

DECEMBER 2023

Bayside Business E News

Welcome to Bayside Business E News, bringing you the latest news, events and updates each month



SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SUPPORT RESOURCES

Social Enterprise Council of NSW & ACT (SECNA) shared insights into the Social Enterprise industry at the recent Bayside Business for Good Lunch.

A facilitated discussion around the impact social enterprises can have on their communities brought to light the support resources that are available.

These resources are for existing social enterprises as well as enterprises, charities and not-for-profits looking to transition into a social enterprise model.

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BAYSIDE COUNCIL HOLIDAY SERVICE HOURS

Our regular service hours have changed for Christmas.

Customer service centres

- Friday, 22 December - 8.30am to 12pm
- Monday, 25 December - Closed
- Tuesday, 26 December - Closed
- Wednesday, 27 December - 8.30am to 4.30pm
- Thursday, 28 December - 8.30am to 4.30pm
- Friday, 29 December - 8.30am to 4.30pm
- Monday, 1 January 2024 - Closed

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Newsletter Highlights

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NEW RULES FOR FIXED TERM CONTRACTS

From 6 December 2023, new rules apply when engaging employees on fixed term contracts.

- A fixed term contract terminates at the end of a set period (for example, the contract ends after a set date or period of time or a season). This includes contracts where the employee is employed for a specific period
- The new rules include a requirement for employers to give any employees they're engaging on a new fixed term contract a Fixed Term Contract Information Statement (FTCIS)
- There are limitations on how fixed term contracts can be used.
- There are some exceptions to who these limitations apply to.

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NEW FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS IN NSW

Food service, caterer and related retail businesses in NSW need to meet new food safety requirements in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code).

The requirements apply to most businesses from 8 December 2023.

If you already have a current FSS, you will only need to ensure other staff who handle unpackaged, potentially hazardous food have appropriate skills and knowledge in food safety and hygiene. Higher-risk businesses must also be able to show they are managing key food safety risks.

For other businesses, all the requirements are new, such as for children's services that supply food, school canteens, supermarkets, greengrocers, delis, coffee vendors that sell food, correctional centres and boarding schools.

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APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR ACTIVE AND CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Applications are open for businesses to become an Active and Creative Kids Voucher Provider. The program will provide two \$50 vouchers each calendar year to eligible parents, guardians and carers of school-aged children.

The vouchers:

- will be available
 - twice a year, starting from February 2024
 - to eligible parents, guardians and carers receiving a Family Tax Benefit
- can be used for eligible active or creative activities with registered providers
- must be redeemed before the expiry date on the voucher.

Providers are able to accept and redeem vouchers from February 2024 through the Service NSW Business Bureau app.

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NEW PUBLICATION ON SECURING CUSTOMER PERSONAL DATA FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESSES

The latest Annual Cyber Threat Report found that cybercrime reports have increased compared to data from the previous year, with one report now received every 6 minutes. During the 2022-23 financial year, the cost of cybercrime to businesses increased by 14%. Per cybercrime report, small businesses experienced an average financial loss of \$46,000, while cybercrime cost medium businesses an average of \$97,200.

The Australian Signals Directorate's Australian Cyber Security Centre (ASD's ACSC) has launched a new publication on [Securing Customer Personal Data for Small and Medium Businesses](#).

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SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN FOR AUSTRALIAN SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPION AWARDS

The Australian Small Business Champion Awards is a prestigious and comprehensive program that supports and recognises small businesses across Australia.

Offering a unique opportunity to highlight Australia's most outstanding small businesses, the awards seek to recognise the hard work that business owners contribute to the local community in generating employment for millions of Australians, as well as their contribution to the Australian economy.

The awards are the pinnacle of business success. They recognise the values associated with successful businesses.

Entry submissions are open until 15 February 2024.

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ECONOMIC INSIGHTS

Bayside Council's Business Development Team provide insights into consumer spending and demographics for key suburbs in the LGA.

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GRANTS AND FUNDING

Bayside Council Grant Centre provides businesses a comprehensive list of grant and funding opportunities.

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OPEN TENDERS

Bayside Council's Open Tenders help business discover new opportunities.

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