

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Scores on Doors program and app to be launched in Gundagai

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council is pleased to announce that residents of Gundagai and surrounding villages will soon have food hygiene and safety inspection information literally in the palm of their hand.

The 'Scores on Doors' food hygiene program and mobile app is being rolled out across the old Gundagai Shire Council area with the official launch of the initiative to take place on Wednesday 14th December.

Scores on Doors is the NSW hygiene and food safety scoring program that displays the results of regular inspections of food premises. It lets the public know how well local restaurants, takeaway shops, bakeries, pub bistros and cafes are complying with NSW hygiene and food safety requirements.

Council's Interim Director of Development and Community, Mr Chris Imrie said "residents and visitors to Gundagai will be able to see firsthand how well their favourite eateries scored at their last food safety inspection and can also access the information through using the Scores on Doors website and mobile app".

The purpose of the Scores on Doors program is to bring transparency to food hygiene and safety inspections, taking the guess work out of what's really going on behind the scenes of your local café, take away or restaurant.

"This program has been operating in the Cootamundra area since 2012 and as part of the increased level of services being provided through the recent Council merger, residents and visitors to Gundagai will now have access to this important food safety information." Mr Imrie said.

The Scores on Doors initiative has proven to be an effective marketing tool to promote the standard and quality of the hygiene and food safety of local food businesses, to locals and visitors alike. With the mobile app it is even easier for people to find that information. Simply download the app to your phone and that wealth of information is right there allowing you to make your choice about where to eat in Gundagai with confidence.

As part of Scores on Doors a business is assessed against a standardised food safety checklist and assigned a star rating reflecting their performance where 5 stars is Excellent, 4 stars is Very Good and 3 stars is Good. The result is then displayed prominently in that business, usually on the front door or window, giving consumers transparent access to information and the ability to make an informed choice about the food they eat.

The program was introduced as part of the NSW Food Authority's work to reduce food-borne illness in NSW and is one of a suite of initiatives in place to help improve the safety of food sold across the State.

Mr Imrie said that "This new service will also have the capability to provide further promotion to

Gundagai businesses listed and involved in the Scores on Doors program, with links to the food premises websites, mapping, photographs, social media and other material accessible through the business search results. This offers additional incentives for businesses to participate in the programme which is a key driver to greater acceptance and uptake”.

For further information please contact Mr Chris Imrie, Council’s Interim Director of Development and Community on 0269402100.

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