

# Our Gunyah

## *Special Edition*

### *In This Special Edition*

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work remotely due to  
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**Contact Us**

Phone: (02) 6742 7038

Tenant Line: 1300 764 964

Fax: (02) 6742 6670

Email: [admin@gunidagunyah.com.au](mailto:admin@gunidagunyah.com.au)

[www.gunidagunyah.com.au](http://www.gunidagunyah.com.au)



**Gunida Gunyah Aboriginal Corporation  
work remotely due to Covid-19.**

Gunida Gunyah Aboriginal Corporation (GGAC) would like to advise you that as of Monday 30th March 2020 the office will be closed and GGAC staff will be working from home due to Covid-19 until further notice. Staff are still available to take calls from 8:30am - 4:00pm Monday to Friday on (02) 6742 7038 or 1300 764 964. Our staff will be contacting tenants and program clients on a regular basis just to ask if you are OKAY. You can also check out our web page for all latest information.

Throughout this difficult time please stay safe, look after each other and contact us if you have any concerns.

**EAPA Update**

GGAC has applied to conduct EAPA assistance via telephone applications only. Our application is still under review so at this point we cannot offer EAPA assistance due to not being able to do face to face service.

**Update from Asset & Maintenance Team**

Due to the current outbreak of covid-19 we are only able to do jobs that are OHS related or an emergency for the safety of everyone involved. If we receive requests for jobs that aren't an emergency or OHS related they will be logged to be done at a later date.

# Rental Payments & Moratorium on Evictions

There is a lot of talk going around now about the Moratorium on evictions that the Government has implemented. This is not a rent moratorium. Tenants not significantly affected by coronavirus are expected to honour their leases and rental agreements.

All tenants should be aware that rent is still payable during this period, the stimulus funding provided by the Government is to assist you to meet your everyday basic living needs such as rent, food, electricity etc, tenants that are suffering significant financial duress as a result of the Coronavirus should contact us before reducing or cancelling their rent payments, tenants who are suffering financial stress will be required to provide evidence of that hardship prior to a decision about rental payments taking place. Types of evidence you will be asked for is:

- Letter of termination from your employer or another forms of evidence that demonstrates that your income has been reduced such as bank statements etc
- Provide evidence that you are not eligible or have been denied access to the stimulus funding
- Photos demonstrating food prices or copies of food bills etc. Most communities are in the same circumstances when it comes to limits on purchases from the supermarket or lack of essentials in the supermarket.

Our priority is ensuring that all tenants sustain their homes and that we can continue to deliver our essential services to applicants and tenants. We will work with all households to tailor arrangements based on their needs.

Currently our rents are set using the Build and Grow rent policy so tenants that receive the Coronavirus Supplements, Special Payments or the Government Stimulus Payment, those payments will not affect your rent payable amount. This means around 90% of tenants will have more money in their household budget to meet expenses whilst continuing to pay a Social Housing rent.

Repairs and Maintenance are paid for through the collection of rental payments, contrary to what people think there is no funding for Repairs and Maintenance, if tenants do not pay their rent it will severely impact the ability to carry out any repairs and maintenance.

It is also worth noting that if tenants accrue arrears they will not go away, those arrears will be recovered following the correct procedures.

We will keep you updated as more information becomes available, you can check out our web page for all latest information.