The Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP
Member for Vaucluse

31 January 2022

Dear Resident

Today the NSW Premier announced a range of vouchers to support NSW businesses and residents impacted by the Omicron outbreak. More information is below and includes $500 Before & After School Care vouchers for all primary school children, as well as $250 Parents NSW vouchers and $50 Stay NSW vouchers to redeem on accommodation and entertainment.

More than $1 billion has been invested to support businesses, workers and performing arts. This includes help to purchase Rapid Antigen Tests and grants to help keep workers employed during this difficult time. More information on that announcement is also below.

2022 Small Business Support Program
NSW GOVERNMENT

A one-off payment for February 2022. Eligible businesses receive 20% of weekly payroll (min $750 pw, max $5,000 pw) or $500 pw for non-employing businesses.
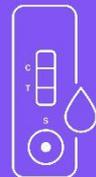
nsw.gov.au

Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) rebate
NSW GOVERNMENT

Small Business Fees and Charges Rebate expanded to assist employing small businesses with the cost of RATs. Rebate increased from $2,000 to $3,000.

nsw.gov.au

On Saturday, I attended Dover Heights Shule to speak at their community lunch. I also presented Rabbi Motti Feldman with a certificate congratulating the community on their $27,336 NSW Government Community Building Partnership grant which will help upgrade the Shule.

This photo was taken during a previous visit to the Shule

The daily NSW Health update and local COVID figures are included below. Operation hours and locations have also been updated for our local COVID-19 testing clinics.

Keep safe.

Sunday, 30 January 2022

COVID BUSINESS SUPPORT PACKAGE RELEASED

Businesses, workers and the performing arts across NSW are all set to benefit from a major financial support package of more than $1 billion to help those that have been hardest hit by the Omicron wave.

The package includes financial support for small business to buy rapid antigen tests (RATs) to help keep their workers safe and a new Small Business Support Program to assist businesses to help keep their workers employed.

Premier Dominic Perrottet said while case numbers are now declining, the NSW Government is determined to support those businesses that have been most affected during this wave of the pandemic.

"As part of the package, we are introducing the Small Business Support Program to help support businesses that experienced the worst effects of the Omicron wave," Mr Perrottet said.

"We are also providing support to business to help reimburse the cost of rapid antigen tests for their workers, extending the Commercial Landlord Hardship Grant and delivering additional funding for the performing arts sector.

"This targeted package provides support for businesses who experienced cashflow issues and the immediate economic impacts of the Omicron outbreak.

"NSW is tracking better than expected and confidence is returning. And as we did with earlier recoveries, we will come through this recent challenge stronger than ever.

"We've got the backs of businesses, as we have throughout this entire pandemic."

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW Paul Toole said the support package would provide a statewide response to the Omicron wave of the pandemic, targeting those businesses that need it the most.

"Our regions have felt the impacts of Omicron, and it's critical we give them a helping hand to recover and get local economies humming again," Mr Toole said.

"This package shows that the NSW Government continues to have the back of residents and businesses in the bush with practical measures to ensure they keep their workers safe and businesses open."

Treasurer Matt Kean said we know some businesses in NSW have faced challenges and it is vital we get them the support they need to stay afloat and keep their workers in jobs.

"As we continue to protect the health and safety of our community, we have to ensure our economy is resilient and our businesses are supported so they bounce back from this most recent phase of the pandemic," Mr Kean said.

"The Small Business Support Program helps those businesses with annual turnover of between $75,000 and $50 million with a decline in turnover of at least 40 per cent by providing a payment covering up to 20 per cent of their weekly payroll.

"By ensuring businesses keep their doors open and their employees paid, we are

confident our economy will bounce back strongly as it did last year."

Small Business Minister Eleni Petinos said the program was important to ensure small businesses have the resources and cash flow they need to survive this outbreak and bounce back.

"We know that the over 800,000 small businesses in NSW are the lifeblood of local communities and that many of these businesses experienced challenges due to the Omicron wave of the pandemic," Ms Petinos said.

"This package will help relieve some of the costs of small business including keeping workers safe, assist with cash flow and support small businesses to continue trading."

The Small Business Support Program provides eligible businesses a lump sum payment of 20 per cent of weekly payroll with a minimum payment of $500 per week and a maximum payment of $5,000 per week.

In addition, the existing Small Business Fees, Charges and RAT Rebate will be increased by 50% from the current $2,000 limit to $3,000 and employing businesses will be able to use the rebate to obtain RATs. This will support worker availability by helping reduce costs to small businesses and enabling healthy staff who have been exposed to COVID-19, but test negative, to return to work.

$500 VOUCHERS FOR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Parents and carers of children enrolled in all NSW primary schools will benefit from $500 vouchers under a new $155 million program for Before and After School Care (BASC) services. The $500 vouchers will assist families who use BASC services by covering the parent gap fee part of their session fees.

Every family with children at a NSW primary school is eligible for one voucher per child, which will mean each child will get approximately 60 sessions of free BASC.

BASC providers will be able to register to redeem the vouchers from 7 February 2022. Parents and carers will be able to apply for and use the vouchers from 28 February 2022 through their online MyServiceNSW account, in the app, or by visiting their nearest Service Centre.

MORE VOUCHERS FOR ACCOMODATION & ENTERTAINMENT

Eligible accommodation providers across the State can now register to take part in two of the NSW Government's new voucher programs – the $250 Parents NSW vouchers for parents of school-aged children and $50 Stay NSW vouchers for NSW residents aged 18 and over.

Vouchers under the program will be available from February 2022 using the existing Dine & Discover voucher model. Residents can pool multiple Stay NSW vouchers with friends or family for the same booking at registered accommodation providers. Bookings made through third party providers such as online booking platforms and travel agents are not included in the program. Businesses can register their interest here.

STAY NSW
BUSINESS
REGISTRATIONS
OPEN

COVID-19 STATISTICS FOR THE VAUCLUSE ELECTORATE
Source: NSW Government Website (accessed at 6:00pm 31 January 2022).
State-wide vaccination rates can be viewed here.

Post Code	Suburbs	Active COVID Cases	Vaccination Rate (1st dose/2nd dose) 15y.o+
2030	Watsons Bay, Dover Heights, Vaucluse, Rose Bay North	242	90%+ / 90%+
2029	Rose Bay	142	90%+ / 90%+
2028	Double Bay	62	70-80% / 70-80%
2027	Point Piper, Darling Point, Edgecliff	85	80-90% / 80-90%
2026	Bondi, Bondi Beach, North Bondi	501	80-90% / 80-90%
2025	Woollahra	92	80-90% / 80-90%
2023	Bellevue Hill	133	80-90% / 80-90%
2022	Bondi Junction, Queens Park	209	90%+ / 80-90%

31 January 2022

NSW PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT - COVID-19 STATISTICS

Across NSW, more than 95 per cent of people aged 16 and over have received a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and 94 per cent have received two doses to Saturday 29 January 2022.

Of people aged 12 to 15, 83.2 per cent have received a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and 78.5 per cent have received two doses. Of people aged 5 to 11, 38.7 per cent have received a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

The total number of vaccines administered in NSW is now 15,706,550 with 4,784,022 doses administered by NSW Health to 8pm last night and 10,922,528 administered by the GP network, pharmacies and other providers to 11:59pm on Saturday 29 January 2022.

NSW Health encourages everyone who is eligible to receive a vaccination or their booster dose to book into a NSW Health vaccination clinic or another provider without delay through the COVID-19 vaccine clinic finder.

Sadly, NSW Health is today reporting the deaths of 27 people with COVID-19; 17 men and 10 women.

Of the 27 people who died; five were in their 60s, six were in their 70s, 10 were in their 80s and six were in their 90s. Older age is a significant risk factor for serious illness and death for COVID-19, particularly when combined with significant underlying health conditions.

Eight people who died had received three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, 16 people had received two doses and three people were not vaccinated.

Of the four people who died who were aged under 65, three were men and one was a woman. Three people had received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine and one person was unvaccinated. All four people had significant underlying health conditions.

Six of the 27 people were from southern Sydney, six people were from south western Sydney, two people were from northern Sydney, two people were from Sydney's Inner West, two people were from the Central Coast, two people were from Wollongong, two people were from Maitland, two people were from the Riverina region, one person was from the Northern Beaches, one person was from the Northern Rivers region and one person was from the Tweed Heads region.

NSW Health expresses its sincere condolences to their loved ones. This brings the total number of COVID-19 related deaths in NSW since the beginning of the pandemic to 1,394.

There are currently 2,779 COVID-19 cases admitted to hospital, including 185 people in intensive care, 67 of whom require ventilation.

There were 13,026 positive test results (cases) notified to 8pm last night - including 5,664 positive rapid antigen tests (RATs) and 7,362 positive PCR tests.

There has now been a total of 251,530 positive RATs recorded since reporting began on 13 January 2022. The 7,362 positive PCR results were returned from 37,266 PCR tests. Following further investigation, 125 COVID-19 cases detected by PCR tests have been excluded and 548 cases previously reported as RAT-positive have now been confirmed as PCR-positive cases, bringing the total number of cases detected by PCR tests in NSW since the beginning of the pandemic to 821,946.

Of the 13,026 positive test results, 3,049 from Northern Sydney Local Health District (LHD) (2,426 PCR* and 623 RATs), 1,588 are from Western Sydney LHD (1,051 PCR and 537 RATs), 1,441 are from South Western Sydney Local LHD (750 PCR and 691 RATs), 1,199 from South Eastern Sydney LHD (587 PCR and 612 RATs), 879 are from Sydney LHD (483 PCR and 396 RATs), 1,193 are from Hunter New England LHD (465 PCR and 728 RATs), 519 are from Nepean Blue Mountains LHD (278 PCR and 241 RATs), 580 are from Illawarra Shoalhaven (275 PCR and 305 RATs), 462 are from Western NSW LHD (220 PCR and 242 RATs), 464 are from Murrumbidgee LHD (213 PCR and 251 RATs), 446 are from the Central Coast (181 PCR and 265 RATs), 474 are from Northern NSW LHD (152 PCR and 322 RATs), 201 are from Southern NSW LHD (81 PCR and 120 RATs), 353 are from Mid North Coast LHD (64 PCR and 289 RATs), 19 are from Far West LHD (8 PCR and 11 RATs), six are in correctional settings, two are in hotel quarantine and 120 are yet to be assigned to an LHD (120 PCR and 31 RATs).

*Almost 2,000 positive PCR tests from 25 December to 6 January in Northern Sydney LHD were uploaded yesterday and are included in today's results. Investigations into this issue are underway and NSW Health anticipates there will be further historic uploads from the Northern Sydney LHD in coming days.

There are COVID-19 testing locations across NSW, many of which are open seven days a week. To find your nearest clinic visit COVID-19 clinics or contact your GP.

COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS

Residents are encouraged to get tested when they have even the mildest of symptoms. Here are some testing clinics in the local area with private testing also available via GPs:

- **Woollahra 4Cyte Pathology Walk-in Clinic,** 8 Oxford Street, Woollahra (8am-4pm Mon-Sat)
- **Bondi Junction Respiratory Clinic,** 47 Spring Street, Bondi Junction (9am-5pm Mon-Fri, 9am-11:30am)
- **Bondi Junction 4Cyte Pathology Walk-in Clinic,** 50 Bronte Road, Bondi Junction (8am-4pm 7 days)
- **Bondi Junction Laverty Pathology Drive-through and Walk-in Clinic,** Lvl 2 Car park, 34 Waverley Street, Bondi Junction (8am-12pm Mon-Fri)
- **Rose Bay Laverty Pathology Drive-through** , Lyne Park, Vickery Avenue Car Park, Rose Bay (8am-12pm Sun-Fri)
- **Bondi Beach SydPath Drive-through Clinic**, Entry on junction of Campbell Parade and Beach Road (7:30am-5pm 7 days)
- **Prince of Wales Hospital**, Building 14B Avoca Street, Randwick (9am-7pm 7 days)

To view all NSW COVID-19 clinics, please click here.

Information on COVID-19 Vaccination in NSW

Information for NSW Businesses and Employees

You can forward this e-newsletter to a friend by clicking here.