

## Shirebiz Bulletin 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020

### AsiaLink Report released 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020

“The rise of Asia’ or ‘the re-emergence of Asia’ does not reflect the reality of Asia’s place in the world today. Sustained economic performance and geostrategic forces have ensured that world economic weight is firmly centred in our region. Read the [report](#)

### Phone scams impersonating Australian businesses and government agencies are on the rise.

The Australian Cyber Security Centre and Australian Competition and Consumer Commission’s Scamwatch have received an increased number of reports in the last five days of remote access scams. Members of the public have reported receiving calls from cybercriminals pretending to be from telecommunication companies, government agencies including the Department of Home Affairs and parcel delivery companies. [Report](#)

### Australia's coronavirus bill: who does the government owe money to?

Government debt is denominated in Australian dollars so that the Australian government is not beholden to currency fluctuations nor does Australia bear inflation risk. Image: Shutterstock The government's latest economic update shows Australia going from a \$5 billion surplus to \$86 billion in deficit. The coronavirus pandemic alone knocked \$33 billion off budget revenues last financial year, and another \$56 billion is projected for this fiscal year. For more [information](#)

### Impunity to fight cyber attacks: New Laws

Private companies running nationally significant systems will be given legal impunity to fight cyber threats, while the federal government will be allowed to take control of these companies in the face of a serious threat, under proposed new laws. [Details](#)

### No Nev Power, we don’t need more gas, we need to reserve gas for home use

The Chairman of the National Covid-19 Commission tasked with planning a way forward economically is doing himself, and the gas industry, no favours by peddling self-serving twaddle. Appearing before a parliamentary committee this week, Power confirmed his obsession with boosting the gas supply, including through subsidising the construction of gas pipelines, as the solution to our crippling industrial energy prices. [See](#)

### Join Small Business Minister Michaelia Cash to find out what the government will be doing next to support your business

Join Michaelia Cash, Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, for her keynote session at the MyBusiness Week 2020. Find out what’s ahead for small businesses as we near the end of 2020 — the most turbulent year in business history To [Register](#)..

### Mark Speakman on corona virus update NSW

Recently, further restrictions have been eased and some have been reimposed. All for good reason, for as we have seen, our Victorian counterparts have endured a devastating resurgence in cases and deaths. Complacency can be catastrophic. Regardless of restrictions imposed by governments, the fate of our state rests on the decisions made by individuals. [Update](#)

### What are small modular reactors and what makes them different?

So, what are small modular reactors, or SMRs? The term refers to a class of modern reactors that are

essentially “small”, and each unit can be manufactured in a factory. They are “modular” in the sense that each unit can be assembled next to another and scaled up or down to meet the local electricity needs. They are also designed to “plug in” to existing power networks and therefore can essentially replace an aging power station with a modern, reliable, and zero-emissions power source. [Details.](#)