

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Cook Shire prepared for coronavirus

**March 17, 2020**

**COOKTOWN**

Cook Shire Council is working closely with local service providers to ensure the community is informed and prepared for novel coronavirus.

“This is an unprecedented event,” Cook Shire Council Chief Executive Officer Linda Cardew said. “However Council and the region’s service providers, such as community housing, health and our police, are all working hard to ensure that we are well prepared. We are also relying on our strong communities to band together and support each other, making sure their households are prepared in case of the need to self-quarantine.”

“We have prepared a locally-relevant fact sheet, which is being distributed widely through local shops, on noticeboards, in our libraries and offices,” Ms Cardew said. “While we are working hard to be prepared, we would also urge people to remain calm. Be prepared and stay informed, take a local coronavirus fact sheet home, monitor Council’s Facebook page and check the Queensland Health website daily.”

“Council is also working on our business continuity planning to ensure that in the event of staff being unwell, our services will continue. With regards to planned major events in Cook Shire, such as Cooktown Expo 2020, Council is analysing a range of options and further information will be released once that analysis is complete. The health and safety of our community remains a top priority, and we are carefully monitoring the evolving COVID-19 situation and will closely follow the requirements of the relevant Federal and State authorities.”

“I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our whole Shire, who has already shown their sense of community in reaching out to vulnerable members to offer support,” Ms Cardew said. “We as a community undoubtedly will have some challenges ahead as we move through the pandemic, but together we will be better prepared.”

Please visit the Queensland Health website at [www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19) for the latest information on coronavirus.



# MEDIA RELEASE

Visit the Council website at [www.cook.qld.gov.au](http://www.cook.qld.gov.au) to download the latest copy of the Cook Shire Novel Coronavirus Fact Sheet, or email [mail@cook.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@cook.qld.gov.au) or phone 4082 0500 to request a copy.

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