



Media Release

6 April 2020

WARNING TO EASTER CAMPERS

Police will have the power to issue \$1,000 on-the-spot fines for individuals and \$5,000 for corporations not complying with Ministerial directions relating to COVID-19 as part of a State-wide crackdown on reckless behaviour to slow the spread of the virus.

Officers will also no longer require a warrant to arrest an individual breaching a public health order, after the NSW Government passed legislation to give Police greater powers to enforce orders under the Public Health Act 2010.

With beautiful autumn weather predicted for the Easter break, Council is warning those who are planning to come to Tenterfield Shire area to camp on the banks of the Clarence River and elsewhere, that the Stay at Home Rules issued by NSW Health apply:

You **must stay at home**, unless you are going to:

- Work (where you can't work remotely)
- School or an educational institution
- Shop for food and essentials
- Get medical care or supplies
- Exercise

Or see full details <https://preview.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/public-health-orders>

Council has advised Police of the high risk areas and it is anticipated these areas will be patrolled throughout the Easter break and beyond.

"Despite the majority of people doing the right thing, there are those who are still behaving recklessly and irresponsibly, endangering the lives of others, particularly the elderly and immunocompromised members of the community", said Mayor Peter Petty.

"I am aware that Easter is a time when families get together to camp in our beautiful remote areas, however this is not the year to do it. Please stay home and respect the wellbeing of others", Mayor Petty urged.

Members of the public can report to Crime Stoppers if they hold concerns an individual or community is failing to comply with Public Health Orders. You can report online at www.nsw.crimestoppers.com.au or call 1800 333 000.

ENDS