Cardinia Connect Summer 2020-21

# Christmas in Cardinia

## Celebrate Christmas online

We’re excited to present our 12 Days of Christmas Online Program from 7–18 December. The online program will feature 12 days of activities including a Christmas sing-along, gingerbread house workshops, performances by local musicians, community carols online and a Christmas art projection at Cardinia Cultural Centre. For more information and a full program, visit [**www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/alivewithcreativity**](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/alivewithcreativity)or phone 1300 787 624.

## On the cover

Grace, Declan and Sarah put their food waste to good use. Residents who have a green waste bin can now place food scraps in it. Find out more on page 7.

## Draft Community Engagement Policy

Following community consultation earlier this year, we’ve developed a draft Community Engagement Policy that’s now available for review and comment: [**www.creating.cardinia.vic.gov.au/your-say**](http://www.creating.cardinia.vic.gov.au/your-say)

## Community partnerships deliver

Almost 30 community groups have shared in more than $327,000 in grants as part of our 2020–21 community capital works grants and major equipment grants programs.

Community capital work grants provide matched funding of up to $35,000 to help community groups that manage community and recreation facilities upgrade these facilities. Major equipment grants of up to $20,000 are available to help committees of management purchase equipment to maintain playing surfaces or grounds.

Grant recipients include kindergartens and preschools, sporting and recreation clubs, community halls and facilities, and senior citizens’ centres. See our website for details.

### Grant applications for 2021–22

Applications for our 2021–22 program open 25 January until 22 February.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants)

## Weed control grants

Applications are now open for the 2020–21 Cardinia Shire Council Weed Control Grants. Grants are available to help landowners and community groups control noxious and environmental weeds on private property and bushland reserves.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/weedcontrolgrants](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/weedcontrolgrants)

**Now’s the time to keep an eye out for problematic weeds on your property. Blackberries, thistles, and ragwort (pictured) are just a few that can get out of control if not managed early. Need help to identify and manage your weeds?**[**www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/weeds**](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/weeds)

## Grant applications opening soon

### Community Wellbeing and Support Grants

This program helps to establish new organisations, projects and services.

Funding categories:

* small change grants (up to $1,000)
* volunteering grants (up to $3,000)
* seeding grants (up to $5,000).

Applications open 25 January until 12 March.

### Festivals and Events Grants

Grants valued up to $10,000 are available to not-for-profit, community-run festival and event organisers to contribute to the cost of running local events. Applications open 25 January until 12 March.

### Arts and culture grants

Artists and arts groups can apply for a grant of $1,000 for new initiatives that use, expand and promote the arts in Cardinia Shire. The next round of grants will open in the new year.

### Community capital works grants and major equipment grants

See ‘Community partnerships deliver’ article on this page.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/grants)

# Welcome to our new Council

We congratulate and warmly welcome our new councillors for the 2020–24 term. Following the election held on 24 October, the shire has been subdivided into nine wards, each represented by one councillor. Congratulations to our returning councillors, welcome to our new councillors and thank you to our outgoing councillors for their valuable contribution to the shire.

**Beacon Hills Ward**Cr Brett Owen  
0418 993 370  
[b.owen@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:b.owen@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Toomuc Ward**   
Cr Stephanie Davies   
0439 444 810  
[s.davies@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:s.davies@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Officer Ward**Cr Tammy Radford0439 580 797[t.radford@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:t.radford@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Central Ward**Cr Collin Ross0402 420 398[c.ross@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:c.ross@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Henty Ward**Cr Carol Ryan0418 130 851[c.ryan@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:c.ryan@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Ranges Ward**Cr Jeff Springfield0427 383 810[j.springfield@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:j.springfield@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Pakenham Hills Ward**Cr Jack Kowarzik0439 620 809[j.kowarzik@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:j.kowarzik@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Bunyip Ward**Cr Graeme Moore0400 167 844[g.moore@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:g.moore@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Westernport Ward**Cr Ray Brown0419 953 198[r.brown@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:r.brown@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

The election of Cardinia Shire Council’s Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2020–21 was expected to occur in late November, after Connect went to print. Find out more about our newly elected Council, Mayor and Deputy Mayor on our website.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/council](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/council)

# Supporting our community COVID-19

With the easing of restrictions, we’re pleased to welcome the reopening of many local businesses, the happy sounds of children playing in our playgrounds and people enjoying our parks and reserves.

It’s important that we all continue to do the right thing and follow the latest health advice and directions.

### Community Recovery Plan and Structure

We’ve developed a COVID-19 Community Recovery Plan and Structure that includes eight committees and action teams. These groups are developing and rolling out actions to support initiatives, community organisations and the wider community.

### Business support

Continuing to support local businesses remains a priority. We have a number of support measures in place and have launched a new ‘Cardinia Business’ online portal. See page 16 for details.

## What support is available?

### Support package

Our $1.6 million Community and Business Support Package provides relief measures to reduce financial pressures on ratepayers, community groups, sporting clubs and businesses.  
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

### COVID-19 Online Help Hub

Find information and advice on a range of topics, access our relief service providers directory or request a call back:  
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

### If you’re feeling isolated

Support is available through the Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative. Call the COVID-19 hotline on 1800 675 398 (option 3) or Council on 1300 787 624.  
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/casi](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/casi)

### Free masks

Vulnerable community members can access free face masks as part of a program being delivered by DHHS, Council, local businesses and service providers.  
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

### Translated resources

* Cardinia Shire Council: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/translate](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/translate)
* [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translated-information-aboutcoronavirus-covid-19](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/translated-information-aboutcoronavirus-covid-19)

### Family violence support

* 1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732   
  or [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au)
* MensLine Australia: 1300 789 978  
  or [www.mensline.org.au](http://www.mensline.org.au)
* Safe Steps: 1800 015 188   
  or [www.safesteps.org.au](http://www.safesteps.org.au)

### Mental health support

Australian Government Head to Health website: [www.headtohealth.gov.au](http://www.headtohealth.gov.au)

## Supporting those who support our community

More than $80,000 in grants has been awarded to local community groups and organisations to provide vital support to our community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some of the projects and initiatives funded include providing meals and pantry items, online fitness training, an online platform to bring young people together, and community art projects.

Our Community Connections Grants and Relief Provider Grants are helping more than 30 community groups, services, relief providers and not-for-profit organisations support our community during the pandemic and beyond.

We congratulate and thank the grant recipients for providing valuable support and helping to keep our communities connected.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/covid19supportgrants](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/covid19supportgrants)

## Tell us how we can help you

We want to continue to understand local needs to help us support our community during the pandemic and beyond.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/COVID19survey](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/COVID19survey)

## Latest information

The information on this page was correct at the time of print, but for the most up-to-date information:

**Cardinia Shire Council:**[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au)   
or phone 1300 787 624

**Victorian Government:**[www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)   
or COVID-19 hotline 1800 675 398

# Support for young people

Young people can continue to access support, information and advice over the summer school holiday break.

We have a range of services, programs, events and activities for young people aged 12 to 24 years. Our online Youth Services Directory has information about services and links to useful resources, and our ‘Youth Services News’ e-zine features the latest youth services news, information and tips.

Young people can also reach out to our dedicated Youth Services team for support and information.

My Place Youth Centre was expected to reopen its doors to young people in late November. For details and opening hours, check the Cardinia Youth Services Facebook page or visit:

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/youthservices](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/youthservices)

**A range of fun activities will be held as part of our summer Teenage School Holiday Program for young people aged 12 to 17 years. Find out more at** [**www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/tshp**](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/tshp)

## Accessible venues for all

We’re making three of our premier locations even more accessible and inclusive as part of an innovative initiative in partnership with our Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

We have developed access keys, or detailed accessibility guides, to give you a better idea of what to expect at each location:

* Deep Creek Reserve eco play – an all-abilities play space
* Deep Creek Reserve eco centre, golf club and indigenous plant nursery
* Pakenham Library
* Cardinia Cultural Centre.

The information has been developed for people with a disability but also benefits people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, seniors and families.

Access keys will help you determine the venue’s suitability by identifying accessible features such as toilets and car parking, and the distance from the car park to the venue. The guide also provides an understanding of sensory elements and ease of movement, ensuring everyone feels safe, confident and included.

Access keys will soon be available on our website to download and print. An app is also being developed.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/accessandinclusion](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/accessandinclusion)

## Support for seniors

A second dementia-friendly cafe is expected to open in Cardinia Shire in the new year. Following the success of the Forget-Me-Not dementia-friendly cafe at  
Koo Wee Rup, another cafe is planned to open at Outlook Community Centre in Pakenham.

These cafe-style social gatherings are held every six weeks and aim to bring together people living with dementia and their loved ones in a supportive and understanding environment.

For more information, contact Outlook Community Centre on 5941 1535 or Koo Wee Rup Regional Health Service on 5997 9792.

For more information about initiatives and support for seniors, check the next edition of Council’s Ageing Well newsletter, due out in February.

## Calling community leaders

Applications for the next Cardinia Community Leadership Program will open in early 2021.

Delivered in partnership with Leadership Victoria, the program is for emerging leaders aged 18 and older who live in Cardinia Shire. The program helps participants build and strengthen their capacity in community leadership and participation so they can become even stronger and more-effective leaders.[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/leadershipprogram](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/leadershipprogram)

## Community facility bookings

* **Integrated sites**: are you interested in hiring a room at one of our integrated hubs or working alongside other community organisations? Different room options are available to hire.
* **Community halls and hubs**: our Community Places team oversees the management of spaces for hire at James Bathe Community and Sports Hub, Cockatoo Community Complex, Pakenham Upper Hall and Nar Nar Goon Soldiers Memorial Community Complex.

Bookings are now being taken for regular and casual hirers. For more information, email communityplaces@cardinia.vic.gov.au or visit [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/communityfacilities](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/communityfacilities)

# Caring for our families

We’ve continued to support families across the shire throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, transitioning some of our essential services and programs to phone and online services.

We’ve supported families with health, development and wellbeing checks-ups as well as parenting advice and group programs. Face-to-face consultations for key age and stage checks for babies aged up to four months resumed some months ago, and planning continues for the resumption of face-to-face key age and stage checks for babies and children older than four months as well as groups programs, to ensure physical distancing and infection control measures are in place.

Our phone and video call service has been so successful that we will continue making it available into the future, in addition to our face-to-face consultations.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/mch](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/mch)

## Put food waste to good use

If you have a green waste bin, you can now place food scraps in it.

All food scraps, including fruit and vegetables, cooked and uncooked meat, dairy products, processed foods and more, can now be placed in your green waste bin, along with your garden waste, to be composted into nutrient-rich soil for Victorian farms and gardens.

Residents who already have a green waste bin have received a free ‘food in green waste bin’ kit including a benchtop kitchen caddy, flyer and sticker. Ratepayers can order a green waste bin, including the caddy, any time of year. They are available in two sizes: the standard 240L bin and a new smaller 120L bin.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/greenwaste](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/greenwaste)

## Book your hard waste collection

Cardinia Shire residents can now book up to two free hard waste collections per year.

Our new bookable service is for green waste and household items that can’t be reused, sold or given away. You can book hard waste collections at a time convenient to you and can dispose of up to two cubic metres per collection. Hard waste should be placed on your nature strip no earlier than the weekend before your booked collection date.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/hardwaste](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/hardwaste)

## Keep your cat safe

Cat owners are reminded that your feline friend must be contained to your property at all times.

Ensuring your cat is contained helps to keep your pet safe, protects native wildlife, reduces the feral cat population and spread of disease, decreases the number of cats that enter animal shelters and need to be rehomed, and reduces the number of complaints about problem cats. Here are some ideas to keep your cat indoors or contained to your property:

* install cat fence toppers to prevent your cat from climbing or jumping your boundary fence
* build or buy a cat enclosure
* enclose your outdoor patio area
* install netting over your yard
* put an indoor perch by a sunny window.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/cats](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/cats)

# Imagine Cardinia Tell us how you Imagine Cardinia!

Share your thoughts and ideas to help us develop the Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan and Council Budget.

We are developing these plans to help guide Council’s strategic direction over the coming years and this is your chance to get involved, have your say and make a difference.

Your input will help us develop integrated, long-term, effective and transparent plans that meet the needs and reflect the expectations of our community and guide strategic planning and decision making for the future of our shire.

The current round of consultation closes on   
23 December 2020.

Further opportunities for community input and feedback will be available throughout the plans’ development, and it is expected the plans will be considered for adoption by Council in June 2021.

Help create the future of your shire.

## Have your say

Complete the survey online: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia)   
or fill in the form on page 9 and send it back to us.

## Online info sessions

* Monday 7 December, 11am
* Wednesday 16 December, 7.30pm

Details: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia)

### Council Plan

The Council Plan outlines the strategic agenda for Council during its term including the steps it will take to support the realisation of the Community Vision.

### Community Vision

The Community Vision has an outlook of at least 10 years and describes the community’s social, economic, cultural, and environmental aspirations for the future.

### Financial Plan

The Financial Plan has an outlook of at least 10 years and describes the financial resources required to give effect to the Council Plan and other strategic plans of Council.

### Council Budget

Our budget outlines how resources will be allocated to initiatives, programs, services, capital works and debt reduction. It also details income from rates, charges, fees, grants and other revenue.

If you have received a direct invite to participate in the survey through the mail or by email, please complete the version you received in the mail/email, not this one. If you have already done so, thank you! This is so we can include your response in the representative data (4,000 households randomly chosen to represent the region).

Privacy note: All responses are anonymous.   
For further information please see [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/privacy](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/privacy)

Q1. What do you like most about Cardinia Shire?

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Q2. What do you think could make Cardinia Shire a better place to live, work and play?

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To help us understand whether the research results provide good coverage across the community, and to group your answers with others for analysis, please let us know a little about yourself:

D1. In which suburb/town do you live?

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D2. Your age (number):

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D3. Your gender:  
□ Male  
□ Female  
□ Non-binary  
□ Self-described

D4. What language do you mostly speak at home?  
□ English  
□ Other (specify)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Feedback closes 5pm 23 December 2020. If you are returning this survey by mail, please post it by   
16 December 2020 to   
Cardinia Shire Council, Reply Paid 7, Pakenham 3810.

More info or to complete the survey online: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia)

## Register your interest for the People’s Panel

Our next step will be to use the feedback collected and work with members of our community to help refine our understanding of the community’s values and needs. To do this, we are creating a People’s Panel. The People’s Panel will bring together approximately 45 individuals who are selected to be representative of the Cardinia Shire community to learn about, explore and discuss ideas and priorities in detail.

The panel is planned for February 2021 and includes approximately 12 hours of online sessions. It’s important that everyone on the panel is available to attend all sessions. If you attend all sessions you will receive $150 in recognition of your time and commitment.

If you are interested in participating in this panel, please complete the expression of interest form by visiting the Imagine Cardinia page:   
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/imaginecardinia) or phone Capire Consultant Group on 9021 0627 if you have any questions regarding the recruitment process or need support in completing the expression of interest form.

# Major projects update

### Beaconsfield Recreation Reserve – Perc Allison pavilion

**✓ Construction underway**  
**Funding partner**: Australian Government’s Sport Australia Fund   
Unisex and universally accessible change rooms for players and umpires, first aid and injury prevention/strapping room and spectator viewing area.

### Bunyip Recreation Reserve

**✓ Completed  
Soccer pavilion  
Funding partner**: Australian Government’s Building Better Regions Fund   
Universally accessible change rooms and amenities for players and umpires, first aid room, kitchen/ canteen, multi-purpose room and storage spaces.

**✓ Detailed design underway**  
**Soccer pitches   
Fully funded by Council**   
Detailed design for two new soccer pitches with cricket wicket and sports field lighting.

### Comely Banks Recreation Reserve

**✓ Construction underway  
Funding partner**: VictorianGovernment’s Growing Suburbs Fund   
A new community and sports pavilion to accommodate rugby, football, cricket, and future bowls activities, featuring multi-purpose social spaces, kitchen/kiosk and toilet facilities.

**✓ Civil construction starting soon  
Funding partner**: Victorian Government’s Local Sport Infrastructure Fund   
Four new rugby league fields, incorporating two cricket wickets with provision for AFL, lighting, cricket training facilities, playground, car park and open spaces.

### Gembrook Recreation Reserve – football/cricket pavilion redevelopment

**✓ Construction underway  
Funding partner**: Australian Government  
Redevelopment and extension of the existing football/cricket pavilion, providing unisex and universally accessible change rooms for players and umpires, accessible amenities, first aid, gym, storage, minor upgrade to the existing kitchen and social room, upgrade to the spectator viewing lounge and timekeepers’ room, and lift access to the first floor.

### Hills Hub, Emerald

**✓ Completed**  
**Funding partners**: Australian Government, Victorian Government and Dandenong Ranges Community Bank Group.  
This new multi-purpose facility provides diverse meeting and activity spaces for the community.

### IYU Recreation Reserve athletic facility (design)

**✓ Detailed design underway**   
**Fully funded by Council**   
Detailed design of a new 400-metre athletics track, including triple/long jump, high jump, pole vault, discus and shot put is underway.

### James Bathe Recreation Reserve, Pakenham

**✓ Completed**   
**Funding partners**: Victorian Government’s Growing Suburbs Fund and Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.   
District-level sport and recreation reserve featuring two sports ovals, two netball courts, a community and sports pavilion, playground with skate facilities and practice nets.

### Koo Wee Rup Primary and Secondary School oval upgrades

**✓ Underway   
Funding partner**: Victorian Government – Sport and Recreation Victoria and Department of Education  
Reconstruction of the primary and secondary school ovals.

### Koo Wee Rup Recreation Reserve

**✓ Construction underway   
Football/cricket pavilion upgrade   
Funding partners**: Victorian Government and Australian Government (Building Better Regions Fund Program)   
New football/cricket change room facilities and accessible toilets, gym, meeting and community rooms.

**✓ Construction underway   
Netball pavilion upgrade   
Funding partner**: Victorian Government  
New netball pavilion, providing home and away change, canteen, social room and office, unisex and universally accessible toilets.

### Lang Lang Community Recreation Reserve

**✓ Completed   
Funding partners**: Our Community Company, the franchiser of Lang Lang Community Bank, Australian Government’s Building Better Regions Fund.   
Major recreation and community precinct featuring ovals for football and cricket, netball courts, cricket practice nets and pavilion with multipurpose community space.

### Officer Recreation Reserve – western oval pavilion

**✓ Completed  
Funding partner**: Victorian Government (Sport and Recreation Victoria)   
Upgrade works to the existing pavilion to provide female-friendly amenities.

### Emerald Netball Facility (Pepi’s Land) – pavilion

**✓ Nearing Completion   
Fully funded by Council**   
New pavilion features change rooms, kitchen and internal and external accessible amenities.

### Toomuc Recreation Reserve

**✓ Detailed design complete   
Northern pavilion   
Funding partners**: Sport Australia Community Sport Infrastructure Program, Australian Government Community Development Grants Program and Australian Government Local Roads and Infrastructure Program.   
Redevelopment of the existing pavilion.

**✓ Detailed design complete   
Southern pavilion and little athletics/baseball facility  
Funding partners**: Australian Government Community Development Grants Program and Victorian Government Community Sport Infrastructure Program.  
Redevelopment of the junior football and cricket pavilion and improvements to the existing little athletics and baseball facilities.

### Worrell Reserve

**✓ Completed   
Football/cricket pavilion   
Fully funded by Council**   
**Oval sports field lighting upgrade**   
**Funding partner**: Victoria Government’s Country Football Netball Program

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/majorprojects](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/majorprojects)

# Better local roads

We’re working hard to build better local roads and improve the shire’s road network.

In partnership with the Australian Government, we’re funding more than $200 million in road improvement works over the next eight years as part of Cardinia Shire Council’s Better Local Roads Program.

These upgrades will improve the safety and appearance of local roads and make travelling through the shire more enjoyable with less dust, noise, and wear and tear on motor vehicles.

## Strategic sealed roads project

We’re investing $25 million in the Strategic sealed roads project from 2019–22 to seal about 40 kilometres of local roads in seven locations across the shire.

Strategic sealed roads will connect existing sealed roads in locations where they’re needed most, such as around schools and community facilities and in high traffic areas.

Main Drain Road and Boundary Drain Road in Koo Wee Rup have been nominated as the first roads to be reconstructed as part of this project, with works underway.

## Princes Highway intersection project

A project to upgrade key intersections along the Princes Highway from Beaconsfield to Pakenham is underway and will help reduce congestion and travel time and accommodate increased traffic and development into the future.

The Australian Government is providing $17.8 million in funding over the next three years for this project.

The first intersection to be upgraded is O’Neil Road and Princes Highway, Beaconsfield; works to install traffic lights now underway and completion expected May 2021.

Other Princes Highway intersections being considered include:

* Glismann Road/Beaconsfield Avenue, Beaconsfield
* Brunt Road/Whiteside Road, Beaconsfield,
* Tivendale Road/Station Street, Officer
* Bayview Road, Officer
* Arena Parade, Officer
* McMullen Road, Officer
* Thewlis Road, Pakenham

## Sealing the Hills project

The Australian Government has committed $150 million in funding to be provided in stages over eight years for the Sealing the Hills project to improve 109 kilometres of unsealed roads in the hills. The funding will be used to seal 164 prioritised roads and to help subsidise residential contributions to special charge schemes. Work on the first project is expected to start this summer.

**Kenilworth Avenue, Beaconsfield, is now open to traffic following Council’s $1 million-plus investment in Stage 2 of the project.**

Stage 2 involved installing road pavement and drainage from the freeway overpass to Coach House Lane, and public lighting and a shared path along the length of Kenilworth Avenue.

Stage 1 works were completed by the adjacent housing developer in June 2020 and included road pavement and drainage works along Kenilworth Avenue from Brunt Road to the freeway overpass.

# Dust suppression program

Hot, dry weather and vehicles travelling at high speeds can often create extra dust on unsealed roads.

Each year Council considers applying a solution to roads that experience high traffic levels or are located in high density areas to strengthen the road pavement and reduce dust.

We also offer a dust suppressant program twice a year to residents living on unsealed roads who would like to reduce the potential of dust on their local road. Applications for the second round of the program are expected to open in early 2021. The program is resident-funded and can be applied for online.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dustprogram](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/dustprogram)

## Major works being delivered by other agencies

Several major projects are happening across Cardinia Shire to support the needs of our future population.

### Pakenham Level Crossing Removal Project

The Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP), being delivered by the Victorian Government, is removing three level crossings in Pakenham at McGregor Road, Main Street and Racecourse Road. A new Pakenham Station is also being built, which will include better bus connections, more car parking, and a third platform and dedicated V/Line track, for an easier interchange with regional services. LXRP are still in the planning stages for these sites, with a view to complete the project by 2025.

### Cardinia Level Crossing Removal Project

As part of the Victorian Government’s Cardinia Road Level Crossing Removal Project, the shared user path on the eastern side of Cardinia Road and pedestrian crossings near the level crossing are closed until 2021. This will help keep pedestrians, cyclists and the project workers safe during construction. There will be detour signage in place to safely guide pedestrians around the area.

[www.levelcrossings.vic.gov.au](http://www.levelcrossings.vic.gov.au)

## Fast facts

* Unsealed roads graded:  
  12,236 hours
* Unsealed roads refurbished:  
  16,900,039 m2
* Sealed road potholes patched:  
  1,407 m2
* Sealed roads resurfaced:  
  251,485 m2
* Sealed roads major patching:  
  1,500 m2
* Surface drainage maintained:  
  227,359 m
* Underground drainage maintained:  
  107,942 m
* Signs maintained:  
  3,644
* Roadside grass mowed:  
  112,772 m
* After-hours call-outs:  
  310

\* Data from the 2019–20 financial year.

## Outdoor pools open

Our outdoor pools are open for the summer season.

* **Pakenham outdoor pool**   
  – PB Ronald Reserve, Henry Street, Pakenham.
* **Emerald Lake Park wading pool**   
  – Emerald Lake Park, Emerald Lake Road.
* **Koo Wee Rup outdoor pool**   
  – Cochrane Park, Rossiter Road, Koo Wee Rup.
* **Garfield outdoor pool**   
  – Garfield Recreation Reserve, Beswick Street, Garfield.

[www.cardinialeisure.com.au](http://www.cardinialeisure.com.au)

## Be prepared for the summer season

### Prepare your property

* Cut grass and remove fallen branches within 30 metres of buildings.
* Remove leaves and twigs from gutters.
* Cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings.
* Ensure your home and contents insurance is adequate.

### Have a bushfire plan

Having a written bushfire plan will help you know how to respond when threatened by a fire.

### Stay informed

Leaving early, well before the fire gets close, is the safest option.

* Free call the VicEmergency hotline 1800 226 226.
* Check the VicEmergency app, Facebook or Twitter.
* Tune in to ABC local radio, commercial and designated community radio stations, or Sky News TV.

[www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au)

## Cockatoo Neighbourhood Safer Place relocation

Cockatoo’s Neighbourhood Safer Place – Bushfire Place of Last Resort has moved from Cockatoo Sports Complex to Cockatoo Community Centre to provide easier access from the centre of town.

Council’s Emergency Management Team works closely with local fire brigades and the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee to review the shire’s NSP-BPLRs every year. The 2020 review found that the relocation was supported.

Cardinia Shire’s Neighbourhood Safer Places – Bushfire Places of Last Resort are located at:

* Cockatoo Community Centre
* Pepi’s Land, Emerald
* Gembrook Community Centre.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/nsp](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/nsp)

## Be flood and storm ready

It’s important to be prepared and stay informed in the event of an emergency.

* create a flood safety plan
* prepare your property
* prepare your business
* review flood guides
* access important contact information.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/floods](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/floods)

# The great outdoors

Cardinia Shire is well known for its scenic outdoor spaces and first-class facilities. With the warmer weather upon us, there’s never been a better time to explore all that our shire has to offer.

### Parks, playgrounds and recreation reserves

We have many parks, playgrounds and recreation reserves to enjoy.   
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/parksandplaygrounds](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/parksandplaygrounds)

### Walking and cycling trails

Our walking and cycling trails provide opportunities to explore the shire and enjoy the great outdoors.  
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/walkingcyclingtrails](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/walkingcyclingtrails)

### Skate parks and BMX tracks

A range of skate parks and BMX tracks across the shire vary in size and level of difficulty.  
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/skatebmx](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/skatebmx)

### Tennis

Tennis facilities are available at a range of sporting grounds and the Pakenham Regional Tennis Centre.  
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/tennis](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/tennis)

### Equestrian

There are a number of horse riding facilities and trails across the shire.   
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/horseriding](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/horseriding)

### Outdoor fitness equipment

Outdoor exercise stations are located at a number of parks and reserves.   
[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/outdoorfitness](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/outdoorfitness)

## What’s on at Casey Cardinia Libraries

* In Conversation with award winning author Chris Hammer, Facebook live event, Wednesday   
  9 December, 7.30–8.30pm.
* Journalist Karen Casey brings you The Misadventures of the Travelling Quirkus, Zoom event, Thursday 10 December, 7–8pm.
* Streaming movies and music with Kanopy and Freegal, Zoom event, Monday 14 December,   
  2–3pm.
* Getting the most out of the library app, Zoom event, Monday 11 January, 11am–12pm.
* Buying and selling on eBay, Zoom event, Tuesday 19 January, 2.30–3.30pm.
* Author Paul F Verhoeven discusses his latest book Electric Blue, Zoom event, Thursday 18 February, 7–8pm.
* Summer school holiday program. Check the website for details.
* Summer Reading with Sid the Sloth, for ages 3–16.

All events are free and bookings essential unless otherwise stated.

[www.cclc.vic.gov.au/online-events](http://www.cclc.vic.gov.au/online-events)

# Cardinia Business Supporting local businesses

It’s been a challenging year for local businesses, so it’s more important than ever to support our local business community.

## Online business portal

Our interactive online portal is connecting local businesses with local customers.

### Business support and information

Information on financial assistance, training opportunities, events, online learning, wellbeing information and business support from the Australian and Victorian governments and Cardinia Shire Council.

### ‘Buy Local’ map

Find local businesses, contact details, opening hours and services. Add your business or give a shout out to your favourite local businesses by posting a recommendation or photo.

[www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/cardiniabusiness](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/cardiniabusiness)

## Support available

We have a range of support measures to reduce financial pressure on businesses, including rent relief options for commercial tenants in Council properties, rebates for some business fees and charges, faster payments for suppliers and contractors and refunds of eligible registration and permit fees.

A community-led Economic Response Committee with representatives from local businesses has been established to help guide our work in this area.

## Tourism website

Do you operate a local business that welcomes tourists? If so, you’re invited to feature your business on an exciting tourism-focused website currently being developed by the Casey Cardinia Tourism board.   
For more information, email [tourism@discovercaseycardinia.com.au](mailto:tourism@discovercaseycardinia.com.au)

## Outdoor dining

We have been working closely with local hospitality businesses to fast-track and support their applications to expand outdoor dining operations. We’re also waiving outdoor dining permit fees for hospitality businesses until 30 June 2021.   
Phone 1300 787 624 or email [business@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:business@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

### Cardinia Shire Council

Customer Service Centre   
20 Siding Avenue, Officer

**Postal address**:   
PO Box 7, Pakenham 3810

**Phone**: 1300 787 624

**Email**: [mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**Web**: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**TTY users**: 1300 677 then ask for 1300 787 624

**Speak and Listen users**: 1300 555 727 then ask for 1300 787 624

**After-hours emergencies**: 1300 787 624

**Facebook**: [www.facebook.com/cardiniashirecouncil](http://www.facebook.com/cardiniashirecouncil)

**Twitter**: [www.twitter.com/cardiniashire](http://www.twitter.com/cardiniashire)

**Linkedin**:   
[www.linkedin.com/company/cardinia-shire-council](http://www.linkedin.com/company/cardinia-shire-council)

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For more information about Connect: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/connect](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au/connect)