

## MEDIA RELEASE

2 April 2020

### **Gladstone Region resident self-isolating after COVID-19 diagnosis**

Queensland Health has today advised that a Gladstone Region resident is currently in self isolation after testing positive for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said this person was currently self-isolating within the region.

“Today the Gladstone Region had its first confirmed case of COVID-19 and this resident is undertaking a 14-day self-isolation period within the region,” Councillor Burnett said.

“This person has had no contact with anyone other than medical staff and their partner.”

Cr Burnett said now the virus has been confirmed in our region it is not the time to become complacent or to panic.

“As a community we need to continue to follow government advice by practising social distancing and remaining at home as it’s these actions that will help flatten the curve and reduce the strain on our health systems and community,” Cr Burnett said.

Cr Burnett said Local Government is categorised as an essential service under public health directions and that Gladstone Regional Council will continue its services to the community.

“We are working hard on maintaining as many services as we can during this time, even if they are delivered in a different way,” Cr Burnett said.

“Our Business Continuity Plan focuses on maintaining critical services for our community including water, waste, road maintenance, sewerage and cemeteries.

“Council’s Local Disaster Management Group has been activated as have the Recovery sub-groups for human and social and economy.

“It’s important now more than ever that we reach out to those in our community who are struggling and who may need some support, so that when this passes, and it will, our region can rise up again.

“The Gladstone Region is a strong and resilient community and we will work together to keep our community safe and well while we plan for the recovery.”

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Cr Burnett also acknowledged Council employees who are now implementing social distancing strategies into their daily work.

“For some roles this will take some adjusting but I thank everyone for their willingness to adapt to this new way of operating,” he said.

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