**Lismore – coronavirus COVID-19 response**

Lismore Community Council has convened an Emergency Response Group (ERG) to make sure that our community is as prepared as it can be, for the possibility of a serious outbreak of COVID-19 on the island.

Out of necessity, ferry timetables and shop opening times are reduced and GP face to face surgeries limited to absolutely essential situations only.

If there is a significant spike of cases in the general area then formal health and emergency response services are likely to be very busy, so help will need to be provided from within the community as much as possible.

Lismore’s ERG is organising safe delivery of food and medicines to households who need them and helping to co-ordinate support for everyone as we self –isolate, reduce our travel and practice social distancing. This includes sourcing food and fuel supplies from off the island where required; organising fuel on the island if needed; helping to organise essential repairs and keeping in touch with folk who live on their own to make sure that they are OK.

Help and support can also be provided for any households who do fall ill and suspect they may have COVID-19. If anyone feels unwell with a deteriorating condition they should follow the guidance provided by the surgery and contact 111. But help will also be available from within the community; a team has set up to offer advice and if necessary, practical support, to people suffering from suspected COVID-19.

Detailed advice on how to cope in the current emergency and guidance on how to access the available help and support will be posted on this website and circulated as hard copy to those who are not online.

Key contacts (who are co-ordinating teams of volunteers) are:

Food and medicine delivery – Gilly Dixon Spain and Sarah Campbell

Fuel and off-island supplies –Mark Willis

Essential (emergency) repairs – household, vehicle etc. – Mark Willis

“Buddying” contact for people living alone – Roger Dixon Spain and Eva Tombs

Communication – information on community website and facebook – Laura Cook, Iris Piers and Eva Tombs

Help and support to households suffering from COVID-19 – Clare Haworth and Jayne Layton

ERG co-ordinator is Mandie Currie, deputy co-ordinators are Sebastian Tombs and Mark Willis – gratefully supported by a wide range of individuals providing information gathering, organisational and monitoring functions.

Please keep checking this site regularly for updates

*Lismore Community Council 25/03/2020*