



Vince Di Pietro
Recovery Co-ordinator

Service Updates



Bushfire Helpline

The Bushfire Assistance Helpline is available Monday to Friday during business hours on **02 4429 5888**.



Recovery Webinar

250 people dialled in for the Laing O'Rourke Recovery webinar. The webinar is available to view on our Bushfire Recovery page.



Waste Removal

Council accepted 1,404 tonnes of bushfire demolition waste for processing last week, making up a total of 7,454 tonnes from 64 homes.



From the Community

Manindra Group providing local companies with hand sanitiser.

A Word From Vince

I hope you all enjoyed Easter and made the most of what digital connectivity can offer an Easter egg hunt.

Since the bushfires were declared extinguished, 50 Shoalhaven properties have begun the process of being cleared. By the time you read this, more than 420 site inspections and another 390 deeds of work have been signed for clean-up.

I know there are landowners whose circumstances may not fall easily within the scope of work and need further review and assessment. The NSW Government Bushfire Customer Care team is ready to assist with cases requiring escalation, and can be reached at bit.ly/2Vsi9Vf. I'd be keen to hear from those who have used this service and their experience with it. Another most welcome announcement is that Long Service Leave in relation to bushfire rebuild has been waived. For more information see bit.ly/2xxRoLS.

The NSW Government announced financial assistance for bushfire damaged fences. This grant is worth your close attention and can be accessed at www.ils.nsw.gov.au. Apply for the program online at the Local Land Services website, or by calling **1300 778 080**.

Recovery is challenging during this period of isolation, so if you can, please offer to help someone.



Shannan Perry-Hall
Economic/Tourism
Recovery Action Team Leader

Economic/Tourism

Spend here this year - Council is committed to supporting local businesses during this difficult time. With the bushfires, and now COVID-19, we must think outside the box. Many businesses have adjusted to social distancing regulations by adapting their products for online sales. Products include wine and retail gifts available via post, or food outlets offering take away and delivery options. Please submit your product details for inclusion in Shoalhaven Tourism's upcoming campaign at bit.ly/34D3pvN



Michael Paine
Social Recovery
Action Team Leader

Social Recovery

Bushfire Care Navigation Support - Barnados Australia, supported by Coordinare, have set up a service for those needing help accessing financial assistance, grants, housing and accommodation, mental health services, legal advice, parenting support and counselling. Residents can call **1800 663 863** between 8am-6pm Monday to Friday. To learn more about this great service visit barnados.org.au



Warwick Papworth
Built Recovery
Action Team Leader

Built Recovery

Bushfire Inquiry - The NSW Bushfire Inquiry is seeking submissions from bushfire-affected residents and emergency and support personnel. Those affected are being encouraged to share their experience. The deadline for submissions is Friday, 17 April. This deadline can be extended for those directly affected by the fires. Please make your submission by calling **13 77 88** or emailing inquiries@bushfireinquiry.nsw.gov.au



Shane Pickering
Environment Recovery
Action Team Leader

Environment

Birds in Backyard Survey - With more time at home, why not help BirdLife Australia find out how our urban birds are doing by submitting a Birds in Backyards survey? The survey can be submitted at any time, and as often as you like. Take the survey here: bit.ly/2XBx3A3

COVID-19 Updates



Sanitiser for essential services

Greg Pullen, Council's Economic Development Manager, has been instrumental in connecting the Manildra Group with local health services, schools and nursing homes needing hand sanitiser, which has been in short supply.

The company have now produced 1000 litre quantities of ethanol hand sanitiser to a network of distributors, to help supply the community. Many health services have been given 20 litres for free.

Mr. Pullen approached the Flagstaff Group, at Unanderra and Yumaro at Moruya, to be distributors and is now working on a similar service in the Southern Highlands and Southern Sydney areas.



Mental Health Support

Our way of life has changed following the bushfires and now COVID-19. It is vital to reach out and seek mental health support when you need it.

There are several services available offering assistance during this time. The Bushfire and COVID-19 ISLHD Mental Health Support Line is available for advice and support on **02 4424 7888** between 8:30am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

The Domestic Violence Line is always there for you on **1800 65 64 63**, as is Lifeline Australia on **13 11 14**. In the case of emergency please call **000**.

Please remember to stay connected, keep moving, keep a routine, switch off and reach out.



Council campgrounds are closed

The community is reminded that all Council Campgrounds are now closed for visitors due to COVID-19 restrictions. Residents should only leave home for essential purposes.

This reminder comes after Rangers recently located multiple campers and recreational users in the Yalwal Campground area. Rangers have increased patrols of the area, issuing on the spot infringement notices to those found in the camping grounds for not adhering to road closure signs. Local Police are also patrolling daily to ensure the *Public Health Act* is being adhered to.



@kanchan8848



Camping @ home
Kayla Davies