery), and places of worship would close from midday 23 March 2020 to be reviewed after one month.

Ipswich City Council recognises that measures taken to limit COVID-19 transmission will impact local businesses and is committed to provide practical relief where possible. Council will place a moratorium on the fees and charges listed in Attachment 1 in an effort to assist businesses experiencing hardship during these extraordinary times.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:
Local Government Act 2009

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The estimated direct budget implication of the amendments to the 2019/20 Fees and Charges as detailed in Attachment 1 is approximately \$230,000.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Due to the urgent and developing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the community consultation was not possible.

CONCLUSION

Council believes that providing a moratorium on the fees and charges listed in Attachment 1 will assist local businesses to continue to operate and retain staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1	COVID-19 Temporary Fees and Charges Relief
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Peter Tabulo

GENERAL MANAGER (PLANNING AND REGULATORY SERVICES)

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

David Farmer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA

24 MARCH
2020

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Steve Greenwood
INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR

“Together, we proudly enhance the quality of life for our community”

Fees and charges	Waiver Details
Entertainment Venues	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Pet Shop	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Personal Appearance - Tattooing	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Accommodation – Caravan Parks/Camping grounds	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Temporary Home Permits	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Temporary Food Licence	Refunds granted for those seeking to cancel their events due to COVID-19 gathering.
Heavy Vehicle permit renewal	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Commercial Stable Licence	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Commercial Cattery Licence	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Commercial Kennel	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Food businesses	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Commercial Use of Roads (Standing Vehicles)	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Footpath Licenses	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Environmental Relevant Activities (ERA) ERA 6 Asphalt Manufacturing ERA 12 Plastic Product Manufacturing ERA 38 (1)(a) Surface Coating Anodising, electroplating enamelling or galvanising	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Public Swimming Pools	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Water Carrier	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Busking, Commercial Touting, Hawking on Roads and LG Areas	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Sporting facility use (including field, club house & lighting)	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Council Venue Hire	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020.
Temporary Event Permits	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020
Community Club rent	Waived or refunded for the period of 1 March to 30 June 2020