

# MITCHAM

## COMMUNITY NEWS

MAY 2020



We're here for you

From the outset of the COVID-19 emergency, Council has worked to find new ways to support its community. In this special edition we look at measures introduced to boost the economy and create jobs and how we are delivering services in new ways to keep the community safe and connected.

### MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS MAY 2020



Council will bring forward a range of long term projects to stimulate the local economy.  
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Our libraries at Mitcham and Blackwood are working hard to keep the community engaged and connected.  
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## Message from the Mayor

**Mayor  
Dr Heather  
Holmes-Ross**



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It's fascinating how things that seem totally surreal can become normal very quickly. At the outset of the COVID-19 emergency, I was cast into an endless stream of virtual meetings, evolving directives and advice. Briefings included combinations of all the (SA) Mayors, Mayors and CEOs, the Premier, local and Federal Ministers, SA Health officials, SAPOL, local government officials and other experts. While I grappled with rapidly changing social and workplace expectations, community commitments almost simultaneously dropped out of my calendar as the very real danger of the pandemic became apparent.

At the Civic Centre, the implementation of various and increasing restrictions were carried out around me. It felt like the staff were literally

vanishing before my eyes as the vast majority of them were set up to work from home. Within three weeks, our Executive Leadership team had developed a plan for every staff member to keep them safe, engaged and productive for the foreseeable COVID-style future. I am so impressed and proud of the speed and efficiency with which our teams adapted to the new way of doing business.

After the initial public health response, conversations quickly turned to the emerging economic crisis. The message for councils, particularly from State and Federal governments, is clear: target help and spend to stimulate. The role of Council is to adapt our current services while implementing government mandates, provide assistance to those suffering hardship, and lead local economic stimulus by bringing forward our planned infrastructure projects, if necessary, by several years. Staff and Elected Members worked hard to make sure these items were on the agenda for our first virtual Council meeting.

The meeting itself felt pretty bizarre. Elected Members and staff joined the online meeting from either their homes or from separate rooms within the Civic Centre. Audio feedback meant that each person needed to be well separated. Two muted staff members and I sat at an appropriate social distance from each other as I chaired the meeting, looking at the rest of the staff and

Elected Members on a huge smart screen in an otherwise empty Chamber. It was wonderful how quickly we adapted to the new protocols and made decisions regarding assistance for COVID-19 affected ratepayers and economic stimulus works. Councillors gave in-principle support to, what I believe at time of writing are, the most generous COVID-19 provisions in SA. On top of our existing hardship provisions, Elected Members agreed to a 10 per cent reduction on 2020/21 rates for businesses and ratepayers adversely affected by the pandemic. This is in addition to affected ratepayers being able to immediately defer outstanding rates and charges until December 2020, and assistance to owners of food businesses, whose inspection fees and charges will be waived until December 2020.

Elected Members also agreed to an immediate economic stimulus of almost \$5 million to bring forward current projects, while actively seeking State and Federal co-funding for a further \$36 million. We are hoping to bring forward various infrastructure projects, such as upgrades to several sporting facilities across the city, bike trails and the new Blackwood Community Hub.

I wish to thank staff for their outstanding work, Elected Members for their patience and support, and you, the residents, for your understanding and cooperation over the past few weeks. I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of spirit which has emerged throughout the community.

## COVIDSafe app launched

Mitcham residents are encouraged to download the 'COVIDSafe' app to keep themselves and the community safe.

Launched by the Federal Government last month, the contact trace app helps health officials quickly contact people who may have been exposed to the virus.

The app is voluntary but speeds up the manual process of finding people who have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19, meaning you can be contacted more quickly if you are at risk.

**Find out more at**  
[www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app](http://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app).



## City of Mitcham waives rent for local businesses

Community groups and local businesses are set to benefit from lease, license and rent payment relief for the period of the mandated closure for any Council tenant who has had to close in light of COVID-19.

City of Mitcham will waive fees during Federal and State government directed closures to clubs and community groups who would normally operate during this period.

The situation is being monitored and adjustments will continue to be made as circumstances change. For groups who have paid their 2020 fees, a credit note will be issued for the period of the closure. Any Council tenants who have not yet paid 2020 fees are asked to refrain from doing so. An amended invoice will be issued at the end of the closure period.

Council has received many words of thanks from local affected businesses including Gallery One, which operates out of Mitcham Cultural Village, Blackwood Community Recreation Centre, Blackwood Lions Club and many of our local sporting groups. We hope all our Council tenants, community groups and local businesses are staying safe during this time.

**For more information on Council relief and services during COVID-19 please visit**  
[www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/ourservices](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/ourservices).

## Rates relief announced

City of Mitcham is working to support people in the community who are experiencing financial hardship by offering rate relief to COVID-19-affected residents and ratepayers.

With many businesses forced to close or reduce their trading hours, large numbers of people have become unemployed or are experiencing a reduction in income.

We understand your concerns around reduced revenue, financial obligations, management of employees, legal obligations, maintaining workplace health and planning around disruptions.

If you are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, you can apply to have your rates and charges payments deferred until 15 December 2020.

To be eligible, ratepayers (direct or indirect, such as tenants) must be:

- Commercial ratepayers who have been required to close due to COVID-19

- Commercial ratepayers eligible for the 'JobKeeper' payment
- Non-commercial ratepayers eligible for the 'JobSeeker' or 'JobKeeper' payment
- Any other ratepayer experiencing financial hardship due to income dropping by 15 per cent or more.

If you have had a loss of income due to the COVID-19 crisis and do not believe you can meet your upcoming rates payments, you can apply for a rates postponement.

Rates can be postponed until 15 December 2020 and no penalties will apply during this period. Payment for postponed rates can be made any time during this period but full payment will be required at the end of December.

**To apply, please download a form at [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/ourservices](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/ourservices).**

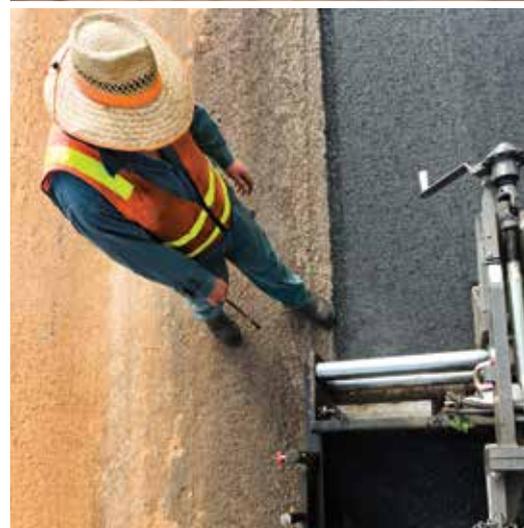
# Stimulus Package to boost local economy

City of Mitcham has set out to support the local economy and generate employment during the COVID-19 pandemic by bringing forward a range of projects earmarked for future years.

Council has identified \$4,796,500 of projects that can begin immediately, including the replacement of four domestic waste trucks, road renewal and kerb reconstruction at Cashel Street and Quinlan Avenue, St Marys and new roofing and guttering at the Cumberland United Soccer Club rooms.

Also identified are \$36,888,500 in projects that require funding from Federal or State Government. Council has already committed to the funding of \$16m towards these projects and will appeal to the Premier and Prime Minister with an outline of the works and balance of funding required.

These include the Blackwood Community Hub and Waite St Reserve Activation (\$20m), Unley Jets Club Redevelopment at Unley Oval (\$2.15m) and Brown Hill Creek Storm Water Management Plan South Parklands Stage (\$5.3m).



## City of Mitcham Stimulus Projects – immediate start

Project Description	Value
Civic Centre – replace air conditioning units in Council Chambers Archive Store and Council Chambers, recoat panels on exterior curved wall	\$70,000
Lynton Depot – security system upgrade	\$45,000
Blackwood Lions Club – roof renewal	\$3,000
Blackwood Rotary Club – switchboard upgrade	\$1,500
Mitcham Community Centre – kitchenette renewal	\$15,000
Mitcham Community Centre – car park shelter demolition	\$10,000
Mitcham Community Centre – swipe card access	\$30,000
Mitcham Village Institute – hall flooring renewal	\$10,000
Mitcham RSL Clubrooms – switchboard upgrade	\$1,000
Cumberland Park Community Centre – modify doors for DDA compliance	\$15,000
Colonel Light Gardens Institute – alarm and smoke detector, roof fascia/ gutter repairs	\$25,000
Mitcham Memorial Library – roof repairs to old section	\$15,000
Belair Community Centre – new gutter and downpipes	\$12,000
Cumberland United Soccer Club – clubrooms roof and gutter renewal	\$26,000
AA Bailey Reserve Southern Suburbs Rugby Club – clubrooms gas heater replacement	\$2,000
Hawthorn Bowling Club – storage shed roof renewal	\$6,000
Manson Oval Bellevue Heights Tennis Club – replace eastern verandah and shelter	\$35,000
Cashel Street, St Marys – road renewal and kerb reconstruction	\$1,010,000
Quinlan Avenue, St Marys – road renewal and kerb reconstruction	\$620,000
City of Mitcham – four domestic waster truck replacements	\$1,745,000
Main Road, Blackwood, footpath renewal, new kerb, stormwater upgrade, upgrade East Terrace/Main Road intersection, upgrade Red Road/Hillside/Main Road intersection, park furniture and renewals in Blackwood Forest Recreation Park reserve	\$800,000
Wattlebury Road, Barrens Reserve, Wesley Street, Mitcham – renewal of footpath and streetscape	\$300,000
<b>Total Value</b>	<b>\$4,796,500</b>

## Projects seeking Federal/State assistance

Project Description	Value
Grange Road, Hawthorn – road renewal, kerb reconstruction	\$520,000
City Image Public Realm and Identity Projects	\$1,000,000
Blackwood Community Hub and Waite Street Reserve activation	\$20,000,000
Sturt River Linear Park – shared path	\$4,000,000
Kingswood Oval – fencing	\$30,000
Kingswood Oval – Unley Jets Club redevelopment	\$2,150,000
Hawthorndene Oval – Coromandel Ramblers Cricket Club changerooms and public toilet	\$744,000
Brownhill Creek Storm Water Management Plan	\$5,300,000
5KW Solar PV – Westbourne Senior Citizens Club	\$8,000
LED Building Lighting Upgrade – Cumberland Community Centre and Westbourne Community Centre	\$15,000
Pasadena Biodiversity Corridor	\$782,500
Dorene Street Shadeway – road renewal	\$1,100,000
Suffolk Reserve – renewal	\$467,000
Dunns Reserve Fairy Trail	\$137,000
WA Norman Reserve – levelling baseball infield	\$20,000
Grevillea Way Fire Track – pavement improvement	\$150,000
Price Memorial Oval – drainage improvements	\$100,000
Blackwood Hill Oval – drainage improvements	\$100,000
CC Hood Dog Park – turf upgrade	\$35,000
AA Bailey Reserve – playground renewal	\$80,000
Blackwood Hill Oval – playground renewal	\$150,000
<b>Total Project Value</b>	<b>\$36,888,500</b>
<b>Total Funding Assistance Sought</b>	<b>\$20,948,500</b>

## Poppies and puzzles boost connections

City of Mitcham's Community Wellbeing Team has been working to stay in touch with older and vulnerable residents during the COVID-19 closures.

With no ANZAC Day gatherings planned for April, the team delivered poppy making kits including wool, knitting needles, patterns and wire to encourage residents to knit and display poppies outside their homes and gardens.

The wider community embraced the poppy project, collecting knitting patterns from our libraries through our Click or Call and Collect service, or downloading instructions from the Mitcham website.

**For more information on our Community Wellbeing initiatives visit [www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/ourservices](http://www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/ourservices).**

Mayor Dr Heather Holmes Ross said making poppies was a great way to bring the community together and to honour the sacrifice made by those who lost their lives in conflict.

The team also established a Puzzle Care Pack service which saw brand new puzzles delivered to weekly Social Group members. Our staff wore gloves and used sanitising wipes to ensure maximum safety for our community.



## Library Home Delivery Service to the reading rescue!

The Library Home Delivery Service team has jumped in to keep our community connected to the books they love while they are staying safe at home.

The team has been delivering books to older residents who had been catching the Community Bus to visit the Mitcham Memorial Library each month.

If you would like to enquire about the Home Library Service for isolated family members or neighbours, please call Mitcham Memorial Library on 8372 8244.

## New role for 'EHOs'

City of Mitcham's Environmental Health Officers have been out and about supporting the community during the COVID-19 crisis.

From the outset of the emergency, 'EHOs' have been at the forefront of keeping the community informed and safe.

EHOs have been the first face of government talking to businesses to keep them informed of assistance that is available to them.

They have also partnered with Community Safety staff to monitor social distancing and gathering directions in our parks and reserves.

Council's public and school immunisation clinics continue to be available with additional hygiene measures and protocols in place to protect our community and staff.

## Click or Call and Collect at our Libraries

To keep our community connected and provide access to our collections of books, DVDs and magazines, Mitcham Memorial Library and Blackwood Library have introduced a 'Click or Call and Collect' service.

To access the service, visit our library website to browse the catalogue and reserve an item either online or over the phone.

We'll let you know when your item is ready to be collected from the library entrance. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work together to slow the spread of COVID-19.

To search our catalogue and to put a book on hold call the Mitcham Memorial Library on 8372 8244 or the Blackwood Library on 8372 8255 or visit [www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/libraries](http://www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/libraries).



## Join our Library staff weekly online!

Mitcham Memorial and Blackwood Library staff are boosting community connections and keeping young readers engaged with online Story Time, Wiggle and Read and Craft sessions.

Join Gail and Wendy as they read you stories during Story Time, stretch your little ones in Wiggle and Read and create craft with our free craft packs.

Each week a new Story Time, Wiggle and Read and Craft video will be released on our Mitcham Library Service Facebook page and on our website.

The craft packs can be collected from the Mitcham Memorial Library or the Blackwood Library during Click or Call and Collect opening hours each week. We hope you can join us online soon and appreciate your patience and support as we work together to slow the spread of COVID-19.

**Find the videos at [www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/storytimeonline](http://www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/storytimeonline), [www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/wriggleandreadonline](http://www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/wriggleandreadonline) and [www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/craftonline](http://www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/craftonline).**



Mick Kiley is one of a group of volunteers who contributes many hours each week maintaining Mitcham's community gardens, including Nellie's Garden at the Mitcham Railway Station.

## Recognising our volunteers

Volunteer Week celebrations have been put on hold this month but City of Mitcham has set out to recognise the important work of our volunteers.

Many City of Mitcham volunteers who work in our gardens, libraries, Community Wellbeing programs and community support, including our Justice of the Peace service, are in isolation due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross says the contribution of these hard-working individuals is vital to the City of Mitcham.

"We want to say a heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers who may be experiencing the effects of isolation during this time," she says. "We look forward to welcoming you back and in the meantime, please nominate a volunteering organisation who you know makes a positive difference to our community today."

Although City of Mitcham volunteer programs are on hold, many other volunteer-led programs are still operating in these challenging times.

**To nominate a volunteer worthy of recognition, please contact Lynne on 8372 8860 or email [lnorton@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:lnorton@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).**

## 'Breaking the Boredom' challenge

To help keep the community connected and kids engaged in learning, Mitcham's Community Centres launched a 'Breaking the Boredom' online school holiday program in April.

Each day a challenge was posted to the Mitcham Community Centres' Facebook page. 'Boredom buster' challenges included street chalk art, 'pets on parade', Anzac Day poppy craft, Lego challenge and more.

The program also includes a COVID-19 Time Capsule to encourage young people to record how they experienced and coped during a different period of their lives with a range

of activity sheets available to download on the website.

Feedback from the community included: "Thank you for organising... it's pretty tough for everyone right now, so these little elements of connection really help, especially for the kids who are struggling with the social distancing stuff," and "... my son is excited to do the activities every day".

**The Community Centres team plans to continue the challenge during Term 2. Find out how you can get involved at [www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/breakingtheboredom](http://www.mitachamcouncil.sa.gov.au/breakingtheboredom).**



## Community areas prepared for reopening

The Mitcham Community Centre, Clarence Gardens Bowling Clubrooms and award-winning Brownhill Creek have been getting a facelift while closed to the public.

While most of our community facilities are temporarily closed for the safety of the community, we've been making the most of the opportunity to freshen them up.

Updates include new flooring for the Mitcham Community Centre, Clarence Gardens Bowling Clubrooms toilet upgrade and an update to the Brownhill Creek gardens.

At the historic Mitcham Community Centre, floorboards have been freshly polished and new carpets installed ready for the return of many much-loved weekly activities. These include Knitting and Crochet, Men's Chats, Community Tai Chi, Art with Koruna and Colouring.

The Clarence Gardens Bowling Clubrooms at AA Bailey Reserve now boasts accessible toilets and a new fascia.

The Mitcham Memorial Library's award-winning Brownhill Creek has been getting some love and care in preparation for both the winter flows and the summers ahead. The works include banks being replanted to improve stability, an extension of irrigation to improve plant establishment and minor repairs to the creek bed where some rocks had shifted. All work followed social distancing and sanitation guidelines.

We look forward to our local community enjoying the changes when the Community Centres, Clubrooms and Mitcham Memorial Library re-open.

## City of Mitcham launches online Grant Finder

City of Mitcham has partnered with Grant Guru to launch City of Mitcham Grant Finder, a one-stop search engine to help residents, businesses and community groups access a list of grant and funding opportunities.

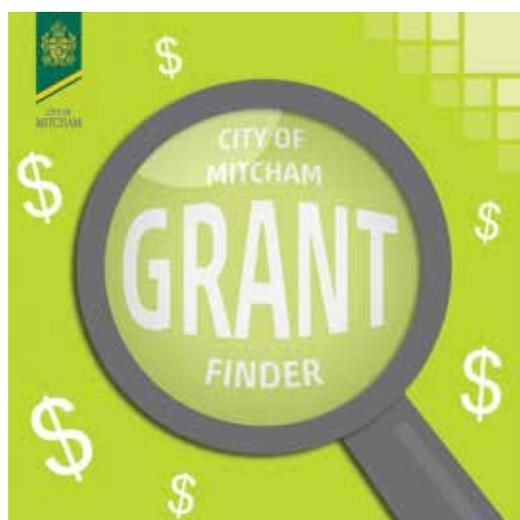
This free service can help you identify funding to support your project. Register to receive emailed alerts for new grants, save your favourites and access tips to help you apply for grants.

The Grant Finder also features a COVID Quick Link portal for up to date information on funding available to support businesses affected by closures and restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic.

There are over \$40 billion worth of grants available, including Mitcham's Public Arts Grant, Community Development Grants and Special Projects Grants.

Visit [mitcham.grantguru.com.au](http://mitcham.grantguru.com.au) to start your search.

**If you have any questions, please contact the City of Mitcham on 8372 8888 or email [mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au](mailto:mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au).**





## Creek widening and bridge work at Torrens Park

Replacement of Torrens Park footbridges has commenced with sustainability and foresight driving construction.

The existing bridges on Paisley Avenue and Balkissoch Road have been removed and replacements are underway. As these footbridges are in close proximity, these projects are being completed under one contract, reducing costs and impacts to the community.

Replacement bridges have been made using recycled materials from the Soldiers Memorial Gardens.

Underneath the bridges, localised creek widening works have started in order to align with future Brownhill Keswick Creek Stormwater Management Plans: creek widening will result in a typical four-metre cross section. Gabion walls, which will line the creek and serve as a measure of erosion control, are also under construction.

If you are taking a walk around the area, please note the detour signs provided for pedestrians.

Works are scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2020.

## Turners Avenue footbridge

The Turners Avenue footbridge replacement is underway, offering a pleasant detour for residents to enjoy until the improved infrastructure is completed.

The footbridge replacement, at the intersection of Turners Avenue and Main Road, Coromandel Valley, will provide comfortable two-metre clear pedestrian access on the same alignment as the existing bridge.

The new bridge is made of composite fibre and coloured 'eucalyptus green' to tie in with the aesthetics of the area.

A pedestrian detour has been set up over a repaired weir crossing upstream, embraced by local dog walkers who appreciate better access.

Works are scheduled to be completed by June 2020.



## Sturt River Linear Park set for revamp

City of Mitcham, in partnership with the City of Onkaparinga and the State Government, is set to revamp the popular Sturt River Linear Park walking trail.

The project will span a large segment of the Sturt River Watercourse in Coromandel Valley, extending from Horners Bridge to the Institute Building.

The project includes the construction of a three-metre wide, 800-metre long shared use path, which will include links to existing paths from adjacent residential areas.

Construction of boardwalks and bridges at river crossings and low-lying flood plain areas is also underway.

Additionally, bench seats, picnic shelters and signage are set to be installed along the path in open areas and picturesque locations.

Vegetation removal and new landscape and creek restoration works along the river corridor are set to begin; these developments will heighten the scenic nature of Sturt River Linear Park.

Landscaping planting will be completed in two stages, with the first stage commencing in July 2020. Civil works are scheduled to be completed in October 2020.

## Goodwood Road pedestrian walkway upgrade

Kerb and gutter renewals in Cumberland Park are underway to establish safe and accessible walkways while improving water catchment infrastructure.

Kerb and gutter works are underway on the western side of Goodwood Road, between Edward Street and Little Street, after the poor condition of existing pathways was identified.

As part of the \$500,000 project, pram ramps will be installed. These ramps will comply with Disability Discrimination Act standards, providing a continuous, safe and convenient pedestrian walkway.

The new kerb height of 150mm will be consistent across the entire strip, establishing clear separation for vehicle and pedestrian movements. This not only improves safety but will provide a greater opportunity to contain surface stormwater flows within the kerb and gutter.

The existing paving will also be lifted and re-laid along the pedestrian footpath to match the new kerb and gutter.

The works are set to be completed in June 2020.

## Caulfield Avenue road resal program

Road resal and kerb projects are pushing on, ensuring City of Mitcham residents continue to have access to safe and appealing streets.

Council has recently completed new profiling and asphalt works to replace damaged sections of the road and kerbing on Caulfield Avenue, Cumberland Park. The new road surface will improve user experience for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians. It will also increase the overall street amenity and meet the service standard expectations from ratepaying residents.

These renewal works are a part of the City's ongoing road resal program which aims to renew road surfaces in the most efficient manner possible. The program includes the routine assessment of roads against agreed service standards. A road is identified for renewal if it no longer performs as originally intended; this often means the presence of extensive defects, such as potholes or cracks.

Kerbs are renewed, as necessary, in conjunction with the road surface, so there is minimal construction disruption to residents.

# Sorting your COVID-19 Waste

As many of us are working to stop the spread of COVID-19, we are encountering more takeaway and cleaning waste including takeaway food containers, flushable wipes and masks and gloves. We have come up with some tips to help you sort your waste.

As our efforts to 'stop the spread' increase, so does our use of single use items. By staying at home, we avoid making waste and reduce the number of face masks, gloves and hand sanitiser bottles we use. Making homemade face masks with fabric and old cloths is a great way to reduce your waste.

Many cafés and restaurants supply takeaway food containers including pizza boxes and cardboard and paper food packaging that are all compostable and can be placed in the green bin with all your food scraps.

Plastics can be recycled as normal, but make sure they are empty, cleaned and that lids have been removed. Plastic household cleaning products including aerosols and hand sanitiser bottles with lids removed can all be recycled. You can recycle the lids by putting them all into a soft drink or water bottle to keep them together.

For more information on which bin to use visit [www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/aboutyourbins](http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/aboutyourbins).



## Waste to Landfill Bin (red or blue lid)

- ✓ Face masks
- ✓ Gloves (rubber or latex)
- ✓ All wipes (including flushable wipes)
- ✓ Cleaning cloths and sponges
- ✓ Disposable coffee cups and lids

EastWaste



### Green Food and Garden Organics Bin

- ✓ Paper towel and tissues
- ✓ Pizza boxes, serviettes and paper bags
- ✓ Compostable cardboard takeaway containers
- ✓ Compostable cups and cutlery
- ✓ Any unwanted food

Note: compostable containers, cups and cutlery must be certified 100% compostable - look for recycling logo

### Yellow Recycle Bin

- ✓ Hand sanitiser bottles (lids removed)
- ✓ Household cleaner bottles and aerosol cans (lids removed)
- ✓ Plastic takeaway containers and cups (empty, clean and lids removed)
- ✓ Collect plastic lids inside a clear plastic (PET) bottle. When full, place in the recycle bin.

EastWaste



## Energy saving tips to stay warm working from home

As the cool weather sets in and many of us continue to work from home, it's important to find ways to save energy. Here are our tips to help you keep your home warm and your costs down.

### Natural heating system

When the sunshine is out, let it in. Tiled and concreted floors store heat and release it later, keeping homes warm well into the winter evening.

### Room-by-room

Close doors to section off your home into smaller areas to allow for more economical heating by only heating the spaces being used.

### Winter wardrobe

Wearing warm clothes indoors will allow you to keep your thermostat set to 18°C - 21°C. Keep your thermostat set as low as comfortable, as every degree lower may reduce the running costs by up to 10 per cent.



### Heater hack

As hot air rises, adjust your heater's louvres towards the floor to heat the space more efficiently. Maintain your heater's condition by cleaning filters regularly and keeping louvres dust free.

### Stop heat sneaking out

Up to 60 per cent of heat loss from a home can be due to unsuitable insulation; 20 per cent of heat can be lost through windows alone. Thick curtains can work as insulators, keeping a room cosy.

Putting draught excluders under doors (door snakes), sealing strips around door and window frames, and filling cracks and gaps are also easy ways to reduce draughts and heat loss.

Now is also a great time to prepare your home for the winter. Residents and businesses within our Council area may be eligible for grants under the Retailer Energy Efficiency (REES) Scheme to make your home more energy efficient including new LED lights, water efficient shower heads and timers that turn off devices.

For detailed information about heating appliances, installation and draught proofing, visit the State Government's Energy Advisory Service at [www.sa.gov.au/topics/energy-and-environment/using-saving-energy/heating](http://www.sa.gov.au/topics/energy-and-environment/using-saving-energy/heating). For details on the REES scheme visit [www.escosa.sa.gov.au/industry/rees/overview](http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au/industry/rees/overview).

## Recycled roads rolled out in Mitcham

A road made from more than 450,000 plastic bottles was rolled out in Westbourne Park to coincide with Earth Day last month.



Carlisle Road was one of two demonstration sites laid by Council using recycled materials aimed at reducing the amount of waste to landfill, minimising the use of virgin materials and decreasing Council's carbon footprint.

As well as plastic bottles, Carlisle Road included recycled asphalt, kerbing made from recycled materials, and trees watered by Treenet Inlets that combined will harvest over 200,000 litres of stormwater annually.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said the use of the recyclables in asphalt roads would make the roads stronger and last longer, and in future can be recycled again and incorporated into new asphalt roads.

The second road, Simla Parade in Blackwood, was laid with recycled crumb rubber from waste tyres, HDPE plastic from locally generated yellow bin recyclables, recycled asphalt, and recycled refinery sand.

"We have used recycled rubber in roads recently, with great success, but these trials incorporate new materials," Dr Holmes-Ross said. "The current projects are part of a new initiative that was based around an open 'expression of interest' we put out to the state to attract new innovations of incorporating recyclables into asphalt and encouraging private industries to push the boundaries of what is achievable."



## Hewett Sports Hub upgrade unveiled

The aged sporting clubrooms at Hewett Sports Ground have been replaced with new facilities for the Blackwood Sporting Community to enjoy.

Councillor Lindy Taeuber, Member for Boothby Nicole Flint MP and Member for Waite Sam Duluk MP unveiled the long-awaited upgrades at the Hewett Sports Hub on Coromandel Parade, Blackwood in March.

After seven months of construction, the Hub delivers a sizeable new multi-use sports facility with kitchen, meeting rooms, storage spaces, toilets and change rooms, along with landscaping of outdoor covered areas.

While servicing schools and the broader community, the Hewett Sports Hub is home to five sporting clubs: Coromandel Cricket Club,

Blackwood Tennis Club, Woods Panthers Netball Club, Sturt Lions Soccer Club and the Blackwood Football Club. These sporting clubs are funding the interior fit-out of the Hub, including tables and chairs, kitchen equipment and storeroom shelving.

The Hewett Sports Ground project, with a budget of over \$1 million, received funding from the Federal Government Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, the State Government Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing and the City of Mitcham.

Many thanks go out to the Hewett family.



## Duo collaborate on skate park design

Local artist Adam Poole-Mottishaw worked alongside budding artist, skate enthusiast and high school student Daniel Britton to add a splash of colour to Karinya Reserve Skate Park.

The pair joined forces to create a piece which reflects the identity of the Blackwood skate park community.

Adam, who owns a skating apparel shop in Unley, engaged with the skating community to shape the work. The design is 'light, funky and in a cartoon style' and features references to 'Hilltops, 5051' and 'Bwood'.

"Daniel wanted to represent his area, so he designed a Blackwood piece in traditional graffiti style with characters that fit the themes," says

*Please note: Karinya Skate Park is currently closed in line with COVID-19 restrictions.*

Adam. "I wanted the skating community to receive it well - this park is like their second home."

The project is part of an ongoing initiative to provide creative opportunities for young people to allow them to connect and participate, encouraging a sense of ownership.

Adam hopes the work promotes the benefits of legal urban and graffiti art and steers young people on to the right path, allowing them to discover how hard work and passion can evolve into a career.