

GLENORCHY FLOOD RECOVERY UPDATE

This is an update to assist the community in Glenorchy to stay informed and up to date with recovery work. The update includes support and services available, infrastructure work completed to date and the work that is in the pipeline, as well as up and coming community events and activities.

The impacts of natural disasters can be felt for some time after the event so having access to the correct information and support can assist in making the process a little easier.

What is Recovery

Recovery seeks to address the range of needs of individuals and communities following a disaster. It often starts during the event and can continue for years after.

The purpose of recovery work is to support communities to deal with the impacts of an emergency in all the areas that affect people's lives. Doing this helps heal from, and builds resilience for, future crises.

Northern Grampians Shire Council is responsible for leading recovery activities at a local level in partnership with the government and local service providers.

Recovery to preparation - Glenorchy community meeting

Twenty people attended the session on 27 April to enjoy a light dinner and hear David Younger talk about the impacts of a disaster at both an individual and the community level.

David explained what an individual may experience after a disaster: feelings of disruption and stress, changes in health and well-being, a sense of loss, and a desire to move on (recovery). He also indicated that it is normal to be experiencing these feelings for up to a year and sometimes longer.

It is important to seek assistance if you are feeling overwhelmed and unable to cope with the extra stressors the disaster has contributed to. You can call Grampians Community Health for assistance at 5358 7400 or Lifeline at 13 11 14.

To assist with community recovery, a keen group of community members are getting together to look at opportunities to increase community connection and emergency preparation. Once the date for a meeting is decided, it will be promoted on Facebook and at the Post Office.

Parliament of Victoria Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee: Inquiry into 2022 Flood Event in Victoria.

The Environment and Planning Committee will investigate Victoria's preparedness for and response to Victoria's major flooding event of October 2022. The inquiry will look into the flood event as a whole and the areas affected, and consider factors such as what caused or contributed to the Flood Event; emergency services; government policy; flood mitigation strategies; and the Victoria planning framework. You can find out more information or make a submission at <https://bit.ly/3W7iaSh>. The submission due date is Monday 5 June 2023.







Northern Grampians Shire Council
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Financial Support for Primary Producers

There is still time to access these grants. The closing date for applications has been extended to 13 July 2023.

Farmers impacted by floods and storms in **October 2022** may be eligible to apply for financial support via the current state government flood recovery grants and concessional loans.

- Primary Producer Recovery Grant: \$75,000 payments to cover the costs of clean up and get the business up and running
- Victorian Landholder Grant: \$25,000 for eligible primary producers that have a smaller-scale primary production enterprise.
- Concessional Loans: up to \$250,000 to restore or replace flood damage.
- Transport Subsidies: Up to \$15,000 to support the transport of emergency fodder, stock drinking water, and livestock movement.

For more information go to

<https://bit.ly/3pOdzbd> or phone 1800 260 42

The Rural Financial Counseling service can assist with your application - 1300 771 741

Rural Financial Counselling Service

The Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) offers free and independent financial information, options, decision-making support and referral services to primary producers and small, related rural businesses. Assistance with applying for a Primary Producer Flood Assistance grant is also available.

Visit the Rural Financial Counselling Service website at **<https://bit.ly/42mLxSL>** or phone **1300 771 741** for more information.

Flood mitigation

Ben Hughes from Water Tech has agreed to model the six options put forward by the community at the community meeting held in November 2022. Rachel Whittaker (Community Recovery Project Officer) is still looking for funding to complete the modeling. It is hoped Ben can complete the work in June/July.

Glenorchy infrastructure updates

Have you been wondering what the hold-up is with cleaning out and repairing the town drains? The majority of the drainage cleanup and restoration work will be completed once there has been a large feature survey of the town. Once the survey is done, appropriate designs can be developed to ensure the drainage system is effective and efficient. Work will follow based on priority, need, and cost. The surveying will take place between **29 May and 9 June 2023**.

The NGSC Works Team has been in Glenorchy over the past couple of weeks doing what they can before the survey and design is completed. Work has included;

- Removing small trees and suckers from table drains on Clark Street and Glenorchy Road to prevent blockages.
- Cleaning out the drain at the Standpipe in Wills Street to prevent blockages.
- Installing a second drainage pipe on the North side of Greens Street to prevent water from backing up at the corner.
- Cleaning out culverts on the corner of Green Street and Arapelis Street.

Free mental health support for Victorian Farmers

The Farmer Online Assist Program provides free, short-term, confidential psychology support to help Victorian farmers deal with immediate, or compounding, issues related to mental health. The confidential, high-quality mental health support is provided by psychologists with specific farmer health training, either online or by phone. Up to three sessions are provided free of charge, with no need to leave the farm and no GP referral or mental health plan required.

www.farmerhealth.org.au/buildingfarmspirit

Contacting Council

For queries related to **rate assistance** contact **03 5358 8710**.

To report Council infrastructure damage use **Snap Send Solve** or contact **03 5358 9099**.

For **Flood Recovery** related matters contact Rachel Whittaker at **03 5358 0512**.