

## Media Release

9 April 2020

## Cockburn launches telephone helpline for vulnerable community members during COVID-19 pandemic

A telephone helpline has been established by the City of Cockburn for vulnerable community members needing help during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The helpline is for people in the Cockburn community who may be more at risk of becoming seriously ill if they contract the virus.

Mayor Logan Howlett said vulnerable people included those aged over 70, some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and people with certain medical or health conditions.

"We are reaching out to these members of our Cockburn community and offering them a COVID-19 telephone helpline so they can access the support and essential local services they need during these difficult times," Mayor Howlett said.

The helpline will be staffed by City of Cockburn employees who will answer calls 9am-4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) to link locals in need of specific support due to their vulnerability, with established, reliable services that have the expertise to help at this challenging time.

"This phone service will allow people to access the help they need to stay safe and stay home. If you know a family member or friend in Cockburn who is vulnerable and needs help, you can also call this number," Mayor Howlett said.

The telephone helpline number to call is 9411 3319.

Interested people can also fill in a COVID-19 online help form at the City's website: <a href="https://www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/COVID-19/helpform">www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/COVID-19/helpform</a>

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