

Kangaroo Island Fire Recovery Newsletter



Issue 3 | 6 March 2020

In this issue

Welcome from the Local Recovery Coordinator	1
Join our Facebook group	1
Parndana Recovery Centre + pop-ups.....	1
Waste removal.....	3
Mental health.....	3
Removal of burnt trees.....	3
All Hands and Hearts and Team Rubicon Australia .	4
Additional services	4
Fire track remediation	4
Kangaroo Island Local Recovery Committee - Terms of Reference	5

Welcome from the Local Recovery Coordinator

The Governor of South Australia, His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, recently visited Kangaroo Island for the second time and invited community members affected by the bushfires or involved in the relief and recovery effort to a community barbecue at the Parndana Hotel on Thursday 5 March.



He spoke warmly and passionately about the island and repeated several stories of bravery and comradery under immense pressure that had been shared with him. He spoke of reluctant heroes and urged people, once the time was right, to think about nominating local people for awards that they so rightfully deserve.

The Mayor, Michael Pengilly, also spoke about all those involved in efforts to help the island heal. Several government and non-government

organisations were represented, as well as the many additional community members who attended.

Recovery will be a long process. This newsletter will keep endeavouring to keep everyone involved and up to date with the many aspects of recovery.

Again, I encourage you to regularly visit the Kangaroo Island fire recovery page at dhs.sa.gov.au/kangarooisland for the latest list of available support services.

Mike Williams
Local Recovery Coordinator

Join our Facebook group

We have a dedicated Facebook group for people impacted by the Kangaroo Island fires. This private group is for those directly impacted by the fires rather than the general public.

It is a place to ask questions, share information and resources, and connect with your local community during the recovery phase. To join visit facebook.com/sarecoveryinfo and click on 'groups' to the left of the page.

Parndana Recovery Centre + pop-ups

The Parndana Recovery Centre is located at 12 Jubilee Avenue, Parndana.

The Centre has new opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 8.00 am – 6.00 pm

Saturday and Sunday: 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

The Centre and has representatives from a number of agencies who are there to provide assistance, including help with applications, contact numbers, advice, and mental health support.

Pop-up Recovery Centres will continue each week:

Western District Football Club

Mondays and Wednesdays 4.00 pm - 7.00 pm

Vivonne Bay Café

Tuesdays 11.00 am - 2.00 pm

Recovery Centre staff also undertake outreach to those that would benefit from a visit to their homes. If you know of anyone that you think could do with this type of support, please call the Recovery Centre on 0438 861 215 or drop in to the Centre.

Recovery Committee updates

The Recovery Committee members who chair the five recovery Reference Groups have begun to find their feet and are planning how best to capture the whole community's input into recovery planning.

As part of this work, a **planning, ideas and information evening** will be taking place on Thursday 19 March at the Parndana Sports Club from 4pm. This will be an opportunity to discuss recovery of the island, what your main concerns are, how you think they should be tackled, and how you'd like to be involved.

Government and NGO staff will be on hand to answer any questions, there will be a free BBQ from 5.30pm, updates about progress on current key recovery issues, and a guest speaker who has been through the devastation of a bushfire and come out the other side.

Everyone is invited to attend – tell your friends.

Infrastructure Reference Group update

Graham Walkom

Everyone's ideas are wanted regarding infrastructure recovery. The Infrastructure Recovery Reference Group is hosting a meeting to which everyone is invited.

When: Saturday 14 March 10am-12noon

Where: Council Chambers in Kingscote

Purpose:

- To work with the community and government agencies to identify issues that need to be addressed during bushfire recovery
- To assist with identifying organisations that could work together to address the issues
- To assist with identifying gaps/shortfalls in getting issues addressed
- To reach out to people in the community whose needs or issues may be overlooked.

For feedback or ideas regarding Infrastructure fire recovery, contact Graham on 0452 286 238 or at graham.walkom@kicouncil.sa.gov.au

Economic – Tourism Reference Group update

Jeanette Gellard

The Chair met with the Kangaroo Island Tourism Food Wine and Beverage Association (KITFWBA) recently to discuss how best to represent their members. The association provided the Chair with a list of eight members who reflect their broad membership. Along with participants from the Community Forum, the Chair is confident that a good Reference Group has been brought together for ongoing discussions.

Notes received from KITFWBA's workshop held with their members prior to the Community Forum show that the issues captured in the workshop mirror those identified in the Community Forum.

The Chair is aiming to facilitate a workshop with the Reference Group sometime during the week beginning 9 March.

The key objectives will be to

- Revisit key themes and update if required
- Update activity being undertaken by government and NGOs
- Identify gaps where further support is needed
- Determine actions required and where responsibility lies
- Develop briefing points for Recovery Committee.

Preliminary thinking about increasing engagement with students and capturing community stories is also taking place. A meeting with students has been organised for Tuesday 10 March 12.30pm.

The next meeting of the Economic – Tourism Reference Group will take place on Wednesday 11 March, 11am-12.30pm.

For feedback or ideas regarding Economic – Tourism fire recovery, you can contact Jeanette on 0429 990 063 or at jeanette@innovativeinfluences.com.au

For input into the other fire recovery Reference Group themes, please contact the relevant Chairs below. You will find the Terms of Reference for the Recovery Committee at the end of this newsletter.

Social, health and wellbeing

Bob Teasdale, bob.teasdale@kicouncil.sa.gov.au
0448 635 009

Environment

Andrew Heinrich, aphid.heinrich@gmail.com
0427 596 108

Economic – primary production

Shirley Pledge, shirley.pledge@kicouncil.sa.gov.au
0427 041 787

Waste removal

Waste removal is continuing at a rapid pace considering the extremely complex nature of the work. Twelve properties have now been cleared through the government-funded clean-up, with 37 in train as at 5 March.

You may see other, independent, debris removal underway that is in addition to the government-funded clean-up.

The government-fund clean-up is being coordinated by Green Industries SA (GISA) and delivered by multiple demolition contractors to complete it as soon as possible. The clean-up includes all fire affected damage – including asbestos, general building material, sheet metal, vehicles, CCA (permapine) posts, fencing wire and poly-rainwater tanks.

If you haven't already registered, there is still time. For details or to get further information about the process, visit greenindustries.sa.gov.au/bushfires or contact Mike Ford from Green Industries SA on the island on 0467 601 738.

Mental health

As the adrenaline wears off, mental health services will become more important than ever. Fortunately, there are many services at the disposal of KI residents to help support recovery – both in the short and the long-term.

If you're unsure where to turn, the handy chart at the end of this newsletter will help.

The KI Medical Clinic is also always there to support the community – you can call them on 8553 2037.

Removal of burnt trees

Your first instinct may be to remove all the burnt trees on your property. There are several reasons not to, including:

- Even though a tree has been burnt, it doesn't mean it is dead
- Many tree species are adapted to fire and will regenerate
- Even dead trees, especially those old enough to have hollows, are important habitat for many wildlife species
- Trees in agricultural landscapes can help reduce soil erosion, which becomes a greater threat after fire.

Tree contractors & tips

- Landholders who would like dangerous trees felled or removed are encouraged to contact a contractor.
- Landholders will need to directly negotiate with the contractors any costs associated with tree felling and removal.
- Get two or three quotes. Remember the cheapest offer may not necessarily be the best.
- Check reviews and testimonials (this can include online reviews, and recommendations from friends and family).
- A suggested list of contractors is provided below as a starting point, and does not imply endorsement by the Government of South Australia.

Local contractors

Leon Wilson Tree Removal - 8553 0103

Mechanical Vegetation Solutions - 0409 770 908

Project Green Group - 8282 3855

Landholders will need to negotiate cost associated with tree felling and removal with the contractors directly.

Any other contractors who can provide these services are encouraged to contact the Recovery Centre on 0438 861 215 to add their business to the list.

All Hands and Hearts and Team Rubicon Australia

All Hands and Hearts and Team Rubicon Australia are disaster relief organisations that will be providing assistance to the Kangaroo Island community as we continue with the business of recovery.

To make the process as efficient as possible, all requests for assistance from disaster relief organisations will be taken by the Recovery Centre. Tasks will then be distributed daily to ensure smooth coordination of work.

For more information about the process, have a look at the flowchart at the end of this newsletter.

The Recovery Centre Hotline number is 0438 861 215.

Additional services

Salvation Army Financial Counselling

Working from the Junction Community Centre Wednesdays 11am to 5pm, Thursdays 9-5pm and Fridays 9.30pm for the next 12 weeks. Bookings can be made via the centre on 8341 1334.

Southern Community Justice Centre

Providing free legal advice (including insurance issues) 18 March - by appointment at the Junction Community Centre (8341 1334)
19 March - at the Parndana Recovery Centre

Fire track remediation

If your property has had fire tracks or break lines created by the CFS during the recent fire events (including through treed areas), these can be remediated by filling out the CFS Fire Track Remediation Form on the DHS website.

This form is to be filled in and emailed back to CFSFirelineandwaterrequests@sa.gov.au

Any remediation or any other CFS enquiries, please call 0438 655 061.

Events

Farming tools and tech field day NRKI & AgKI

Thursday 12 March
Kangaroo Island Racecourse
Tickets at the gate

For more info, contact Damon Cusack:
8553 4441 or damon.cusack@sa.gov.au

Infrastructure Reference Group meeting

When: Saturday 14 March 10am – 12noon
Where: Council Chambers in Kingscote

Planning, ideas and information evening

An opportunity to discuss recovery of the island, what your main concerns are, how you think they should be tackled, and how you'd like to be involved.

Government and NGO staff will be on hand to answer any questions, there will be a free BBQ from 5.30pm, updates about progress on current key recovery issues, and a guest speaker who has been through the devastation of a bushfire and come out the other side.

Everyone welcome.

When: Thursday 19 March
When: From 4pm, free BBQ 5.30pm
Where: Parndana Sports Club

Gardening after the fires

Sophie Thomson, supported by NRKI

Various dates – see information in advertisement

Mental Health CPR Training

April 2020 – dates TBC

If you are holding any fire recovery-related events, get in touch with Slavi Miskovich on 0415 990 432 or slavica.miskovich@sa.gov.au

Kangaroo Island Local Recovery Committee - Terms of Reference

Purpose

- To collect, analyse and communicate the key issues for recovery within Kangaroo Island
- To create a two way dialogue that seeks feedback and input from the community about the most pressing issues to be addressed
- To identify priorities for action in the area relevant to their reference group
- To develop a community recovery and evaluation plan in response to the Kangaroo Island Fires December 2019.

Membership

- Mike Williams, Local Recovery Coordinator (Chair)
- Jennifer Trethewey, Community Recovery Officer
- Greg Georgopoulos, KI Council
- Cr Shirley Pledge
- Cr Graham Walkom
- Deputy Mayor Bob Teasdale
- Andrew Heinrich
- Jeanette Gellard
- Other community members & other relevant government agencies as required

Accountability

- The committee reports to the State Recovery Committee via the Local Recovery Coordinator
- Individual committee members are responsible for reporting back to the relevant group or agency they represent on activities of the committee.

Working methods / ways of working

- This committee will develop strong relationships with the community reference groups
- Sub groups may be convened as needed
- Meetings will be held as often as needed over the recovery period
- Local Recovery Coordinator will organise and chair the meetings
- Correspondence will be circulated by email
- Non-members will be invited to committee meetings as required
- Recovery Officer will provide the secretariat for the committee

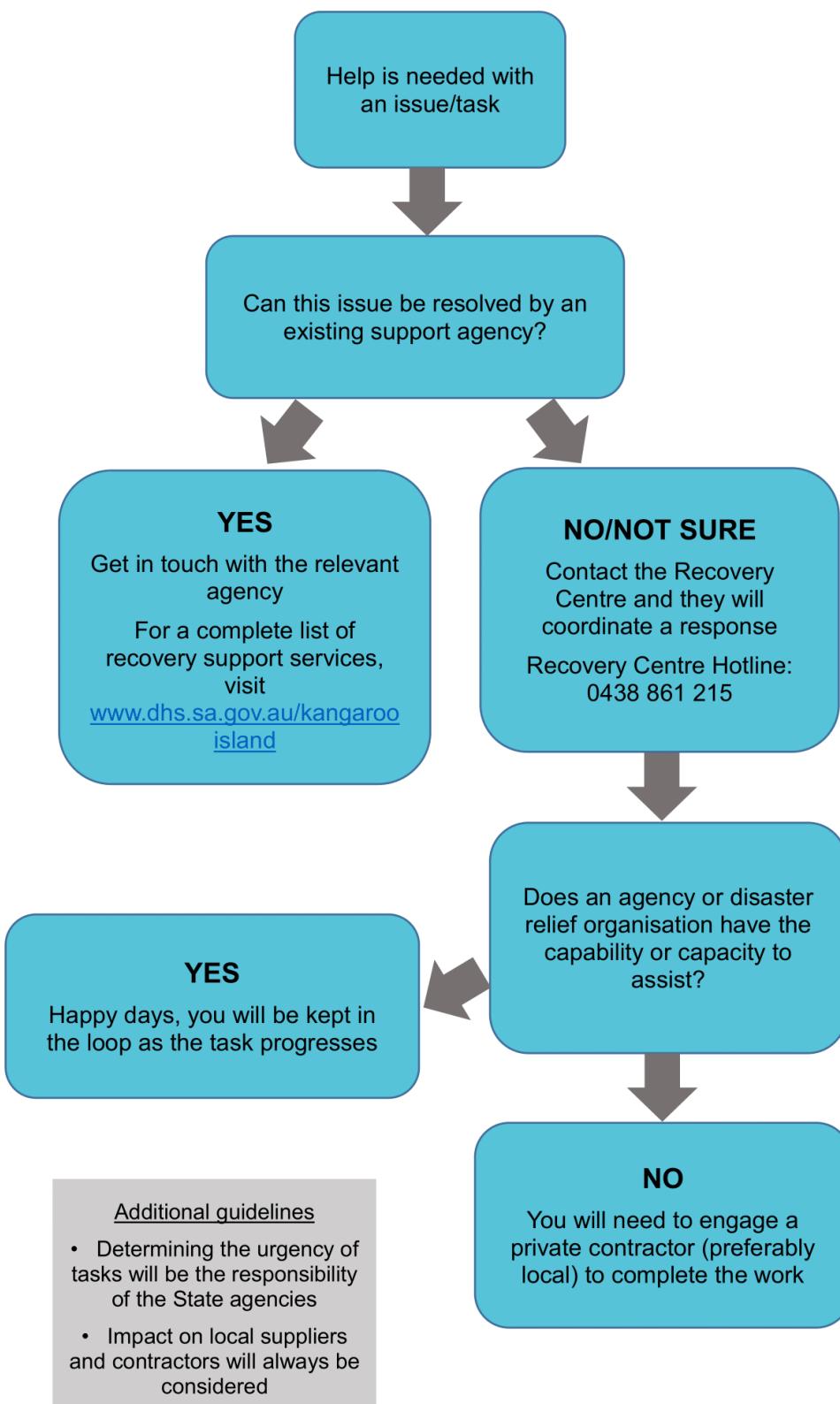
Community Recovery Reference Groups

Role

- To work with the community and government agencies to identify issues that need to be addressed during bushfire recovery
- To assist in the identification of organisations that could work together to address the issues
- To assist with identifying gaps/shortfalls in getting issues addressed
- To keep the community informed of progress in addressing issues
- To reach out to individuals and organisations that can assist in identifying issues and providing solutions
- To reach out to people in the community whose needs or issues may be overlooked



REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM SUPPORT AGENCIES AND DISASTER RELIEF ORGANISATIONS





Gardening After the Fires

-Gardeners helping Gardeners-

If you've lost part or all of your garden in the fires, or know someone who has, please pass this Newsletter on to them.

We are relying on our KI Network to let people know what help is available.

We are delighted that Sophie Thomson, South Australia's presenter on Gardening Australia, is coming to Kangaroo Island to give Talks & Workshops on garden recovery after bush fire, with an emphasis on getting the soil ready for replanting.

Everyone is invited to participate in these FREE Community Events - not just fire affected gardeners.

The Program

Tuesday 10th March, 10am-12.30 - Wicking Bed Work Shop to build Community Garden beside Parndana School.
1.15pm-4.40pm - Working Bee to build Community Garden, beside Parndana School.

Wednesday 11th March, 10am-12.30 - Work continues on Community Garden & Wicking Beds.
1.30-4pm - Work continues on Community Garden & Wicking Beds.
Evening 7pm - Community Talk on Garden Bushfire Recovery at Parndana Bowling Club (Supper afterwards).

Thursday 12th March, 10am-4pm - work continues on Community Garden at Parndana.

Evening 7pm - Community Talk, Council Meeting Room Kingscote (Supper afterwards).

Friday 13th March, Work continues on the Parndana Community Garden.
10am-12.30 - Wicking Bed Work Shop & Working Bee to expand Community Garden at The Junction, Kingscote
1.30-4pm - Working Bee continues at Kingscote.
May continue planting in the evening if required.

Saturday 14th March, 10am - Planting the Community Garden at Parndana, & Celebrate with Morning Tea or Lunch, before Sophie & her Team head home!

We need lots of Participants & Volunteers to make these events work, so please let me know when & how you can help - phone Anne 0428 955 598, or email: missbossy1952@gmail.com

Anne Morrison & Jennie Teasdale



Wicking Beds - made from 1000 lt. plastic containers cut in half.
Water reservoir reduces water use, & eliminates root competition from trees.
Raised on blocks to avoid back problems!



To read Sophie's post on garden recovery & soil restoration after fire, go to sophiespatch.com.au & click on "newsletters" - it's the January 2020 Bushfire Edition.
Lots of information & links to useful sites.

This Community Event is supported by Natural Resources Kangaroo Island

Community Care

An ad hoc care service for babies, children & young people.

This service is available for families who are seeking support from the bushfire recovery centre, other services or needing respite.

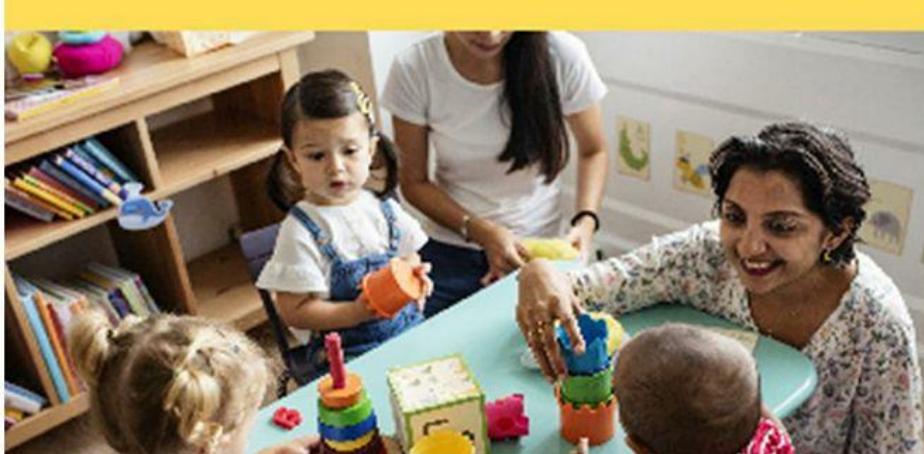
K.I.C.E PARNDANA CAMPUS PRESCHOOL
Wedgewood Road, Parndana SA 5220

9.30am to 3.30pm - Thursday to Friday

A safe and free service run by qualified staff, bookings required.

Families welcome to attend a 'stay & play' 12.30pm to 3.30pm on Thursday 6th March to meet the team.
Full days available from Friday 7th March.

To make a booking or for more information
please contact 0417 293 807.



WHAT TO BRING

Essential items

Medication

A bottle with milk or formula (if needed)

Other items (if available)

A comforter, special toy or game

Change of clothes

Nappies and wipes (if needed)

Drink bottle

A healthy snack and/or lunch

A sunhat

Service will not be in operation on catastrophic fire days.

In partnership with Junction Australia & Kangaroo Island Community Education

