

APPENDIX B: Group documents - Recovery

Hi everyone, I have just updated this document with latest details on Mayoral Relief Fund and Step by Step Support Services. Please note that the Bushfire Information Centre in Raymond Tce. is now closed, for general assistance contact Step by Step details below. For DA and rebuild assistance, the Council Help desk is still available at the Springwood Library.

Please continue to share your stories, news to events and recovery related information.

Please note the contact details of many Bushfire Recovery and Relief Organisations below:

Mayoral Relief Fund

As many of you will already be aware, supplementary grant payments totalling \$800,000 were distributed last week from the Blue Mountains Bushfire Mayoral Relief Fund, in addition to the recent Phase 2 grant payments.

This supplementary payment was possible due to further recent donations to the Mayoral Relief Fund and the total Phase 2 grant payments being less than expected.

A total of \$2.43 million from the Mayoral Relief Fund has now been successfully disbursed to eligible residents. The Committee has ensured that the balance of the \$3.3 million Fund has been set aside as contingency funding for emerging issues and to make provision for funding applications from those residents who have not yet applied.

Residents are reminded that Phase 1 and 2 applications remain open. Application forms are available from:

<http://www.bluemountainsbushfirerecovery.com/mayoral-relief-fund.html>

Hotline number 4780 5980 or email mrf@bmcc.nsw.gov.au.

<http://www.bluemountainsbushfirerecovery.com/mayoral-relief-fund.html>

Bushfire Information and Support Centre - now closed

The Bushfire Information and Support Centre will close on Tuesday 18 March.

Until this date, the Centre will continue to provide advice and support services and information on the additional grants scheme that is being provided by the NSW and Commonwealth Governments.

The Centre is located at the ex-Legacy Building at 7/5 Raymond Lane, Springwood and can be contacted on 02 4751 6423

For continued support services after the 18 March, please see **Step by Step** below

The Bush Fire Recovery Website and Facebook Page are still functioning

<http://www.bluemountainsbushfirerecovery.com/> and

<https://www.facebook.com/BlueMountainsBushfireRecovery?fref=ts>

Regular updates are at <http://www.bluemountainsbushfirerecovery.com/updates.html>

Step by Step Blue Mountains Bushfire Support Service

'Step by Step', a local referral and support service available at the Bushfire Information and Support Centre provide a personalised mobile support service to assist people affected by the bushfires with information, decision-making and recovery resources. They can be contacted on 0474 229 845.

details: <http://sncc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Step-by-Step-brochure.pdf>

Council/RFS Rebuild Advisory Service for residents

Blue Mountains City Council has a Development Application and Rebuild Team to provide assistance with rebuilding, which can be contacted on 02 4723 5000. Residents can drop-in to the Council Customer Service desk at Springwood Library for assistance from Council. The service will run 10am – 5pm .

Mt Victoria Mobile Bushfire Recovery Service

<http://www.bluemountainsbushfirerecovery.com/upper-mountains-updates.html>

Please check out these documents they contain information and links relating to the current recovery .

Please see this document for where to donate money:

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/blue-mountain-fire-recovery/where-to-donate-money/458924777560145>

Please see this document for help lines and contact numbers

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/blue-mountain-fire-recovery/help-lines-and-contact-numbers/459337527518870>

Please see this document for related facebook pages, groups and events

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/blue-mountain-fire-recovery/related-facebook-groups-events-pages-and-appeals/460989177353705>

Disaster Relief Grants

NSW Disaster Relief Scheme

Financial assistance is available under the NSW Disaster Relief Scheme for people affected by disaster who are experiencing financial hardship and who are unable to meet the cost of repairs for essential housing contents and/or structural repairs to their homes.

To apply for financial assistance call 1800 018 444

<http://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/disasterassistance>

Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP)

Bushfires in New South Wales during October 2013

The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment (AGDRP) is available to assist people who have been adversely affected by the bushfires in New South Wales that began on 9 October 2013.

You have until 18 April 2014 to lodge a claim for the following Local Government Areas

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/centrelink/australian-government-disaster-recovery-payment/eastern-nsw-bushfires-october-2013>

Special Bushfire Assistance Blue Mountains Family Support Service (BMFSS) Emergency Financial Assistance is available for people affected by the Blue Mountains bushfires. This special one-off assistance is available from: Blue Mountains Family Support, 2 Station Street, Katoomba. (t) 4782 1555 or (e) bmfss@pnc.com.au... Winmalee Neighbourhood Centre, Whitecross Road, Winmalee. (t) 4754 4050 Gateway Family Services, 74 Old Bathurst Roads, Blaxland. (t) 4739 5963 or 1300 316 746 Note that assistance can only be obtained for the maximum amount from one centre only. Assistance available in form of vouchers to Target, K-Mart or Coles. This funding is received from the Department of Social Services (previously Families and Community Services, HomeCare & Indigenous Affairs). FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DISASTER RELIEF PAYMENTS PLEASE CONTACT THE DISASTER WELFARE ASSISTANCE LINE ON 1800 679 737

<http://www.bmfss.org.au/2013/10/22/special-bushfire-assistance/>

Banks help with the bushfires

The Commonwealth Bank has activated its special emergency assistance package for customers and businesses affected by the bushfires in New South Wales. They have a temporary branch near Wnmalee Service Station.

Special arrangements are in place to provide support to our Commonwealth Bank and CommInsure customers should they need it, and our staff are ready to assist them promptly with their financial concerns and enquiries.

Want to help?

Please note that many places that were collecting are now only distributing items. Most distribution centres need help sort and packing the items they have already received.

Please check with the organisation before arranging to deliver items.

The details here may not be the most current information.

Most of the groups listed in this document also need people to help sort what is coming in, and any cloth shopping bags would also be really helpful. Please contact any of the groups listed to volunteer. Their requirements are fluid and we cannot keep up-to-date with their needs.

As with ALL donations please call to confirm what is required before buying or taking anything

Salvation Army "One stop" Relief and Recovery Centre

Baptist Church, Macquarie Street Springwood

Uniting Church Springwood

4 Lewin Street, Springwood, NSW (behind the Nursing Home, just off the GWH)

Phone: 4751 3951

Any families who need clothes please come to the Uniting Church in Lewin Street springwood.

We have so many donations!

Winmalee Presbyterian Church :: Jericho Road

Cnr Hawkesbury Rd & High School Dve

Liz McClean: Ph 0427 421 467

<https://www.facebook.com/presbyterianjerichoroad>

We now only have toiletries (available via the mobile) and frozen dinners.

St Vinnies

Have a shopfront in the old laser clinic (in the old Razz arcade) for those who need assistance. They have vouchers for food, petrol, Harvey Norman and other stores for people affected by fires.

Please pass on to anyone you know who has been affected.

Winmalee Neighbourhood Centre

62 White Cross Road

Contact centre manager Morna Colbran on 0466 691 715

Provider of food, clothes and other assistance for the bushfires.

Bushfire Recovery Support Service 0474229845 Mon-Fri 9am-4.30pm

Mid Mountain Neighbourhood Centre

Accepting money donations and supplies for the fireys

Springwood Anglican Church

28 Lawson Rd Springwood

<https://www.facebook.com/SpringwoodBushFireRelief>

CLOSED for donations.

If people are in need then they can contact us, as we have money available as well.

Blaxland Gospel Chapel

Cnr Boorea St & Rusden Rd, Blaxland

Please call Dave (from Fusion Springwood) 0423 320 555

WIRES

Below is a list of items that would be very useful for WIRES bushfire relief efforts. If you or a company you work for is interested in helping out please email us at support@wires.org.au with your contact details. No other items are needed at this stage.

- New 100% cotton flat sheets and pillowcases
- New ceramic containers (for food and water provision)
- New pet carriers
- New aviaries of all sizes, ideally flat packed

NARGA Disaster Response Team

Accepting donations of cages, crates, bedding, kennels, kitty litter etc and also gift cards from PetStock

<http://narga.org.au/>