



Welcome to this month's newsletter

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Please share this newsletter with other local businesses, become a member of the Hawkesbury Business Hub (it's free!) and please tell me what you think by contacting me on 4560 4437 or 0418 296 579 or email Amanda.Kearney@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au.

From your Mayor

With the ongoing flooding that is occurring in the Hawkesbury, I urge local businesses to access the various flood support services being offered by all levels of government.

As your Mayor, I will advocate on your behalf to ensure the specific needs of businesses are communicated to the relevant bodies who can help make a difference.

Whilst we rebuild from the floods, Council is continuing to support and cultivate great opportunities for our local business community by supporting local business awards and conducting a video recording with well-known local business owner, Karen Lebsanft, which will be located on Council website for businesses to view in their own time.

Council have also organised a small business accelerator workshop for tourism businesses. These activities are targeted to the specific needs of our business community, and I encourage you to get involved.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with our business community to get us through this challenging time.



Flood Support



A range of financial assistance and support services are available to individuals and businesses impacted by severe weather and flooding in NSW from 22 February 2022 onwards.

Support for Businesses

As part of Hawkesbury City Council's efforts to assist businesses through their recovery, a special Flood Support Newsletter was distributed earlier this month containing information on support and services available to local businesses. Click [HERE](#) to access the newsletter and [HERE](#) for more information on flood support services in the Hawkesbury.

Support for flood affected landholders

[Meat & Livestock Australia](#) have compiled a comprehensive list of flood recovery information including farm and livestock management resources, financial assistance, and state and national support. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

[Rural Aid](#) provides critical support to farmers affected by natural disaster through financial, wellbeing and fodder assistance. Register online at www.ruralaid.org.au or by calling 1300 327 624.

[Rural Aid's Farm Army](#) provides a job posting platform for farmers seeking assistance with advertising job opportunities for farmers, workers and volunteers. Learn more [HERE](#).

NSW Government Support

[Storm and Flood Disaster Recovery Small Business Grant](#)

If you are a small business or not-for-profit and were directly impacted by the March 2022 storms and floods, you may be eligible for a disaster recovery grant of up to \$50,000 to help cover the costs of clean-up and reinstatement of operations.

[Special Disaster Grants](#)

Targeted assistance and Special Disaster Grants of up to \$75,000 are now available to primary producers recovering from the impacts of severe weather and flooding in February and March 2022, through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA). Flood affected primary producers are encouraged to apply for the grant as soon as possible, and once approved, will be able to access \$15,000 in assistance up-front, with a further \$60,000 in financial assistance available thereafter upon submission of valid tax invoices.

Federal Government Support

[The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment](#)

A lump sum payment available to residents in a [disaster declared Local Government Area \(LGA\)](#) who were significantly affected by the 2022 floods. If eligible you will receive \$1,000 per adult, \$1,000 per partner or

dependent adult, and \$400 per child under 16. To claim online, you will need a myGov account that is linked to Centrelink. If you require assistance, you can call the Emergency information line on 180 22 66.

The [Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment - Special Supplement](#) is available to eligible persons in heavily impacted LGAs. If you meet eligibility rules, you will receive an additional \$2,000 per adult, \$2,000 per partner or dependent adult, and \$800 per child under 16.

[Disaster Recovery Allowance](#)

The Disaster Recovery Allowance is a short-term payment to help those whose income has been directly impacted by a disaster. You can get it for a maximum of 13 weeks, paid from the date you started losing income as a direct result of the NSW floods. To claim online, you will need a myGov account that is linked to Centrelink. If you require assistance, you can call the Emergency information line on 180 22 66.

Getting Back to Business



The NSW Small Business Commission has developed a guide for business owners impacted by the severe weather and flooding event experienced throughout NSW and who are now facing the road to recovery. The guide outlines steps to getting back to business and how you can recover and even bounce back better than ever.

[\[Download the guide\]](#)

Around the Hawkesbury



Liveability Project Update - Revitalising Our Town Centres

Hawkesbury City Council's Liveability Project to revitalise the town centres of Richmond, South Windsor and Windsor is now well under way. The [final design package](#) for all three town centres has been created and is available to the public via Council's community engagement website, [Your Hawkesbury Your Say](#).

The tender for the construction phase is currently out to market for South Windsor and Richmond. Construction of the two town centres is expected to commence in late April 2022. Further information will be provided to businesses likely to be impacted and to the community once final details have been confirmed.

Windsor Town Centre is currently awaiting Heritage NSW approvals. Construction is expected to commence sometime in mid-2022.



Hawkesbury Business Awards

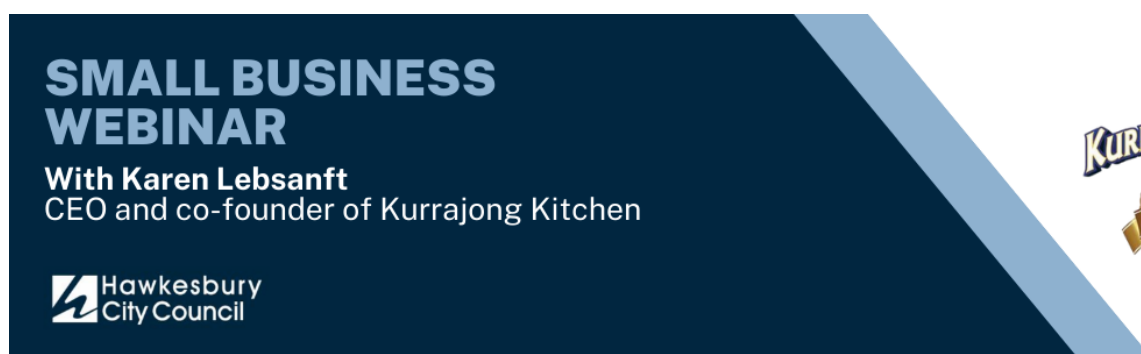
Nominations for the 2022 Hawkesbury Business Awards are now open! This is your chance to nominate a local business, organisation or individual from the business community for an award you believe they truly deserve.

There are over 20 award categories across numerous industries, aimed at celebrating the achievements of the local business community across the board. The awards will also recognise inspirational and high achieving individuals with *Business Person of the Year*, *Young Business Person of the Year*, and *Resilience Champion of the Year*. You can learn more about the categories [HERE](#).

Finalists are selected based on the most nominated organisations or individuals in each category.

HAWKESBURY BUSINESS AWARDS NIGHT

Winners will be named and presented with their award at the Hawkesbury Business Awards Night, held at the Hawkesbury Race Club on **Friday 20 May 2022**. Tickets include a 3-course meal and premium beverage package, as well as entertainment by local musicians. They can be purchased online [HERE](#).



Join us as we celebrate small businesses with a webinar featuring local businesswoman Karen Lebsanft, CEO and co-founder of Kurrajong Kitchen.

Karen, sharing her real-life stories and experiences, will inspire and motivate you to lead your business towards future success, and provide insight and tools on how to grow your business.

The webinar will be uploaded to Council's website and available to watch for 12 months.
[Hawkesbury Business Hub](#)

HAWKESBURY Business Accelerator Workshop

'Working the tourism ecosystem for your business'

When: Monday 4 April 2022, 10am
Where: Hawkesbury Race Club



 Hawkesbury
City Council

 SPARROWLY
GROUP

Hawkesbury Business Accelerator Workshop

Hawkesbury City Council invites ALL businesses working in the visitor economy to attend a practical **FREE** learning and networking event.

Presented by business and tourism experts Sparrowly Group, the first workshop **'Working the tourism ecosystem for your business'** will be held **Monday 4 April 2022** at the Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon. This workshop will:

- guide you through the tourism sector and how to work it for your business
- help you get set for the year ahead and leave with the tools to put a useable plan in place
- give you the opportunity to meet other business owners from across the Hawkesbury.

These workshops are open to all businesses who work in the visitor economy and at any stage of their business journey.

Date: Monday 4 April 2022

Time: 10am

Location: Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon

[\[Register\]](#)

April Business Workshops

Find and book your next workshop, webinar or event from an expert. Develop your business skills, learn something new, or get your new business idea off the ground.

5 April 2022 - Business Email Compromise
6 April 2022 - Passwords and Identity Security
7 April 2022 - Phishing Emails - Think before you click
12 April 2022 - Get Set on Social: Workshop to set up your Socials
20 April 2022 - Cyber Security for Business owners/Managers
26 April 2022 - Data Protection and Data Breach Protection
26 April 2022 - Facebook Advertising Masterclass
27 April 2022 - NSW Plastic Ban Workshop
28 April 2022 – Using your Business Money and Assets

[Click here](#) to register for the upcoming business workshops and webinars.

New Education and Training Model (NETM)



[The Western Parkland City](#), covering eight LGAs including the Hawkesbury, is an economic powerhouse and a growing centre for innovation and advanced manufacturing. The skills needed to fulfil new jobs are rapidly changing, leading to the development of a New Education and Training Model (NETM).

The NETM will deliver small-scale packages of learning, or micro-credentials, that allow people to build their knowledge and target the skills and experiences in a particular subject area that align to employer needs.

Industry partners are actively being sought after who want:

- Access to rapid, economical training
- To attract, grow and retain a skilled workforce
- To build a skill development pipeline for the future

Priority industries for the NETM are:

- Advanced manufacturing
- Aerospace & defence
- Freight & logistics
- Agribusiness

- Pharmaceuticals

If your organisation has a skills need and would like to work with the NETM team to develop a micro-credential proposal, please register your interest here, or contact netm@wpca.sydney to connect with the NETM team.

You can learn more about the NETM by visiting the [Western Parkland City Authority website](#) or by downloading the NETM Industry Brochure [HERE](#).

WaterFix® Small Business Pilot



Sydney Water is trialling a small business water efficiency service and offering subsidies of up to \$1,000 (Inc GST) to go towards water efficiency assessment and water efficient fixtures and devices.

[\[Download the WaterFix® Small Business Pilot Brochure\]](#)

NSW Single-Use Plastics Ban

In 2022 the NSW Government has committed to banning certain problematic single-use plastics.

From 1 June 2022: the supply of lightweight plastic bags will be banned in NSW.

From 1 November 2022: the supply of single-use plastic straws, stirrers, cutlery, bowls and plates and expanded polystyrene (EPS) food service items will be banned in NSW. The supply of single-use plastic cotton buds and microbeads in rinse-off personal care products will also be banned.

FROM 1 JUNE	FROM 1 NOVEMBER
	
<small>*Exemptions will apply for providing a plastic straw for people with a disability or medical need.</small>	

The NSW Government will work with businesses and organisations to ensure they understand their obligations and will launch a state-wide consumer awareness campaign in early 2022. If you would like to know more about the ban, visit the [NSW single use plastic website](#). Resources such as flyers and posters are available to download [HERE](#).