

# BUSHFIRE RECOVERY NEWSLETTER



Edition 3 – May 2020

## WELCOME

Welcome to the third edition of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Bushfire Recovery Newsletter.

The bushfire recovery assistance point in Braidwood is temporarily closed for face-to-face meetings due to COVID-19 but we are still available via phone (6285 6789) and email ([recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au)).

This newsletter is one of the new ways we have created to stay in touch, keep you updated and ensure you are on the road to bushfire recovery.

## Resilient Australia Awards

The Resilient Australia Awards are now open for nominations. This is a national program that recognises initiatives that strengthen community disaster resilience. If you have made a difference in your local area, consider applying.

The NSW awards are coordinated by the Office of Emergency Management. The awards are open to everyone including individuals, not for profit organisations, small and large businesses, local and state government, schools, education institutions, research bodies and emergency service agencies. Go to <https://resilient.awardsplatform.com> to submit.

## Bushfire Facebook Group

QPRC Bushfire Recovery team has set up a new Facebook Group where the team will upload all the latest information. It will also act as a platform where you can ask questions and reach out to your fellow community.

If you would like to join, search Queanbeyan-Palerang Bushfire Recovery in Facebook.

## Message from the Mayor

Service NSW have begun emailing a survey to impacted residents and businesses. Council will be following up with calls to those who didn't provide email address or haven't responded to email. The survey will help us with the future steps in the recovery process.



Council has been working to finalise tree lopping and clearing on Cooma Road and Araluen Road. We recently re-opened Araluen Road, leaving Cooma Road as the only significant local road that remains closed to through traffic after the bushfires. We hope to soon have approval from Transport for NSW to complete the remaining four weeks of work on Cooma Road, with a view to reopening the road soon after. The NSW Government have announced \$140m in funding for agriculture, horticulture, forestry and aquaculture support. This fund includes support for replacing stock (i.e. trees), clean-up and replacement of damaged infrastructure.

The Australian Government have also announced \$650m in funding to accelerate locally-led bushfire recovery. \$450m of this fund is available for local recovery, including mental health, economic activity, community wellbeing, landscape recovery or building future resilience. Nearly \$150m will be available for on-ground action to protect native species and build knowledge for better land management. This funding will be available to communities and organisations from 1 July 2020.

Tim Overall, Mayor  
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

## Bushfire Housing Assistance

Has your home been impacted by the bushfires and you need help with housing?

- Emergency Temporary Accommodation
- Assistance with Bond and Advance Rent
- Rent Subsidy
- Help sourcing accommodation in the local area

For more information visit: [www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/housing)

Contact Pauline on **0429 578 816**

Or email [DCJBHART@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:DCJBHART@facs.nsw.gov.au)

## Skills training to support bushfire affected communities

The NSW Government is supporting industries and communities needing more skilled workers to rebuild communities and support displaced workers. A variety of fee-free short courses are available, offering practical skills across a range of industries. For more information visit:

[www.training.nsw.gov.au/news/articles/bushfire/index.html](http://www.training.nsw.gov.au/news/articles/bushfire/index.html)

## Bushfire Recovery Update

### June 5

The bushfire recovery team will be hosting an online recovery update with a range of services working in the region.

Update will include:

Latest information from Laing O'Rourke.  
Information on grants and training currently available  
Health and Wellbeing support available and much more.

Below are the details for the upcoming Meeting

**Meeting:** Bushfire Recovery Update

**Location:** Online

**Date:** Friday 5 June 2020

**Time:** 5pm – 6:30pm

If you are interested in attending this meeting,

Please call 6285 6789 or

Email: [recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au)

Please contact us with any questions you have on recovery that can be answered on the night.

Following registration you will receive a confirmation message with a link to access the video conference, including dial-in details if you would prefer to participate by phone.

## Supply Chain Support Grants Horticulture

This package will provide financial assistance to horticulture businesses that have been impacted by the bushfires from 31 August 2019 to assist in the recovery of production. Grants will be available per hectare depending on the extent of damage, orchard style, or type of perennial tree and berry crop. These grants must be matched by an equivalent commitment from the applicant, either financial or in-kind. For more information visit:

[www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance/birp-supply-chain-support-grants/horticulture](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance/birp-supply-chain-support-grants/horticulture)

## Clean-up

Contact Laing O'Rourke on **1800 007 539** for information about the clean-up program.

To register for the clean-up call **13 77 88**.

**Lifeline Bushfire Recovery:**  
**13 43 57**

**Beyondblue: 1300 22 4636**

**NSW Mental Health Line:**  
**1800 011 511**

**Mensline: 1300 789 978**

**Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800**

**Domestic Violence Line: 1800 656 463**

## CONTACT US

It is important during community-led recovery that we hear from you about how you are managing and coping, what issues you are facing and any ideas you have to support the community renewal. Please share comments or ideas with us by contacting:

Phone: 6285 6789

Email: [recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recovery@qprc.nsw.gov.au)

Facebook: @Queanbeyan-PalerangBushfireRecovery

When gathering restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic are lifted, we hope to return to being available for face-to-face meetings from our information and referral point in the Old Braidwood Library building, Park Lane, Braidwood.

**For translating and interpreting assistance call TIS on 13 14 50**