ILLAWARRA SHOALHAVEN LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT

Media Information



Thursday, 21 October 2021

ISLHD COVID-19 update

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD) is urging the community to get vaccinated and come forward for testing after recording 22 positive COVID-19 cases in the 24 hours to 8pm last night.

Given the number of cases reported in the 2527 postcode in recent days, residents of that area in particular are asked to be extra vigilant to COVID symptoms and to come forward for testing if they are experiencing even the mildest of symptoms. There are a number of testing locations in the Shellharbour area, including the Albion Park Showground Testing Clinic, which is open from 8am – 6pm, 7 days a week.

Of the 22 new cases:

- 9 are from the Wollongong Local Government Area (LGA) 3 are linked to known cases Postcodes – 2500 (1), 2502 (1), 2518 (2), 2519 (1), 2530 (4)
- 9 are from the Shellharbour LGA 8 are linked to a known case Postcode – 2527 (3), 2528 (5), 2529 (1)
- 3 are from the Shoalhaven LGA all are linked to a known case Postcode – 2540 (3)
- 1 is from the Kiama LGA and investigations are ongoing Postcode - 2533

There have now been 2,326 local cases of COVID-19 in the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District since the start of the current outbreak in June.

As at 8pm Wednesday 20 October, there were 26 COVID-19 patients being treated in hospital.

Venues are posted daily on the <u>District's Facebook page</u> and a full list of all exposure sites in NSW is available on the <u>NSW Health case locations web page</u>.

The community is reminded to remain vigilant for symptoms and get tested if any appear, no matter how mild. Symptoms include cold or flu-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough or shortness of breath. People with mild symptoms, such as fatigue, new muscle aches or pains, a change in taste or smell or a new runny nose, should also arrange testing as quickly as possible.

High rates of testing are critical to detecting transmission and preventing further spread of COVID-19 in the community.

There are a number of COVID-19 testing clinics across the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District. Visit the <u>District's website</u> for a full list and updated opening hours and times. There are also more than 500 COVID-19 testing locations across NSW – visit the <u>NSW Government website</u> for details.

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District urges the community to continue to come forward for vaccination. Everyone in Australia aged 12 and over can receive a COVID-19 vaccination. For more information visit www.health.gov.au.