

Bushfire Recovery

NEWSLETTER 18 JUNE 2020

Shoalhaven
City Council



Service Updates



Bushfire Helpline

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



Waste Update

17,800 tonnes of non-contaminated demolition waste has been received from 313 homes.



Rebuild Update

22 dwellings have lodged Development Applications, with nine approved.



From Our Community

Flame, an eastern grey joey rescued at Bendalong, will remain in care until the end of the year.

A Word From Vince

Finalising the clean-up is our current focus. We have only ten properties where we haven't been able to contact the owners either by mail, phone or property visit. There are also 32 properties where we have either left voicemails, clearance has been conducted by insurers, or we have owners' assurance that they will register through Service NSW. The Recovery Helpline team has been terrific and Council has done all it can to make contact and support the clean-up.

The Health and Wellbeing workshops have started, as effects of 2020's challenges present themselves in our community. This work will continue to receive significant attention.

In two weeks, the Recovery Action Plan will have achieved its aim of helping the Shoalhaven back on its feet and the Recovery Action Teams will return to Council as business as usual. Council's commitment to ongoing bushfire recovery will be augmented by three positions. State is providing a Community Recovery Officer from Resilience NSW and a Department of Primary Industries Bushfire Recovery Officer for the Shoalhaven and Wingecarribee areas. The Federal Government's Bushfire Recovery Agency is also providing a Recovery Support Officer.

Moving from Recovery into Readiness and Resilience will be a long-term enterprise that is sensitive and aware of COVID-19 restrictions. Stay well and safe.

Vince Di Pietro - Recovery Co-ordinator

Social Recovery

Catholic Care are offering free Bushfire Support Counselling for those impacted by bushfires. Contact **1800 068 698**.

Save the Children are offering a Journey of Hope Caregivers Module to support parents and caregivers of children aged 8 to 12, affected by the bushfires and COVID-19. Local sessions will be held from 1 to 3pm on 24 June and 10am to 12 midday on 2 June. To register visit

www.surveymonkey.com/r/johcaregiver

Michael Paine

Social Recovery Action Team Leader

Economic/Tourism

Destination NSW has unveiled the next phase of the tourism recovery campaign, Now's The Time To Love NSW, heralding the 'reboot' of 2020 for visitors and the tourism industry as regional travel restrictions are lifted. To be involved, tourism businesses must sign up for a free Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) listing. Visit www.atdw-online.com.au/#/login or call the Visit Service Team on **02 4421 0778** for assistance.

Shannan Perry-Hall

Economic/Tourism Recovery Action Team Leader

Environment

The Recovery Team are still taking enquiries regarding clearing trees, as well as requesting the end to tree clearing.

Being impacted by bushfire is not a reason to conduct clearing of vegetation and requires the same approval process that was in place prior to the bushfires. Illegal clearing of vegetation is an offence and allegations of clearing will be investigated by Council, or Department Planning Industry and Environment on rural land.

Shane Pickering

Environment Recovery Action Team Leader

Built Recovery

As requested by Public Works NSW, the West Nowra Recycling Plant was decommissioned on 14 June. Bushfire demolition waste will no longer be accepted, but final processing of stockpiles will continue for approximately two weeks. The final percentage of recyclables will be greater than 90%, which far exceeds our initial target of 60%.

Warwick Papworth

Built Recovery Action Team Leader



Vince Di Pietro

*Recovery
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