

Upper Murray Community Recovery

Upper Murray Weekly Recovery Update - 7 May 2020
www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery

Represent Your Community Through Recovery.

Join a Community Led Recovery Group.

Residents and businesses are invited to join Community Led Recovery Groups across Towong Shire. There are a number of groups available to join, depending on your location and area of interest.

Towong Shire Mayor Cr David Wortmann is urging local residents and businesses to register to be part of Bushfire Recovery. "I encourage residents and businesses to get involved, giving a voice to the unique and different recovery needs across the Upper Murray, Mitta Valley, greater Tallangatta and the Peninsula" he said.

Mayor Wortmann said the Community Led approach ensures that every community impacted by the Upper Murray Bushfires, whether directly or indirectly, is well represented. "For recovery to be most effective, it is important that the voices and experiences of community members are front and centre in recovery planning and delivery" he said.

To register, complete the online form at www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery by this Friday 8th May. If you have any questions, chat to a member of the Recovery team on 1800 518 222 or email recovery@towong.vic.gov.au

\$50,000 Grant - Directly Impacted Businesses

Grants of up to \$50,000 are available to eligible Victorian small businesses and non-profit organisations (NPOs) affected by the bushfires. These grants are intended to help pay for costs of clean-up and reinstatement of eligible small businesses that have suffered direct damage as a result of bushfires.

Apply at www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business/grants-and-assistance before July 31.

\$75,000 Grant - Directly Impacted Primary Producers

Grants of up to \$75,000 are available to eligible primary producers directly impacted by the bushfires. Grants may be used to cover the costs associated with clean up and reinstatement of the entity. Apply at www.ruralfinance.com.au/Industry-programs before July 31.

\$15,000 Grant - Primary Producer Emergency Transport

Transport subsidies of up to \$15,000 are available to eligible primary producers directly impacted by the bushfires. Eligible primary producers (including apiarists) can claim the subsidy for eligible transport costs that directly address immediate animal welfare and safety needs, including:

- Transporting of emergency fodder
- Transporting of stock to agistment (including returning stock), sale or slaughter
- Transporting of stock drinking water

Applicants can apply for a combination of transport activities undertaken before 30 June 2020. Apply at www.ruralfinance.com.au/Industry-programs before July 31 or call Rural Finance on 1800 260 425.

Back to Business Sessions for Red Meat Producers

Thanks to Agriculture Victoria, Red Meat Producers in fire-affected regions can access up to three free one-on-one Back to Business sessions with a local farm management consultant to help put their business back on track.

For information or a copy of the registration form contact Agriculture Victoria staff:

- Lyndon Kubeil on 0418 532 085 or email lyndon.kubeil@agriculture.vic.gov.au
- Jo Cameron on 0419 832 704 or email jo.cameron@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Mitchell's Bridge Reconstruction - Guys Forest Rd

Following a period of advocating for funding, Council was awarded with funds for the replacement of Mitchells Bridge under the Federal Government's Bridges Renewal Fund.

Works are expected to commence in the coming weeks, with demolition and reconstruction expected to take approximately eight weeks.

During construction, the road will be closed to through traffic with the exception of local landholders. Residents will receive a letter from Council advising of the planned works. Please contact Council if you have any queries or concerns on 02 6071 5100.



Recovery Contacts

- **Towong Shire Council Recovery Helpline:** 1800 518 222 or email recovery@towong.vic.gov.au
- **Bushfire Recovery Victoria - Case Support Coordinators:** 1800 560 760 or email connect@brv.vic.gov.au
- **Register for the Bushfire Clean-Up Program:** 1800 560 760 or visit vic.gov.au/bushfire-clean-up-program
- **Resources and Updates:** Visit www.towong.vic.gov.au/bushfirerecovery or www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-victoria