



Sarah Connolly MP's eNewsletter



October Edition 2020

COVID-19 Update

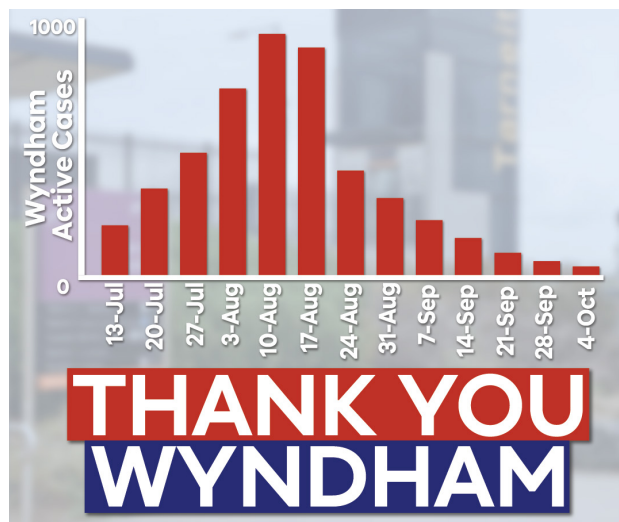
Daily updates on all coronavirus related news are posted on my Facebook page which can be found [here](#).

The last couple of months have been a challenge for many Victorians. At the height of the pandemic, Wyndham experienced 942 active cases - but through hard work and persistence we've driven the numbers down.

I want to thank all of you for doing the right thing in this trying time. Our determination to beat this virus has seen us exceed expectations.

Remember the virus is still with us. We need to continue to practice safety and caution going forward.

Keep going Tarneit – we've got this.



Second Step - Roadmap to Recovery

From September 28th, metro Melbourne has taken the second step on our roadmap to a COVID-normal setting.

Key changes to the roadmap include:

- ✓ You may leave home for the same four reasons as Stage 3 (essentials shopping, exercise, caregiving, work and education).
- ✓ Curfew is no longer in effect.
- ✓ Childcare will reopen for all children with permits no longer required. Babysitting will also be allowed.
- ✓ Onsite learning will resume for VCE and Primary school students (see following page).
- ✓ Religious gatherings can also take place outdoors with five people plus a faith leader. You can only travel up to 5km from your home to attend a gathering and only for 2 hours.
- ✓ Pet grooming is allowed on commercial premises. You may travel more than 5km for pet grooming.
- ✓ Face fitted masks are now required. This means that other forms of masks – bandanas, scarves and faceshields – will no longer be allowed. Victorians will have a week to obtain a face-fitted mask.



To view the full list of changes to restrictions under the second step, see [here](#).

Local Business Discussion Minister Danny Pearson

Last month, local businesses joined Danny Pearson, the Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Regulatory Reform and Government Services, and I via Zoom to discuss the challenges businesses are facing during the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Minister wishes to pass on his thanks to the local business owners who shared their stories and hardship with him. It's important that Cabinet Ministers continue to hear directly from our small businesses.

I'll continue to host these meetings and invite Government Ministers to come along to hear from you. This month, Minister for Small Business, Employment and Innovation Jaala Pulford will join me for another virtual session with our business community.



Danny Pearson MP
Assistant Treasurer



Sarah Connolly MP
Member for Tarneit



Jaala Pulford MP
Minister for Small Business

Up Next - Minister Jaala Pulford

Join us via Zoom

11AM - Friday 9th October

Register interest [here](#).

BUSINESS RELIEF PACKAGE

There is no doubt that this has been a tough time for businesses in Victoria. That's why we are making sure there is extra support for them when they need it.

Over \$1.1 billion in cash grants are being provided to support small and medium businesses most affected by Covid-19.

For more information see [here](#).

- ✓ Business Support Fund payments for businesses affected by restrictions
- ✓ Digital support to help small businesses trade online
- ✓ Dedicated fund for licensed hospitality venues
- ✓ Payroll tax deferral extended for 20-21 financial year

GRANGE RESERVE LIGHTING \$350,000 - COMPLETE

The Hoppers Crossing Soccer Club will now be able to play and practice at night, with the installation of lights at Grange Reserve being completed this month.

This is fantastic news for the Hoppers Crossing Soccer Club, who are looking forward to playing their first night game under light at Grange Reserve in the early months of next year.

The Andrews Government provided \$300,000 for these lights as part of a 2018 election commitment - the remainder being provided by Wyndham City Council.

Community Sport will return soon as restrictions continue to ease.



Victorian Youth Strategy: Have your say



Young people and organisations across the State are being invited to have their say on a new youth strategy for Victoria.

A new strategy will seek to provide all young people with equitable access to opportunities and support to participate in the social, economic and civic life of our State.

Over the next two months the Victorian Government is hosting a public conversation about how we can make Victoria the best place for young people to live, work and thrive.

Have your say by completing a short online survey - [Click Here](#)

Or register for a youth or community forum near you: - [Click Here](#)

Year 12 Engagement - VCE & VCAL

Last month, I commenced a series of virtual roundtables with Year 12 student leaders from across all secondary schools in the Tarneit Electorate. These roundtables have provided students with an opportunity for in-depth discussions about the pandemic and its impacts on our community, as well as discussing what their graduation will be like this year, and most importantly, what jobs will be available for them once this pandemic is over.

Additionally, I have also setup a Young Women's Roundtable with senior students across Tarneit to discuss gender equality and issues facing young women. These roundtables allow women to discuss issues relating to the workplace, family violence and sexual harassment.

It was great to hear from these bright, talented young students - I look forward to continuing these sessions into the future.

Garrang Wilam Primary School

The Victorian Government made a commitment to deliver 100 new schools between 2019 and 2026 - and we're getting on with it.

Our newest school, known in the interim as Truganina South East Primary School, has officially been named Garrang Wilam Primary following community consultation.

Garrung Wilam is a local Aboriginal word meaning 'eucalyptus home'. Incorporated into the schools branding will be the vibrant work of indigenous artist Deanne Gilson. Deanne's artwork symbolises elders and students focused together on learning with colours reflecting the Western Volcanic Plains, native plants, and eucalyptus trees that inhabited the lands.

Garrang Wilam Primary School is due to open its doors in 2021 and enrolments are now open.



Coronavirus Resources

NEW - Extreme Hardship Support Program

This program provides support to people living in Victoria who are experiencing significant hardship are unable to access Commonwealth Government income support and the International Student Emergency Relief Fund (ISERF).

The program is targeted to support the most vulnerable in our community – including temporary and provisional visa holders and undocumented migrants with little or no income, savings or community support. See [here](#).

Translated COVID-19 Resources

Essential COVID-19 information in over 50 languages. If your language is not here please contact me and I can get your language translated. Please access the resources [here](#).

Domestic Violence Support

You are **always** allowed to leave your home if you are escaping family violence, no matter where you live in Victoria or what coronavirus restrictions are in place.

Call safe steps on 1800 015 188, email safesteps@safesteps.org.au or visit safesteps.org.au for help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you are in immediate danger – call 000.



Rental Relief - Residential & Commercial

We have introduced a fair system to support tenants and landlords during the pandemic. This includes a \$80 million fund whereby tenants can receive financial assistance in paying their rent after they go through a mediation process with their landlord.

There are several more programs funded under the Rental Relief Package.

Residential information [here](#).

Commercial information [here](#).



Every Friday

Coffee Catch-Up with Connolly

via ZOOM



Register interest by email: sarah.connolly@parliament.vic.gov.au



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