

Murrindindi Flood Recovery Plan

SUPPORTING MEDIUM TO LONGER TERM
COMMUNITY RECOVERY

GOULBURN – BROKEN
OCTOBER 2022 FLOODS



Acknowledgement of Country and First Nations Peoples

The Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire. We pay our respects to First Nations leaders and elders, past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land.

We commit to working in collaboration with traditional owners of this land in a spirit of reconciliation and partnership.

The Community Flood Recovery Plan is prepared to guide and inform an integrated response by Government agencies, Council and other groups to support recovery from the October 2022 flood. The Community Flood Recovery Plan is developed as a collaboration and is owned by all the agencies identified within the plan, with all agencies endorsing the integrated approach and accountable to all for their identified actions. The Community Flood Recovery Plan will remain a working document and will be updated and varied as required through the recovery process.

Version	Date	Change History	Authority
1.0	30 March 2023	Initial draft for consideration	Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee
2.0	12 April 2023	Final draft for noting by recovery stakeholders and endorsement by the Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee	Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee
3.0	18 April 2023	Minor edits. Plan endorsed on 2 May 2023	Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee

Message from Mayor and Councillors

The flood event in October 2022 had a significant impact on individuals and properties across the shire of Murrindindi. The significant floods occurred on saturated land and water catchments, resulting in livestock loss, private property loss, damage to critical and community infrastructure. The impacts of these events will have a lasting impact on our community.

I applaud the efforts of emergency services, together with individuals, local community groups and all tiers of government for providing relief, response and now recovery to support our community.

Despite the challenges that these floods presented, I am consistently impressed by the resilience of people in Murrindindi. Resilience, cooperation, and connection are at the heart of how we live, work and play. We also draw on these strengths during emergencies.

This Flood Recovery Plan provides us with a collaborative tool to support the many aspects of recovery. It brings together our local partners, service providers and State Government to deliver outcomes that support our residents, businesses and visitors regain strength and resilience.

The Plan articulates the arrangements to plan and manage the delivery of flood recovery services and support.

This Plan has been developed by the over 30 agencies, organisations and community members who make up the Murrindindi Municipal Flood Recovery Committee.

It is an important example of how we can work together in recovery to support our community every step of the way.

Councillor John Walsh
Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor

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Image: Whanregarwen (A. Perry)

Introduction

The Murrindindi Flood Recovery Plan has been developed in response to severe flooding that occurred across large areas of Victoria in October 2022. This event resulted in significant impacts for Murrindindi Shire, including damage to public and private infrastructure, community facilities, farms, businesses and the environment, loss of revenue, and psychosocial impacts for individuals, families and communities.

A range of actions has been undertaken by Murrindindi Shire Council, Emergency Recovery Victoria and a number of key recovery agencies and stakeholders to support recovery in the period since October 2022. This plan is intended as a whole-of-municipality approach to flood recovery for the medium to longer term. As such, it involves the responsibilities and actions of a range of recovery stakeholders and the responsibility for its implementation is shared.

The Plan articulates the impacts of the flood and provides strategic direction, goals and a Recovery Action Plan (*refer to Appendix B*) to support recovery from this event. It is underpinned by the National Principles for Disaster Recovery, recognising the key role of community, together with the support of non-government organisations, community groups, businesses and others in supporting medium to longer term recovery.

The overarching objective is to support effective, sustainable community-led recovery that embraces local knowledge and community capacity and builds increased resilience.

The design and implementation of actions identified within this document will require the cooperation of communities, all levels of government, agencies, businesses, Traditional Owner groups, and other organisations to be successful.

It is intended that this will be a live and evolving document to support community recovery and to serve as a record of the impacts and recovery outcomes. It is anticipated that additional recovery outcomes and actions will be identified in response to emerging issues and in relation to input that will be received from the community. This document should be read in conjunction with state and regional recovery plans and other working group sub-plans and community recovery plans.

Responsibilities

Under Victoria's *State Emergency Management Plan (2021)*,¹ municipal councils have responsibility to work with recovery lead agencies and support agencies to coordinate recovery at the local level for affected individuals and communities. Municipal councils work with local partners to determine local arrangements to manage relief and recovery activities.

This recovery plan is guided by:

- National Principles for Disaster Recovery
- Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience (AIDR) Community Recovery Handbook
- Emergency Management Manual Victoria (EMMV)
- Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) Disaster Recovery Toolkit for Local Government
- Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) Recovery Planning Guidelines
- Murrindindi Shire Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP)
- Murrindindi Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Community plans

Background

Murrindindi Shire is situated on Melbourne's peri-urban fringe, approximately 90 minutes from Melbourne. The municipality spans 3879 square kilometres, incorporating the rural townships of Alexandra, Eildon, Kinglake, Marysville and Yea. The Goulburn Valley, Melba and Maroondah Highways link the larger towns within the Shire.

Murrindindi Shire is country to both the Taungurung and Wurundjeri People with the majority of the Shire located on Taungurung Country. (More information on the Taungurung clans, country and culture, can be found at taungurung.net.au)

Murrindindi Shire encompasses the following locations: Acheron, Alexandra, Buxton, Cathkin, Castella, Caveat, Devils River, Dropmore, Eildon, Fawcett, Flowerdale, Ghin Ghin, Glenburn, Gobur, Granton, Highlands, Homewood, Kanumbra, Kerrisdale, Killingworth, Kinglake, Kinglake Central, Kinglake West, Koriella, Limestone, Maintongoon, Marysville, Molesworth, Murrindindi, Narbethong, Pheasant Creek, Rubicon, Strath Creek, Taggerty, Taylor Bay, Terip Terip, Thornton, Toolangi, Whanregarwen, Yarck, and Yea.

Murrindindi Shire has a history of flood events including 1934, 1974, 1989, 1996 and 2010. The 1989 floods were the highest on record reaching 4.30m at the Devlin's Bridge gauge. In 2009, the 'Black Saturday' bushfires directly impacted 43 percent of the municipality's land area and devastated the communities of Marysville, Kinglake and Flowerdale. Murrindindi

¹ State Emergency Management Plan (2001), Victorian Government, <https://files.emv.vic.gov.au/2021-10/Victorian%20State%20Emergency%20Management%20Plan%20%28SEMP%29%20-%20Interactive%20and%20functional%20PDF%20document%20-%20October%202021.PDF?VersionId=C7TpNIHZCZ9cA8xS0K0C.LuWfAhPJa3>

Shire has also been impacted by compounding disasters, for example, the 2007-09 drought, followed by bushfires in 2009 and flooding in 2010, and the complex and protracted recovery that resulted from these cascading events.

Community profile

At the 2021 Census, the population of Murrindindi Shire was 15,134 people, with a median age for people living in the Shire of 50 years. The average household size is 2.3 people, and the median weekly household income is \$1,287. Like many regional areas, Murrindindi Shire has an ageing population with fewer young people and more people over fifty than the Victorian average. This trend is more evident in the eastern side of the Shire than the western side.

Murrindindi Shire is projected to have a slower population growth than other municipalities at a similar distance from Melbourne. This provides an opportunity to carefully plan our future, ensuring that we retain the Shire's rural character and scenic beauty that our community highly values.

Public transport is a challenge for residents, who tend to rely on private vehicles and the help of community networks to get where they need to go. As a result of the rural location, residents often have to travel long distances to access services including health and education.² Census data indicates that 6,789 people were employed either full or part-time and 251 people were looking for work in 2021, while 2,676 people had undertaken volunteer work for a group or organisation at that time.³

Murrindindi communities are highly vulnerable to the impacts of bushfires, heat waves, ecological deterioration and lower agricultural productivity, all of which are projected to increase in severity as the climate becomes hotter and more variable.

Economic profile

The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry sector delivers the greatest economic output for the Shire, contributing just under \$280 million, which equates to 19.77% of total output. This industry sector is also the largest employer with 900 jobs, or 17.99% of employment for the area. Other key industry sectors include Education and training (595 jobs), Construction (589 jobs), and Health Care and Social Assistance (524 jobs).⁴

The Shire is located within the Goulburn Broken River catchment and is an area of high environmental value. It includes major tourist attractions such as Lake Eildon, the Great Victorian Rail Trail, national parks and areas of state forest, and access to Victoria's snowfields. Tourism supports 461 jobs within Murrindindi Shire.

² Murrindindi Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan (2021)

<https://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/health-wellbeing-plan>

³ Australian Bureau of Statistics <https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/community-profiles/2021/LGA25620>

⁴ Murrindindi Shire Council REMPLAN,

<https://app.remplan.com.au/murrindindi/economy/summary?state=MmzvTZkEjUadPMeUNonxd1CXSGSGaV>

Recovery Context

Flood overview

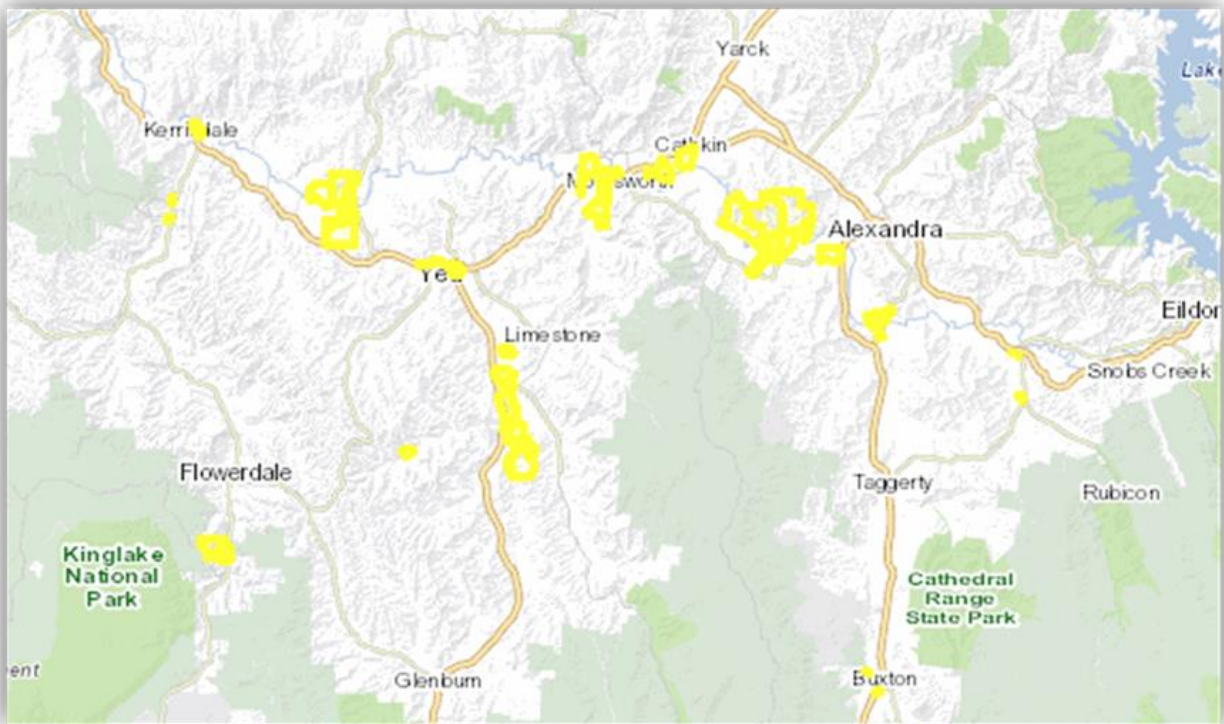
Murrindindi Shire was impacted by a set of severe storms over two weeks beginning 13 October 2022. The effects of heavy rainfall and riverine flooding were amplified across the municipality due to damp conditions and a saturated catchment, associated with an ongoing La Niña event. Combined with water releases from Lake Eildon, these conditions resulted in significant flooding across the Shire. River valleys impacted by flooding included the Goulburn and its tributaries; the King Parrot Creek, Yea River, Acheron River, Steavenson River, Home Creek and others.

Localised heavy rain also impacted several towns across the municipality including Kinglake, Alexandra, Eildon and Yea where falls over 30mm were recorded in just 30 minutes. Towns and settlements were also impacted by riverine flooding included Acheron, Molesworth, Taggerty, Yea, Thornton, Kerrisdale, Flowerdale, Strath Creek, Snobs Creek, Buxton, and Narbethong. The most significant flooding occurred on the farms and agricultural lands along river valleys and flats, where cropping, cattle, sheep and feed (silage and hay) were impacted. The Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre lost walkways, pedestrian bridges and established trees were impacted necessitating an ongoing closure of the facility and associated loss of visitation and visitor spend.

Transport and vital supply chains were significantly impacted with many road closures in place including water over one major arterial road. 103 kilometres of local roads were affected with a further 202 kilometres of arterial roads also impacted to a significant extent. Two bridges including the historic Breakaway Bridge in Acheron were destroyed creating a long term impact on nearby residents and businesses. The cumulative cost associated with council infrastructure repairs and recovery activities is estimated to be in the order of \$35+ million.

The floods that occurred throughout Victoria in October 2022 will have a lasting impact on the Murrindindi community, with many towns affected, either directly or indirectly, by this significant event. The area suffered mass road closures and widespread property damage, particularly on Thursday 13 October and Friday 14 October 2022. Flooding impacted essential public assets including roads and bridges, as well as private property, residential dwellings, businesses and farms.

Map of flood impacted area



Following is a summary of the known impacts of the 2022 floods on public and private properties within Murrindindi Shire as of 29 March 2023 (A full impact summary is included as Appendix A of this plan):⁵

Public infrastructure	Affected roads (km)	305
	Council bridges	14
	Council culverts	27
	Trails and walkways	6
Private property	Private properties impacted	73
	Major flooding to buildings	7
	Medium flooding to buildings	15
	Minor flooding to buildings	23
Agriculture	No of farms impacted	15
	Farm area (Ha)	6468
	Animals / livestock missing	360
	Dead livestock	1098
	Fish loss	50000
	Impacted fences (km)	603
	Crop field loss - includes standing crops (Ha)	977
	Stored Grain Loss (ton)	1
	Hay / Silage (ton)	3,631
	Grazing pasture loss (Ha)	4,498
	Summer fruit crop / orchards (Ha)	13
	Irrigation pumps lost	15
Business and Economy	Impacted businesses	59
	Caravan parks	3
	Other (including community assets)	36

⁵ Information in this section has been drawn from the Transition from Response to Recovery statement (Version 0.1) and the [MSC Impact Summary \(Version 17\)](#)

Relief and early recovery

Relief and early recovery efforts have included a range of actions to support affected communities, including:

- An Emergency Relief Centre established at the Yea Shire Hall on 15/16 October 2022
- Initial and secondary impact assessments carried out on flooded properties, community facilities, businesses and damaged infrastructure
- Food drops, housing and referral support provided to impacted community members
- Community Flood Meetings held at Alexandra, Yea and Acheron and livestreamed via Facebook
- Psychosocial support provided via outreach to impacted people and at community drop-in sessions at the Yea Community House, Yea Sale Yards and Thornton General Store
- Collaboration with community events at Acheron, Molesworth, Flowerdale and Yea held prior to Christmas 2022 to provide support including business advice, grants and mental health referrals
- Regular targeted communication with Acheron residents regarding the Breakaway Bride at Acheron, and with residents on Thornton-Taggerty Road affected by drainage issues.
- A case management service established to provide direct support and assistance for people impacted by flooding.
- Financial support provided to 140 individuals through the Personal Hardship Assistance Program and Re-establishment payments.
- Business support via direct contact with individual businesses, including agriculture, aquaculture and caravan parks.
- The Cathedral State Park and sections of the Yea Wetlands reopened, and restoration work underway on the Flowerdale Walking Track.
- Landholders in rural settings supported with riparian and stream-side fencing replacement works and advice on farm flood recovery.

Recovery Governance

Flood recovery in Murrindindi Shire is being supported across the following six key 'pillars' or domains of recovery and corresponding recovery goals:

Recovery Domains	Recovery Goals
People and Wellbeing	To identify and respond to recovery needs in the areas of safety and wellbeing, physical and psychological health, and social, arts and culture, so that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - people are safe and secure - people are healthy and well - communities are cohesive and connected.
Aboriginal Culture and Healing	A connected and collaborative approach to recovery that values and respects Aboriginal culture, acknowledges trauma and supports healing.
Buildings and Infrastructure	Coordinated restoration of housing, commercial and industrial buildings and structures and the recovery of physical infrastructure (including power, water, telecommunications, and transport) within Murrindindi Shire.
Agriculture	Support for primary producers to return to productivity through the design and implementation of appropriate assistance programs.
Business and Economy	To coordinate and support economic and financial recovery in the impacted areas of Murrindindi Shire.
Environment and Biodiversity	Rehabilitation of the natural environment including land, waterways, parks and reserves, native vegetation and wildlife within Murrindindi Shire.



The recovery process is guided by the National Principles for Disaster Recovery⁶ and Emergency Management Victoria's Community Recovery Framework.⁷ These foundational principles include:

- Understanding community **context**
- Recognising the **complexity** and dynamic nature of emergencies and communities
- Using **community led approaches** that are responsive, flexible, engaging, and empowering
- A planned, **coordinated** and adaptive approach based on continuing assessment of impacts and needs
- Effective **communication** with impacted and affected communities and other stakeholders
- Recognising, supporting and building on community, individual and organisational **capacity**
- **Strengthen communities**, leaving communities stronger by reducing vulnerabilities and building resilience
- **Ensuring an inclusive approach**, recognising that communities are made up of many groups and ensure that actions do not exclude groups of people.

⁶ National Principles for Disaster Recovery, <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/national-principles-for-disaster-recovery/>

⁷ ERV Community Recovery Framework is informed by the Queensland Betterment Fund Program (<https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/betterment>) and the US National Disaster Recovery Framework (FEMA)

The Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee (MSRC) is committed to working with communities and stakeholders to facilitate community led approaches to recovery, wherever possible, and to ensure that the actions taken to support flood recovery result in increased resilience to future hazards. A critical element for this aspect of governance will be the formation of a community recovery committee (CRC) to provide direct community input on all aspects of medium to longer-term flood recovery.

Recovery planning

A Recovery Action Plan has been developed and is included as Appendix B. The Recovery Action Plan details the recovery objectives, outcomes and actions to be undertaken under each of the six recovery domains. It also identifies the lead or coordinating agency for each action and a target or measure against which progress can be assessed. An anticipated timeframe and current project status is provided for each action, which are indicated as follows:

Timeframe	
Immediate	Occurring within the next three months
Short term	To be undertaken within 3-6 months
Medium term	To be undertaken within 6-12 months
Longer term	Occurring from 12 months to 2 years

Project Status	
Planned	Action is being developed with relevant stakeholders to identify community opportunities and needs and to design and deliver the required outcomes
Underway Ongoing	Action is in the process of being implemented and progress is underway, or may be an action that will be ongoing for the duration of recovery
On Hold	Action is currently on hold (may include projects / initiatives that were underway prior to the flood event)
Complete	Action is complete. Nothing further required.

The final section of the Recovery Action Plan (Part 7) relates to governance and coordination. This part of the plan captures actions that pertain to the efficient, effective coordination and management of the overall recovery and is a key area of responsibility for the Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee.

It is important to note that the scope and detail of the Recovery Action Plan will evolve in response to the formation of a community recovery committee (CRC) and the insights and input it will provide. The formation of a CRC is included as an action in Part 7 of the Plan.

Coordination

Flood recovery is being coordinated by the Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee (MSRC) which was established in November 2022. The MSRC is a sub-committee of the Murrindindi Shire Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC), and its membership is comprised of an elected member of Council, Council officers, and agency, department and stakeholder representatives engaged in flood recovery.

The MSRC is responsible for coordinating local recovery from the Goulburn-Broken October 2022 Floods; ensuring multi-agency collaboration and decision-making; overseeing the establishment and operation of community recovery committees; and the development and implementation of the Murrindindi Flood Recovery Plan. The MSRC reports to the MEMPC and the Hume Regional Recovery Committee.

The endorsed terms of reference for the MSRC are included as Appendix C of this document.

Monitoring and evaluation

Continuous improvement is a key element of emergency management at all levels. According to the Victorian State Emergency Management Plan (2021)⁸ continuous improvement is supported by learning and collaboration, research and good practice, and encouraging the sector to share lessons and sustainable actions that can improve outcomes.

The MSRC is committed to supporting the monitoring and evaluation of processes, programs and initiatives contained within this plan. The national *Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Disaster Recovery Programs*⁹ will be used to benchmark and guide evaluation of recovery in Murrindindi Shire.

Recovery over time

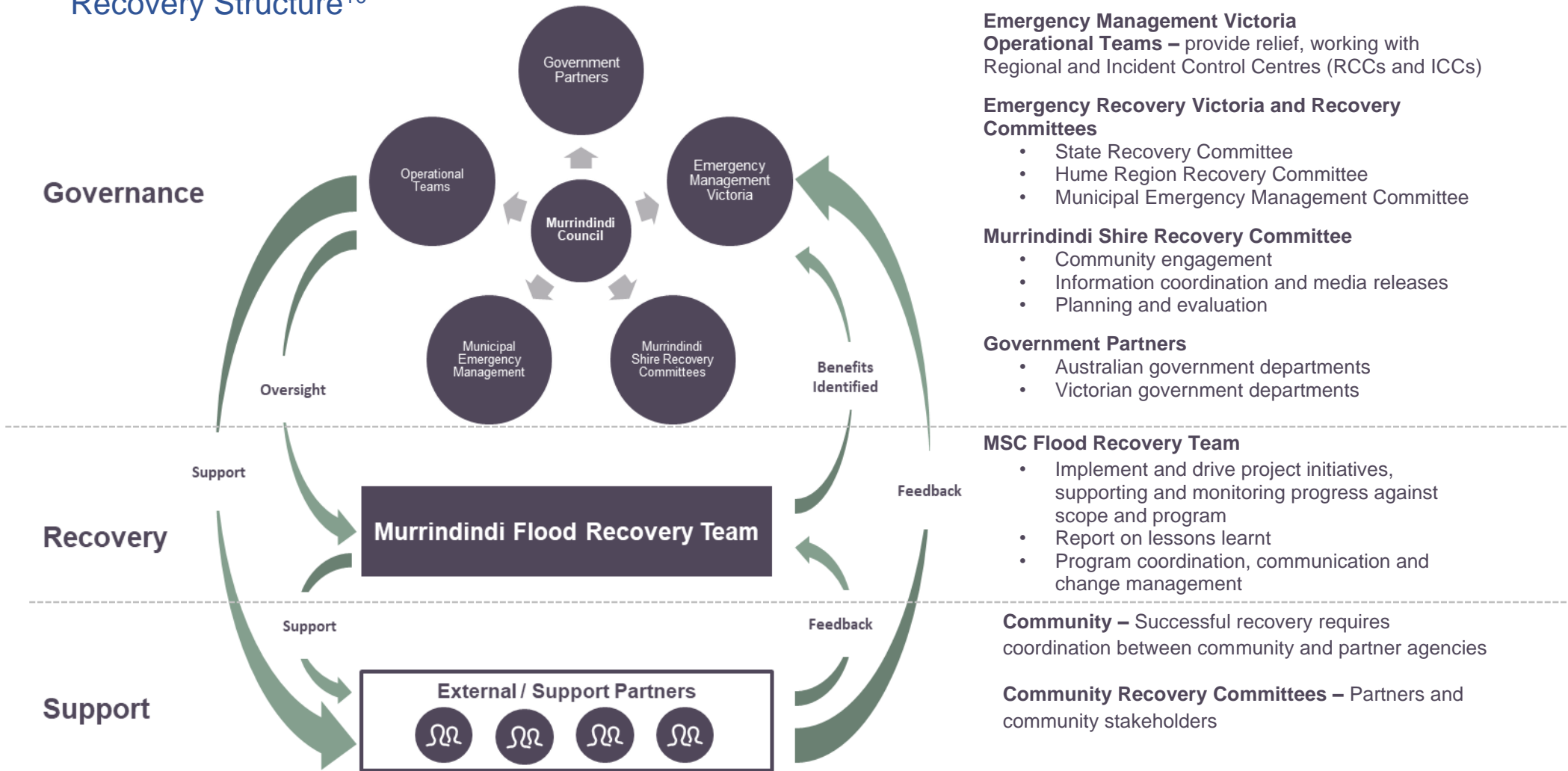
Disaster recovery is a complex and protracted process which can take months, and in some cases, years to achieve. Individuals, families, community groups, Traditional Owner groups, towns, and businesses have been impacted differently and will have their own unique recovery needs and priorities. Support services and recovery activities must be flexible enough to accommodate people reaching various stages of their recovery over extended

⁸ Victorian State Emergency Management Plan, (p. 13)
<https://www.emv.vic.gov.au/responsibilities/semv>

⁹ A Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Disaster Recovery Programs (May 2018)
<https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/5967/a-monitoring-and-evaluation-framework-for-disaster-recovery-programs-v2.pdf>

periods, with transition plans that support the continuation of services for as long as they may be required.

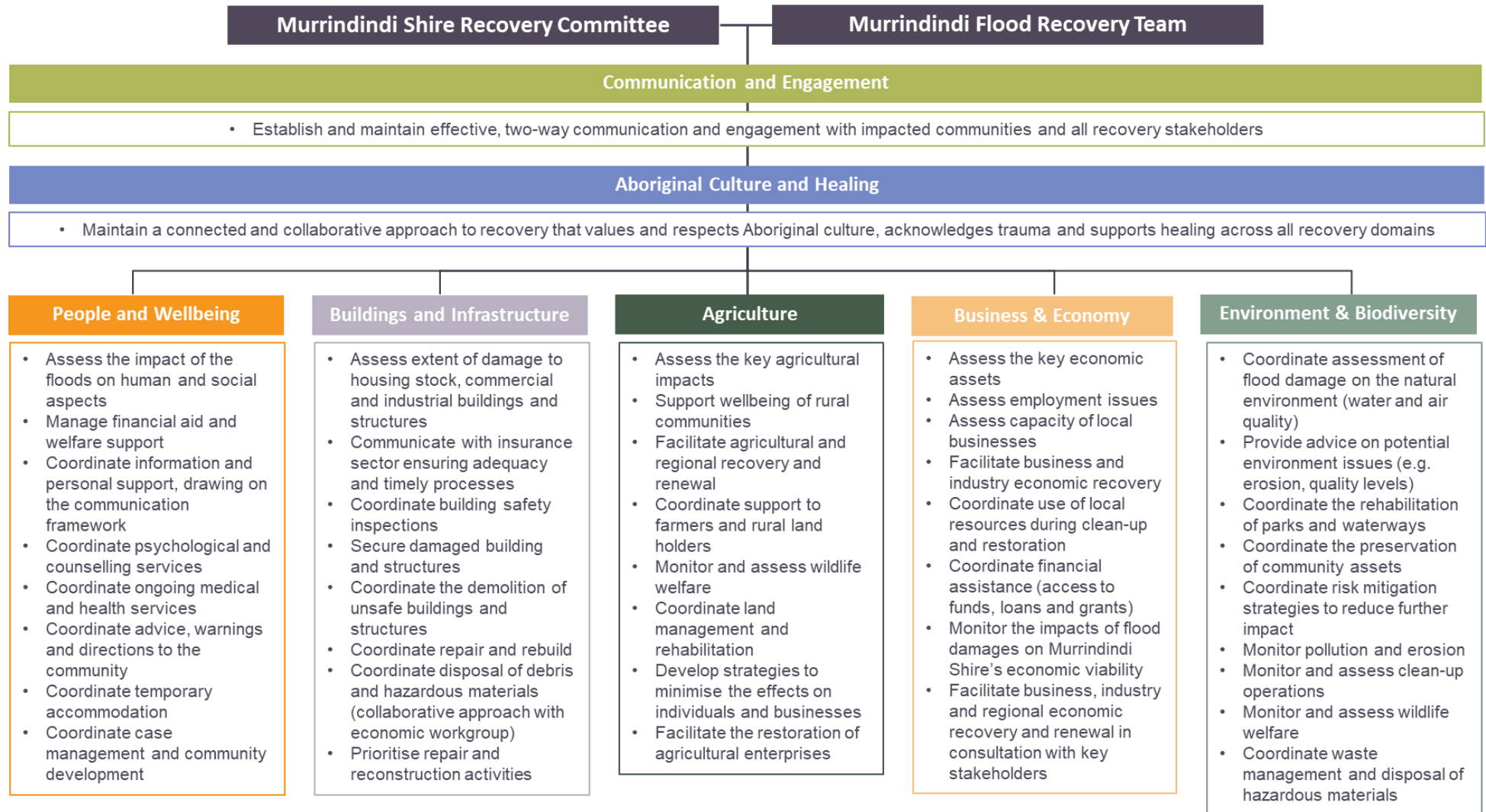
Recovery Structure¹⁰



¹⁰ As developed by Deloitte Australia for Murrindindi Shire Council - 2023

Recovery Responsibilities

Adapted from work undertaken by Deloitte Australia for Murrindindi Shire Council - 2023



Definitions and Abbreviations

Definitions

Flood Impacted – individual or community directly impacted by the flood

Flood Affected – individual or community impacted by the effects of the flood but not directly impacted by the flood

Abbreviations

Ag Vic Agriculture Victoria

AV Aboriginal Victoria

CFA Country Fire Authority

CRC Community Recovery Committee

DEECA Department Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (formerly DELWP)

DELWP Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

DJSIR Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions

DET Department of Education and Training

DFFH Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

DH Department of Health

DoT Department of Transport

EMV Emergency Management Victoria

EPA Environment Protection Authority

ERV Emergency Recovery Victoria

GB CMA Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority

GFRS Goulburn Flood Recovery Service

IAs Initial Impact Assessments

MERC Municipal Emergency Response Co-ordinator

MEMPC Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee

MEMP Municipal Emergency Management Plan

MERO Municipal Emergency Resource Officer

MFPO Municipal Fire Prevention Officer

MSRC Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee

MRM Municipal Recovery Manager

MSC Murrindindi Shire Council

NDRRA Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements

NEMA National Emergency Management Agency

OMRP Ovens Murray Regional Partnership

PFA Psychological First Aid

PV Parks Victoria

RRV Regional Roads Victoria

SBV Small Business Victoria

SIAs Secondary Impact Assessments

SRV Sports and Recreation Victoria

SRWG Social Recovery Working Group

TLaWC Taungurung Land and Waters Council

TNE Tourism North East

TO Traditional Owner

VCCEM VCC – Emergencies Ministry

VFF Victorian Farmers Federation

VICSES Victoria State Emergency Service

VICPOL Victoria Police

Appendix A – Murrindindi Flood Impact Summary

Murrindindi Shire Council



2022 Flood Impact Summary

29 March 2023 – Update number 17

Murrindindi Shire is situated on Melbourne's peri-urban fringe. The Shire spans 3,879 square kilometers with a population of 15,134 residents. The Shire was impacted by a set of severe storms over two weeks beginning 13 October 2022. The effect of heavy rain falls, and riverine flooding were amplified across the municipality due to damp conditions and a saturated catchment associated with an ongoing La Niña event. River valleys impacted by flooding included the Goulburn and its tributaries including the King Parrot Creek, Yea River, Acheron River, Steavenson River, Home Creek and others. Localised heavy rain also impacted several towns across the municipality including Kinglake, Alexandra, Eildon and Yea where falls over 30mm were recorded in just 30 minutes. Towns and settlements were also impacted by riverine flooding included Acheron, Molesworth, Taggerty, Yea, Thornton, Kerrisdale Flowerdale, Strath Creek, Snobs Creek, Buxton, and Narbethong.

Within the Hume region, Murrindindi boasts strong agriculture, forestry and fishing industries, equating to 20% of total regional output (\$260.3M). These industries are the largest employers in the municipality with 731 jobs representing 17% of total employment within the region. The biggest impact to the municipality was on the farms and agricultural lands along river valleys and flats where cropping, cattle, sheep and feed (silage and hay) were impacted.

The floods that swept through Victoria in October 2022 will have a lasting impact on the Murrindindi community. Each of the towns within the municipality has been affected by this significant event, either directly or indirectly.

The area suffered mass road closures and widespread property damage, particularly on Thursday 13 October and Friday 14 October 2022. This resulted in delayed heavy vehicle access for major industry and lost revenue for small business and tourist operators.

The following document provides a summary of the known impact of the 2022 floods on public and private properties within Murrindindi Shire.

It is important to note that information within this document will continue to change as more information is obtained from agencies and through detailed Impact Assessments.

Murrindindi Shire Council is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire. We pay our respects to First Nations leaders and elders, past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land. We commit to working in collaboration with traditional owners of this land in a spirit of reconciliation and partnership.

Please note that the information collected by Murrindindi Shire Council staff during Flood October 2022 is based on the information available at the time. Not all information on property losses may be available at the time of issue. Murrindindi Shire Council does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of this information, as the full impact may take weeks, or even months to be realised. Any person using or relying upon this information does so on the basis that Murrindindi Shire Council shall bear no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any errors, faults, defects or omissions.

Impact Summary

This section aims to capture the impact of the October 2022 floods impacting the Murrindindi Shire area and includes data regarding:

- Public Infrastructure damage
- Private Property Building Impact Assessment Summary
- Private Assets with flood damage by location
- Business and Economic impact
- Critical Infrastructure Damage
- National and State Parks and,
- Utilities.

1. Emerging Issues

- As additional information becomes available over the coming weeks it will be added accordingly.

2. Public Infrastructure Impact Summary

Infrastructure Type	15 March	29 March
Number of Council roads damaged	16	16
•Inspections / assessments of affected Council roads	16 of 16	16 of 16
•Inspections / assessments on affected State managed roads	-	-
Local Roads affected (Km)	103	103
Arterial Roads affected (Km) as of....	202	202
Council Bridges Impacted / assessed	14	14
Community infrastructure	-	-
Recreational reserves	1	1
Trails & Walkways	6	6
Road reserve	3	3
Council Culverts Damaged / assessed	27	26
Cumulative value of restoration of road network, infrastructure and bridges	\$25M+	\$25M+

Source: RRV & Crisisworks database as of 29 March 2023

Endorsed by Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee - 2 May 2023

3. Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Impact

CI / Utilities	Number Customers Impacted	Area Impacted	No Days
Power	1814	Unknown	3
Telecommunications	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Camping sites	20	Unknown	5
State Managed Roads	Unknown	202km	Unknown
Council Waste Service	600	Unknown	1

4. Local, State & National Parks

Park	Sections Closed	No Days
Cathedral Range State Park	Tweed Spur Rd	165
Kinglake National Park	Silver Creek Buffer Area Walking Track	165
Lake Eildon National Park	Lake Track 2 Jerusalem Block, O'Toole Flat Camping, Collier Bay Walking & Cycling Track	165
Yea Wetlands	John Cummins Reserve Open, Wetlands Closed	165

5. Private Property Building Impact Assessment Summary

Rating Category	Description	No of Buildings
Major	Flood water on property, building/s destroyed and/or access destroyed	7
Medium	Flood water on property, uninhabitable or habitable with damage to residential assets and surrounds and/or access damaged (ability to access property, works need undertaking)	15
Minor	Flood water on property, habitable with minimum damage (house or land) includes fencing, pasture, livestock and feed.	23
Needs Assessment	Information received from another source. Still to be assessed	
Nil	Flood water, no damage on property	0
Unknown	Unknown / not specified	28
Total Number of Impacted Properties	N/A	73

Source: RRV & Crisisworks database as of 29 March 2023

6. Agriculture Impact Assessment Summary – Private Property

Private Property Loss	Description	No of Properties	Total Loss
Total Farm Area Impacted	Includes loss of assets, fencing, pastures, fields, crops and livestock		6,468 Ha
Total Farm Area			33,301 Ha
Percentage of total farming land impacted			19%
Total Animals Missing	Includes livestock		360
Total livestock loss	Includes livestock		1,098
Total fish loss	Information received from another source. Still to be assessed		50,000
Crop field loss	Includes standing crops		977 Ha
Stored Grain Loss			1ton
Hay / Silage			3,631 ton
Grazing pasture loss			4,498 Ha
Summer fruit crop/orchards			13Ha
Wine Grapes			0
Machinery Shed loss			2
Irrigation Pump Loss			15
Fences	Includes public property		603 km

Source: Agriculture Victoria as of 16 December 2022

7. Private Property Impact - Breakdown

Private Property Economic Impact	No	Est Value
Dwelling (including caravan permanent residence)	37	\$
Primary Place of Residence	50	\$
Accommodation/Other	23	
Shed Flooded	9	\$
Length of farm fencing lost or damaged (km)	470	\$
Reported stock losses due to flood and flystrike (all types)	1097	
Sheep	445	
Cattle Dairy	3	
Cattle Beef	99	
Horses	3	
Poultry	543	
Goats	0	
Pigs	4	
Reported Stock missing	104	
Cattle Beef	30	
Sheep	16	
Horses	6	

Private Property Economic Impact	No	Est Value
Goats	52	
Pigs	0	
Reported Fish loss	50,000	
Reported hay / silage lost (ton)	3,631t	
Stored grain lost or damaged (ton)	1t	
Reported crop lost / downgraded	Unknown	Unknown
Reported pasture/grazing crop loss (Ha)	4,498ha	
Estimated value of known losses, downgrades, and repair in Murrindindi Shire	Unknown	Unknown

Source: Crisisworks & AgVic database as of 29 March 2023

8. Private Assets impacted by Flood by Location

Town	No of Assets
Acheron	4
Buxton	3
Cathkin	2
Flowerdale	1
Ghin Ghin	4
Glenburn	1
Kerrisdale	7
Koriella	1
Limestone	1
Molesworth	6
Murrindindi	1
Strath Creek	1
Thornton	4
Whanregarwen	3
Yea	34
Sub-total – Assets with flood damage	73
Total Number of Assets	73

Source: Crisis Works database as of 29 March 2023

Business and Economic Impact

9. Asset Types Impacted by Flood in Murrindindi Shire

Asset type	No of Assets
Business	59
Caravan Parks	3
Farms	15
Houses	20
Residential Caravans	17
Other (includes community assets)	36
Total Number of Assets	73

Source: Crisisworks database as of 29 March 2023

10. Economic Impact to Visitor Economy by Flood in Murrindindi Shire

December Quarter	Visitation Scenarios			Visitor Expenditure Scenarios			Estimated Jobs Disrupted
	Business As Usual	Estimated Visitation	Estimated Loss	Business As Usual	Estimated Spend	Estimated Loss	
October 2022	52,400	26,200	26,200 -50%	\$10.08M	\$15.12M	-\$5.04M -50%	50
November 2022	72,600	36,300	-36,300 -50%	\$9.34M	\$4.67M	-\$4.67M -50%	47
December 2022	94,500	70,900	-23,600 -25%	\$9.69M	\$7.27M	-\$2.42M -25%	24

Source: Urban Enterprise for Tourism North East as of 21 November 2022

11. Social Support Data

Social Support	No. Applicants	Total Value
Personal Hardship Assistance Payments	138	\$130790
Reestablishment Payments	2	\$7620
Families / Individuals registered to receive Case Management	41	

12. Economic Impact Data Flood Relief Programs

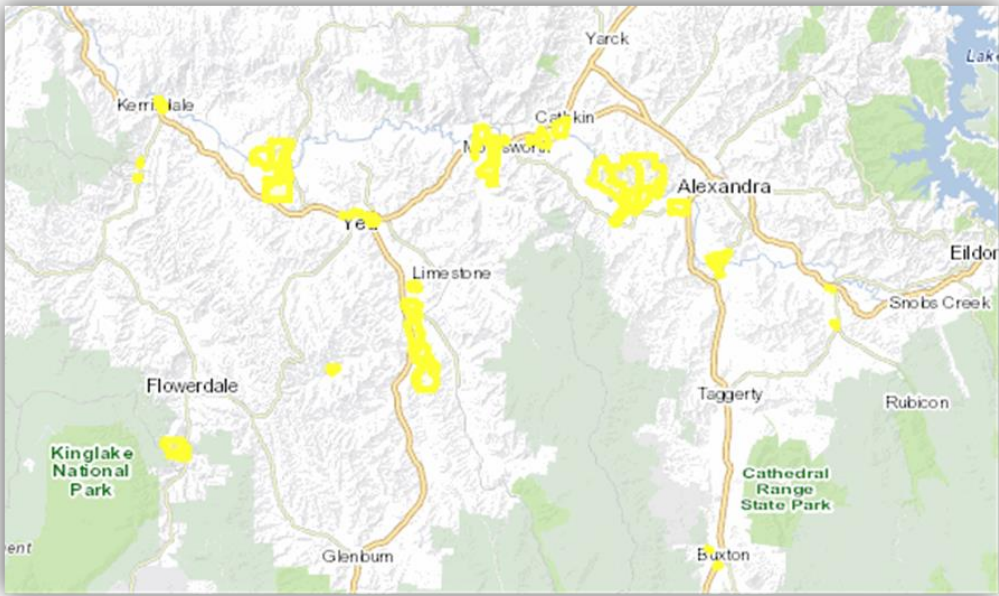
Grant	No. Applicants	No. Approved	Grant Value	Total
Small Business Immediate Flood Relief Program	5	1	\$50000	\$10000
Community Sport Emergency Flood Assistance Program	9	8	\$5000	\$40000

13. Impact on Aboriginal Cultural Sites and Assets

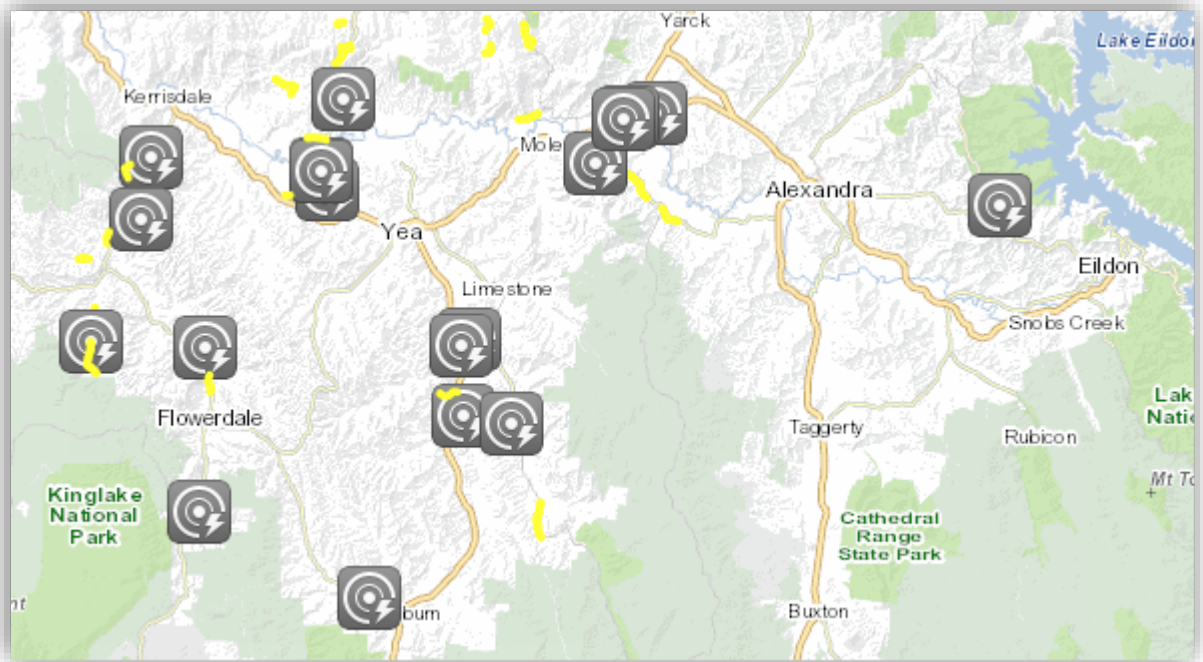
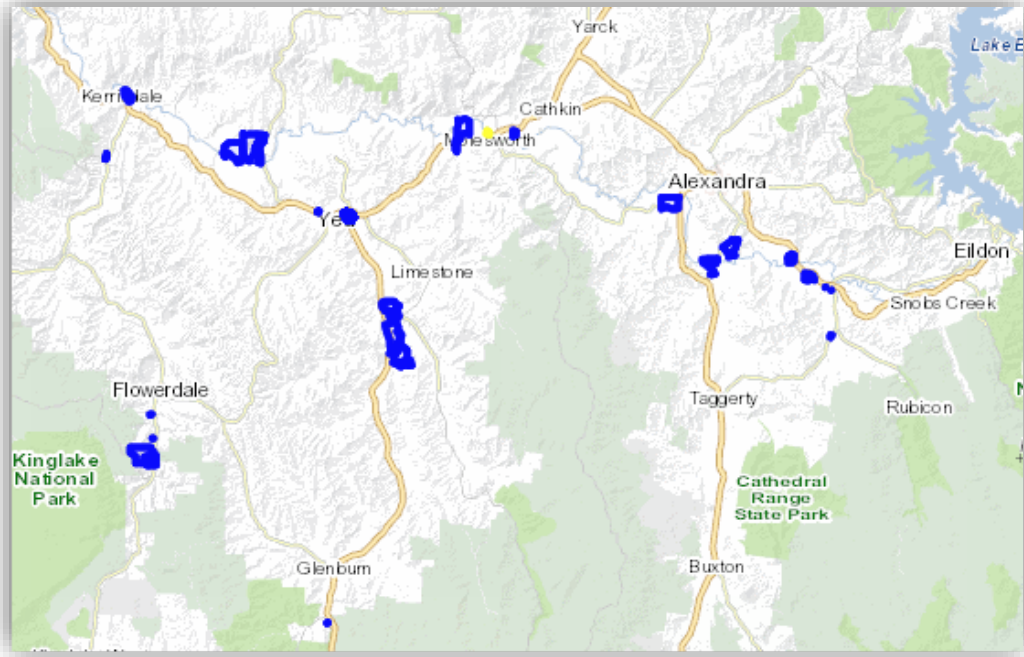
Description	No of sites
<td>	
<td>	
<td>	

Event Overview

1. Building Inspections, Affected Persons & Livestock



2. Recovery Cases



3. Infrastructure Impacts

Source: Crisisworks database as of 22 February 2023

Appendix B - Recovery Action Plan

The Murrindindi Flood Recovery Action Plan comprises recovery goals, objectives, outcomes and actions across the following six key areas or 'domains' of recovery:

- Part 1 - People and Wellbeing
- Part 2 - Aboriginal Culture and Healing
- Part 3 - Buildings and Infrastructure
- Part 4 - Agriculture
- Part 5 - Business and Economy
- Part 6 - Environment and Biodiversity

For each proposed action contained within the plan, the lead or coordinating agency is identified, together with a target or measure against which progress can be assessed. An anticipated timeframe and current project status is provided for each action, which are indicated as follows:

Timeframe	
Immediate	Occurring within the next three months
Short term	To be undertaken within 3-6 months
Medium term	To be undertaken within 6-12 months
Longer term	Occurring from 12 months to 2 years

Project Status	
Planned	Action is being developed with relevant stakeholders to identify community opportunities and needs and to design and deliver the required outcomes
Underway Ongoing	Action is in the process of being implemented and progress is underway, or may be an action that will be ongoing for the duration of recovery
On Hold	Action is currently on hold (may include projects / initiatives that were underway prior to the flood event)
Complete	Action is complete. Nothing further required.

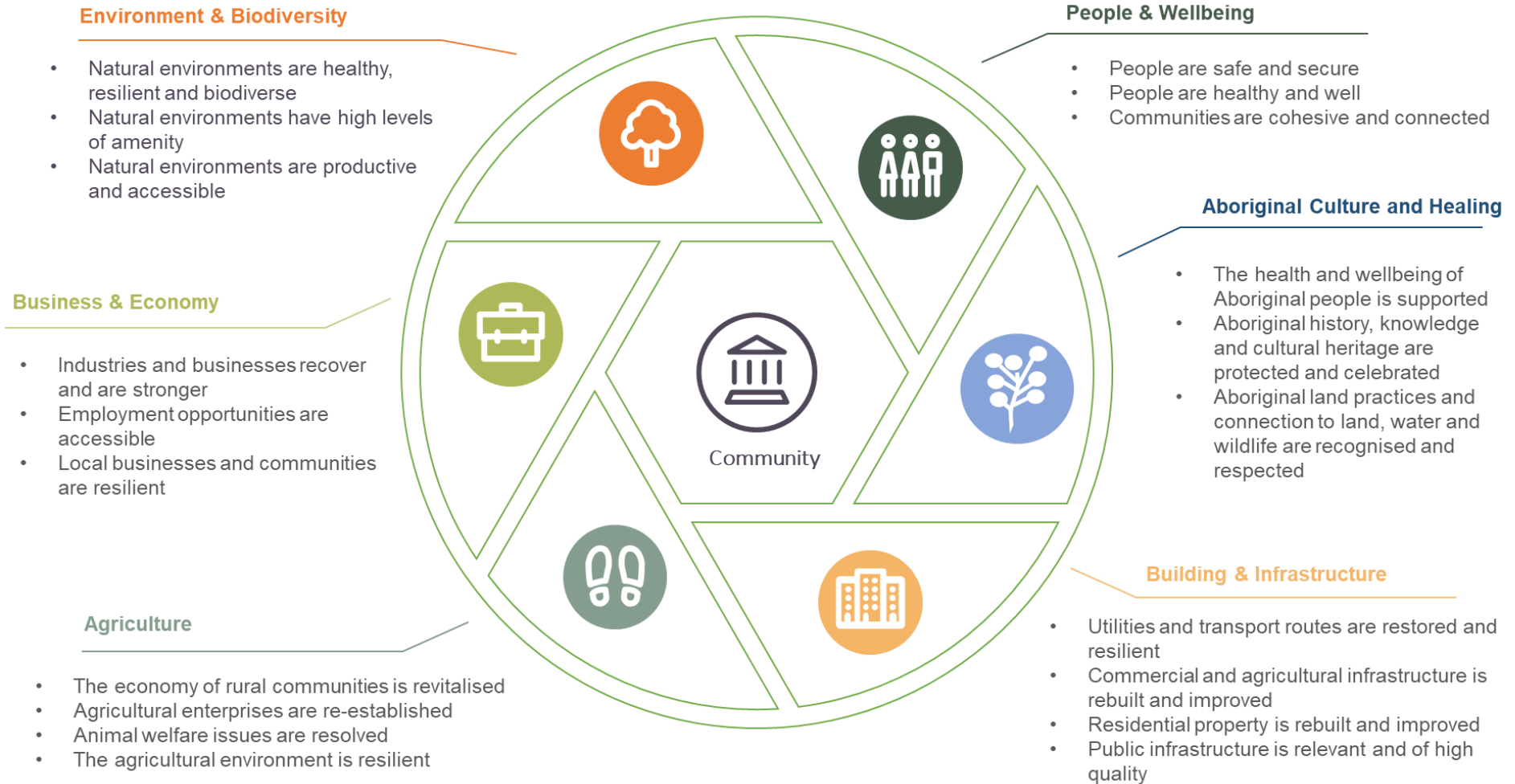
Part 7 of the Recovery Action Plan relates to recovery governance and capability. This part of the plan captures actions that pertain to the efficient, effective coordination and management of the overall recovery.

IMPORTANT NOTE: A key element of recovery will be the establishment of a community recovery committee to provide direct community input into the recovery process. It is

expected that the scope and detail of this plan will evolve in response to the formation of this group and the input it will provide, together with recovery issues that may emerge over time.

Domains of Recovery

Adapted from work undertaken by Deloitte Australia for Murrindindi Shire Council - 2023



Part 1 - People and Wellbeing

This plan has been developed to respond to the following recovery goals and objectives:

Recovery goals: To identify and respond to recovery needs in the areas of safety and wellbeing, physical and psychological health, and social, arts and culture, with the aim that

- People are safe and secure
- People are healthy and well
- Communities are cohesive and connected

Recovery objectives: ¹¹

- Community members have access to appropriate and coordinated housing, health, education, and psychosocial services to support their recovery
- The needs of vulnerable groups are recognised and reflected in recovery programs and outcomes
- The local knowledge, experience and capacity of individuals and community groups is utilised to identify and address recovery needs
- Individuals, households and families can autonomously contribute to the recovery process
- Community members feel safe and secure following the disaster and can engage in social activities and interactions with other members of the community
- The community is more aware of disaster risk and has improved capacity and capability to respond to future events

The Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery Committee and Council will work with Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) and Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to coordinate support for social recovery

¹¹ Adapted from the National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Disaster Recovery Programs V2 (May 2018)

People and Wellbeing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Targets / measures	Action status
<i>1.1 People impacted by the flood (whether directly or indirectly) have access and referral to personal and financial support, wellbeing, and counselling services (including family violence, drug, alcohol, homelessness services, financial counselling)</i>	1.1.1 Undertake welfare checks (in person and/or via telephone) and provide service referrals to recovery agencies	MSC Supported by ERV and VCCEM - outreach support and PFA	Immediate and periodically	Data tracking via recovery support services	Underway
	1.1.2 Establish mobile 'recovery hubs' to provide outreach to affected communities within Murrindindi Shire, including:	MSC Supported by ERV	Short term	Funding provided, mobile hubs set up, resourcing to support hub operations	Planned
	- assistance to affected people to navigate the recovery support system and connect with flood case management service	ERV (recovery support services) Supported by MSC and GFRS and FamilyCare through GFRS	Short-medium term	People are able to access services and services are appropriate for needs. Data tracking via case management services. Gaps in services are identified for escalation.	Underway
	- advice and assistance to impacted people to apply for grants and financial assistance	DFFH Supported via ERV, MSC	Medium	Grant funding / payments distributed	Underway

People and Wellbeing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Targets / measures	Action status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mental health and psychosocial supports and referrals 	<p>DFFH lead, shared responsibilities with ERV (recovery support services). Supported by MSC and FamilyCare through GFRS, Wellways, Goulburn Valley Health</p> <p>VCCEM - Provide psychosocial support at mobile recovery hubs</p>	<p>Short term</p> <p>Short-term – until 30 June. (Option to continue past 30 June)</p>	<p>Data tracking via case management services</p> <p>Ongoing reports to Council re dates, number of people supported and emerging themes</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Planned (awaiting activation)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mental health supports that target farmers and agricultural workers 	<p>Department of Health Supported by Ag Vic, MSC, Yea and District Memorial Hospital (or</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>Targeted programs provided</p>	

People and Wellbeing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Targets / measures	Action status
		local health provider)			
	1.1.3 Support local medical centres to ensure sufficient access to GP appointments to meet a potential increase in demand	Department of Health via the Commissioning and Systems Improvement (CSI) team	Medium term		
	1.1.4 Ensure consistent reporting of wellbeing issues, needs, and spikes in demand for services	MSRC Supported by MSC, ERV, DFFH, DH	Medium-longer term	Key health metrics and trends reported to the Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee	Underway
<i>1.2 Suitable accommodation is available to meet the needs of people with a damaged or destroyed primary place of residence, including access to impacted properties as soon as practical</i>	1.2.1 Identify impacted and affected properties through initial and secondary impact assessments (IIAs and SIAs).	MSC (SIAs), supported by ERV	Medium term	100% SIAs complete and entered into Crisisworks and captured in EM impact	Underway
	1.2.2 Coordinate provision of immediate / short term accommodation for people displaced by the flood	ERV / MSC Supported via GFRS	Immediate	100% Displaced people adequately accommodated	Complete
	1.2.3 Coordinate provision of medium-term accommodation for people displaced by the flood	ERV / MSC Supported via GFRS, DFFH	Short - medium term	Needs are known. Appropriate paths are identified at case level	Underway

People and Wellbeing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Targets / measures	Action status
	1.2.4 Provide support and advocacy for impacted permanent residents of caravan parks	MSC Supported via GFRS	Medium	Advocacy to Insurance Council, ongoing dialogue with Insurance Companies, DEECA etc	Underway
<i>1.3 People impacted by the flood have ready and equitable access to donated goods and services</i>	1.3.1 Register recovery needs and encourage donations through the online platform GIVIT	MSC	Short - medium term	Donations utilised for impacted community	Underway
	1.3.2 Work with Neighbourhood Houses to determine needs and provide additional resources / support to establish and maintain a donations management system, according to need	MSC	Short - medium term	Donations management system up to date	Planned
<i>1.4 People affected by the flood have opportunities for meaningful connection and interaction with their communities</i>	1.4.1 Support community groups and sports clubs to resume normal activities	MSC	Medium	Return to business-as-usual operations	Underway
	1.4.2 Undertake community debriefs for directly impacted communities	MSC	Medium	Engagement planning	Needs planning
	1.4.3 Design activities that enable safe participation of diverse communities	MSC	Medium	Engagement planning	Needs planning

People and Wellbeing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Targets / measures	Action status
	1.4.4 Identify opportunities to deliver or support community-based projects and events that will help to re-establish and strengthen community connection	MSC VCCEM - Support community-based events with psychosocial support including PFA	Medium Short-term – until 30 June. (Option to continue past 30 June)	Engagement planning Ongoing reports to Council re dates, number of people supported and emerging themes	Needs planning Planned (awaiting activation)
	1.4.5 Establish mechanisms for two-way communication and engagement between recovery agencies and communities	MSC through MSRC and CRCs Supported via GFRS	Medium	Newsletter distribution, UGFM, social media	Underway
<i>1.5 Recovery plans and activities consider the long-term impacts of disaster recovery on children and young people.</i>	To be advised in consultation with impacted communities	To be advised			
<i>1.6 Volunteerism is encouraged during emergency events and throughout recovery</i>	1.6.1 Identify volunteer opportunities and undertake coordination of unaffiliated volunteers	MSC	Short – medium term	Event planning	Underway

People and Wellbeing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Targets / measures	Action status
	1.6.2 Provide volunteer training on responding safely and effectively to future emergencies	VCCEM - "Introduction to Personal Support" training	Short-term – until 30 June. (Option to continue past 30 June)	Number of sessions, number of participants	Planned (awaiting activation)
<i>1.7 Community recovery is supported by consistent, timely, targeted communication and information sharing</i>	1.7.1 Improve collaborative communication to support recovery across broad community networks	MSC (local level) ERV (regional level) VCCEM - Attend community events with psychosocial support including PFA	Ongoing Short-term – until 30 June. (Option to continue past 30 June)	Communications planning and programming Ongoing reports to Council re dates, number of people supported and emerging themes	Underway Planned (awaiting activation)
	1.7.2 Schedule regular community recovery updates and information throughout recovery to inform community of resources, events and progress	MSC	Ongoing	Newsletter distribution, UGFM and social media	Underway
<i>1.8 There is increased community preparedness for all types of natural</i>	1.8.1 Provide community education about how to prepare for flooding and other emergencies	SES, or appropriate Lead Agency	Ongoing	Event specific, and all forms of media	Underway

People and Wellbeing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Targets / measures	Action status
<i>disasters and emergencies</i>	1.8.2 Undertake a campaign of information about road closures and not driving through flood water	SES, supported by MSC, VicPol	Ongoing	Event specific, and all forms of media	Underway

Part 2 - Aboriginal Culture and Healing

This plan has been developed to respond to the following recovery goals and objectives:

Recovery goal:¹² A connected and collaborative approach to recovery that values and respects Aboriginal culture, acknowledges trauma and supports healing.

Recovery objectives:¹³

- The health and wellbeing of First Nations peoples is supported throughout recovery
- Aboriginal history, knowledge and cultural heritage are protected and celebrated
- Aboriginal land practices, and connection to land, water and wildlife are recognised and respected

The Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery Committee and Council will work with Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV), Traditional Owners and Custodians, and Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP) to coordinate Aboriginal Culture and Healing.

¹² Adapted from BRV Recovery Framework 2020, p. 18

¹³ Source: BRV Recovery Framework 2020, p. 18

Aboriginal Cultural and Healing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>2.1 History and cultural heritage are respected and celebrated throughout all stages of recovery</i>	2.1.1 Engage with Taungurung Land and Water Council (TLaWC) with respect to all remediation works, including but not limited to bridge renewal, Yea Wetlands, and Breakaway Bridge.	Relevant Land Manager, supported by ERV / MSC and DEECA (State Forest / Crown Land) and Parks Victoria (National Parks)	Short to medium	Projects developed	Planned
	2.1.2 Collaborate with and seek information from TLaWC on reading, healing and caring for Country.	Relevant Land Manager, supported by ERV / MSC and DEECA (State Forest / Crown Land) and Parks Victoria (National Parks)	Medium to longer term	Clarified in association with project delivery	Needs planning

Aboriginal Cultural and Healing Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>2.2 Traditional Owners and Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP) (Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung) are properly engaged and involved in rebuilding and recovery</i>	2.2.1 Identify impacts on Aboriginal community members across all areas of recovery.	TLaWC and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung supported by ERV / MSC	Short to medium term	Stakeholder analysis completed. Meetings with stakeholders conducted.	Underway
	2.2.2 Ensure recovery programs are culturally safe and appropriate.	TLaWC and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung supported by ERV / MSC	Ongoing	Considered within program and project design	Needs planning
<i>2.3 Aboriginal trauma is acknowledged, and healing is supported through a genuine spirit of reconciliation</i>	2.3.1 Provide opportunity for community connection and networks.	TLaWC and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung supported by ERV / MSC	Ongoing	Considered within program and project design	Needs planning

Part 3 - Buildings and Infrastructure

This plan has been developed to respond to the following recovery goals and objectives:

Recovery goals: To coordinate restoration of housing, commercial and industrial buildings and structures and the recovery of physical infrastructure (including power, water, telecommunications, and transport) within Murrindindi Shire

Recovery objectives:

- Utilities and transport routes are restored and resilient
- Commercial and agricultural infrastructure is rebuilt and improved
- Residential property is rebuilt and improved
- Public infrastructure is relevant and of high quality

The Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery Committee and Council will work with Department of Transport and Planning (DTP, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), and Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DRSIR) on coordination of the recovery of buildings and infrastructure and to ensure links between municipal, regional and state recovery.

Building and Infrastructure Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>3.1 Public assets in flood effected areas are assessed and reinstated to meet the needs of community</i>	3.1.1 Undertake Secondary Impact Assessments on Council owned / managed properties and infrastructure	MSC	Short term	Data captured	Complete (known issues)
	3.1.2 Undertake required works to ensure the road network is quickly and safely restored	MSC	Longer term	Project plans	Underway
	3.1.3 Assess and undertake works to recover state forest, crown land and national parks assets and road network	Managing body of the land, DEECA (State Forest / Crown Land) and Parks Victoria (National Parks)	Longer term	Project plans	Underway
	3.1.4 Implement Council remediation plan, including damaged bridges (4) and re-establish road and bridge access	MSC	Immediate	Data captured	Underway
<i>3.2 Clean-up of directly impacted private property and other infrastructure is complete</i>	3.2.1 Coordinate clean up requirements and disposal of flood waste	MSC Supported by ERV	Short term	Data captured	Underway

Building and Infrastructure Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>3.3 Property owners and land managers are supported to reinstate critical infrastructure on private property</i>	3.3.1 Undertake Secondary Impact Assessments on privately owned / managed properties and infrastructure	MSC / land and/or asset manager (e.g. DEECA, Parks Victoria). ERV is coordinator at regional level and local support.	Short term	Data captured	Complete (missing data)
	3.3.2 Provide advice and facilitate access to grants (where available) for restoration of private assets	Lead agencies and MSC. (ERV to provide referral and identify gaps in funding and services).	Longer term	Number of grants issued	Underway
	3.3.3 Support reinstatement of pre-existing infrastructure where it is required for property access	MSC supported by GFRS and GB CMA (for Works on Waterways permits)*	Longer term	Project data	Underway

NOTES: * GB CMA's role relates to Works on Waterways permit application assessments - i.e. if private works are required to be reinstated/built on a waterway (such as a pump shed, private crossing etc.) a WoW permit is required. Note that WoW permit application fees are being waived for works relating to the floods.

Building and Infrastructure Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>3.4 The risk and consequences of future flooding events are mitigated within Murrindindi Shire</i>	3.4.1 Undertake flood mitigation work in Thornton, Acheron and Molesworth	MSC	Longer term	Project plan	Underway
	3.4.2 Advocate with Goulburn Murray Water on the management of the Lake Eildon Storage, community concerns re its potential to contribute to downstream flood events, and the policy permitting 'carry over' water allocations from season to season.	MSC GMW	Immediate – Short term	Actions / changes to mitigate risk	Underway
	3.4.3 Consider the impacts of climate change in relation to rebuilding works	MSC	Medium term	Project plan	Not commenced
	3.4.4 Work with GMW and Bureau of Meteorology to provide clear, timely information to communities downstream of Lake Eildon to improve communication and warnings relating to outflows	MSC GMW Supported by GB CMA (for flood level advice and flood mapping) and SES	Medium term	Project plan	Underway
	3.4.5 Review, and amend, where required, the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) and Municipal Flood Emergency Plan	MEMPC SES	Longer term	Production of reviewed plans	Underway

Part 4 - Agriculture

This plan has been developed to respond to the following recovery goals and objectives:

Recovery goal: To support primary producers to return to productivity through the design and implementation of appropriate assistance programs.

Recovery objectives:

- The economy of rural communities is revitalised
- Agricultural enterprises are re-established
- Flood-related animal welfare issues are resolved
- The agricultural environment is resilient

The Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery Committee and Council will work with Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) through Agriculture Victoria (Ag Vic) on coordination of the recovery of agriculture and to ensure links between municipal, regional and state recovery plans.

Agriculture Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>4.1 Impacted agriculture, aquaculture, viticulture and horticulture enterprises within the flood-affected area are identified, assessed and supported</i>	4.1.1 Undertake impact assessments of farming businesses to identify recovery needs and issues, including loss of standing of fodder and grain crops	DEECA (Ag Vic)	Immediate	Status of initial impact data	Complete
	4.1.2 Coordinate clean-up of agricultural fencing and flood related waste	Landowners, supported by DEECA (Ag Vic)*	Short to medium term	Number of properties	Underway
	4.1.3 Assess and manage damage to fencing and plantings of riparian zones on agricultural land	Landowners Supported by GB CMA^	Medium to longer term	Number of properties	
	4.1.4 Provide advice and assistance (where required) to access recovery grants, subsidies and concessional loans for primary producers and rural landholders	MSC Supported by MSC and DEECA (Ag Vic)**	Short to medium term	Number of properties	Underway
	4.1.5 Work with farmers and rural landholders to mitigate environmental impacts on private land	Landowner is responsible for delivery. MSC lead at local/ Municipal level. Supported by Ag Vic ***	Medium to longer term	Number of properties	Underway

Agriculture Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<p><i>4.2 Specialist information and advice is available for farming enterprises to support flood recovery</i></p>	<p>4.2.1 Promote flood recovery information to farmers and rural landholders, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - grazing, cropping and pasture management - irrigation and horticulture system rehabilitation - soil erosion management - animal health and nutrition - land management - farm mapping of land and infrastructure - water quality - weed management 	<p>MSC Supported by ERV and Ag Vic</p>	<p>Medium to longer term</p>	<p>Number of communications</p> <p>Number of requests for support or information</p>	
<p><i>4.3 The viability and resilience of rural communities is strengthened</i></p>	<p>4.3.1 Support and maintain community connection through events aimed at farmers and land managers, e.g. drop-in sessions, field days, workshops</p>	<p>MSC Supported by Ag Vic</p>			
	<p>4.3.2 Work with farmers and the agricultural sector on plans to mitigate future flood impacts</p>	<p>Local Lead Murrindindi MEMPC</p>	<p>Longer term</p>	<p>Opportunities for farmers to connect with agricultural programs that improve resilience (e.g. Farm Business Resilience Program)</p>	

Agriculture Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
	4.3.3 Provide accessible and targeted support for the mental health of farmers and farming families, rural landholders, and people employed in agriculture	DH / DJSIR Supported by Ag Vic, MSC, Yea and District Memorial Hospital (or local health provider)	Medium to longer term	Number of communications	Ongoing
	4.3.4 Consider and plan for any potential recovery impacts on volunteerism, e.g. CFA, SES, Landcare, service clubs, etc	MSC	Longer term	Changes in volunteer numbers	Not commenced

NOTES: * Ag Vic support on clean up and fencing - Signposting and referring landholders to BlazeAid and other relevant organisations.

^ GB CMA has a supporting role to provide landholders with advice and, where eligible, financial assistance to install (or reinstate) fencing to protect riparian areas from stock

** Ag Vic support on recovery grants, subsidies and concessional loans - Signposting and referring primary producers to relevant organisations.

*** Ag Vic support on mitigating flood impacts on private land - Signposting to leading agency, responding with services where land management impacts relate to primary industries.

Part 5 – Business and Economy

This plan has been developed to respond to the following recovery goals and objectives:

Recovery goal: To coordinate and support economic and financial recovery in the impacted areas of Murrindindi Shire.

Recovery objectives:

- Industries and businesses recover and are stronger
- Employment opportunities are accessible
- Local businesses and communities are resilient

The Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery Committee and Council will work with the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR) to coordinate business and economic recovery and to ensure links between municipal, regional and state recovery plans.

Business and Economy Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>5.1 The financial impact of the flood on the local economy is calculated and quantified</i>	5.1.1 Conduct an analysis of economic impacts, including agricultural impacts and loss of business and tourism, to establish the financial effects of this event	MSC	Medium	Visitor and local spend, visitation numbers, Ag Vic and REMPLAN data	Underway
<i>5.2 Impacted business and tourism enterprises within the flood-affected area are identified, assessed and supported</i>	5.2.1 Complete impact assessments of flood-affected businesses to identify recovery needs and issues	MSC	Longer term	Number of impact assessments	Underway
	5.2.2 Provide advice and assistance (where required) to access grants and services to support business recovery	MSC	Medium term	Number of people advised	Underway
	5.2.3 Support caravan parks in the impacted area to return to 'business as usual' activities	Land managers MSC DEECA	Medium to longer term	Caravan parks open and fully operational	Underway
<i>Efforts to support economic recovery are well-targeted and effective</i>	5.2.4 Integrate flood recovery programs with existing economic programs, e.g. buy local, forestry transition, tourism and events	MSRC	Longer term	Increased visitation and spend Number of new businesses and/or expansion of existing Number of new investment enquiries	Underway

Part 6 - Environment and Biodiversity

This plan has been developed to respond to the following recovery goals and objectives:

Recovery goal: To coordinate rehabilitation of the natural environment including land, waterways, parks and reserves, native vegetation and wildlife within Murrindindi Shire.

Recovery objectives:

- Natural environments are healthy, resilient and biodiverse
- Natural environments have high levels of amenity
- Natural environments are productive and accessible
- The risk of adverse impacts of future disasters on the natural environment is minimised

The Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery Committee and Council will work with Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBMCA) and Parks Victoria on coordination of the recovery of the natural environment and to ensure links between municipal, regional and state recovery plans.

Environment and Biodiversity Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>6.1 The impacts of flooding on the natural environment are assessed and managed</i>	6.1.1 Undertake impact assessments to identify impacts to the natural environment	Relevant Land Managers, GB CMA (waterways), DEECA (State Forest / Crown Land) and Parks Victoria (National Parks)	Medium	Data captured	Underway
	6.1.2 Undertake waterway impact assessments and develop a costed flood recovery plan	Relevant Land Managers, MSC GB CMA	Longer-term (occurring from 12 months to 2 years)	Public advice of flood recovery program status (webpage, newsletters, other media)	Underway
	6.1.3 Inspect trees on public land and reserves and undertake required works	Relevant Land Managers, MSC, DEECA (State Forest / Crown Land) and Parks Victoria (National Parks)	Medium term	Data captured, works complete	Underway

Environment and Biodiversity Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
	6.1.4 Engage with land and water managers to monitor and address flood impacts such as fish die off, erosion, algal blooms and the spread of weeds and pest animals	MSRC Supported by MSC and GB CMA (<i>lead role on river erosion impact assessments and supporting landholders to manage riparian weeds</i>)	Longer term (occurring from 12 months to 2 years)	Project plan and included in flood recovery program advice (as per above), and specific advice to partner agency as required	Underway
	6.1.5 Monitor the impact on river health and biodiversity of approximately 50,000 farmed trout entering the Steavenson River	DEECA / Relevant Land Managers Supported by GB CMA*	Longer term	Impact data	Not commenced
	6.1.6 Manage / remove flood debris from waterways	GB CMA**	Longer term (occurring from 12 months to 2 years)	Public advice of flood recovery program status (webpage, newsletters, other media)	Underway
	6.1.7 Consider the broader environmental impact resulting from flood response and clean up, e.g. waste disposal, water / air quality	DEECA EPA Supported by MSC	Medium term	Project plan	Not commenced

Environment and Biodiversity Recovery Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>6.2 Impacted landholders are supported to address environmental impacts on private land</i>	6.2.1 Provide support and advice to manage trees on private property that have been undermined by flooding	DEECA GB CMA*** Supported by MSC	Longer term	Project plan	Not commenced
<i>6.3 Nature based tourism sites are re-established for recreation, tourism and economic opportunities</i>	6.3.1 Work with the Committee of Management, TLaWC and volunteers to support the re-opening of the Yea Wetlands	Wetlands Trust, MSC Supported by GB CMA	Short term	Project plan	Underway
	6.3.2 Undertake required works to restore the Flowerdale Walking Track	MSC	Medium term	Project plan	Underway

Notes:

- * GB CMA has a role in improving river health (particularly riparian protection and improving in-stream habitat condition) in waterways like Steavenson River - however isn't leading work relating to this issue specifically.
- ** The recovery emphasis is on managing debris rather than removal and it is important to note that actions on debris management will be site specific - e.g. might result in timber realignment rather than removal, in many instances. It is also important to note that GB CMA's intervention is on the basis of threats to public values and safety, rather than private works.
- *** GB CMA can offer advice and support in some instances where issues with trees occur along waterways, including Works on Waterways advice relating to private works, or potentially, grant support for riparian protection and revegetation works

Part 7 – Governance and Capability

Part G of the Murrindindi Shire Recovery Plan is focused on governance of the recovery efforts and the mobilisation of capability. It has been developed to respond to the following recovery goals and objectives:

Recovery goal: To ensure flood recovery in Murrindindi Shire is effective, coordinated and well managed.

Recovery objectives:

- Community recovery needs are identified and addressed
- Programs and projects are coordinated, targeted, appropriately resourced and efficiently managed
- Evidence and good practice guide decision-making
- Lessons learnt are recorded and implemented within a culture of continuous improvement

The Murrindindi Shire Flood Recovery Committee and Council will work with all partner agencies and the community to ensure that the recovery outcomes contained within the Recovery Action Plan are achieved.

Governance and Capability Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>7.1 Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee (MSRC) has an effective authorising environment to action recovery needs</i>	7.1.1 Establish terms of reference for the MSRC	MSC	Immediate	Endorsed terms of reference	Complete
	7.1.2 Ensure broad representation on the MSRC and effective referral processes for complex issues	MSC	Immediate	Appropriate referral and resolution of issues	Underway
	7.1.3 Review membership of the MSRC and invite / co-opt additional members where required	MSC	Immediate	Degree to which membership reflects recovery needs / issues	Underway
	7.1.4 Provide secretariat support and manage issues and actions arising from Committee discussions	MSC	Immediate	Meeting minutes and resolution of issues	Underway
<i>7.2 Local knowledge and experience is recognised, and impacted communities are able to have direct input to recovery programs, initiatives and projects</i>	7.2.1 Coordinate the establishment of a Community Recovery Committee (CRC) that includes appropriate and effective representation by community, agencies and other stakeholders	MSC	Immediate	Functioning Community Recovery Committee	Planned
	7.2.2 Ensure communication about recovery issues is consistent, timely, targeted and accessible	MSRC	Immediate	Methods of communication Number of publications, newsletters, social media posts etc produced	Underway

Governance and Capability Outcomes	Actions	Leading / coordinating responsibilities	Timeframe	Measures	Action status
<i>7.3 Resourcing is sufficient to meet recovery priorities</i>	7.3.1 Advocate to the Hume Region Recovery Committee (and other entities) for funding to support recovery priorities and / or escalate issues to Region / State	MSRC	Medium – longer term	Funding / funded projects and programs	Underway
<i>7.4 Council and agency staff wellbeing is supported</i>	7.4.1 Ensure availability of counselling and mental health support	MSRC	Immediate	Uptake of counselling	Underway
	7.4.2 Acknowledge contribution of staff and volunteers to overall recovery	MSRC	Medium term	Events / methods of acknowledgement	Planned
<i>7.5 The experience gained from this recovery event is integrated into future emergency management</i>	7.5.1 Encourage monitoring and evaluation of recovery activities and programs according to best practice examples	MSRC	Medium – longer term	Evaluations undertaken	Planned
	7.5.2 Undertake a debrief process with MSRC members	MSRC	Longer term	Debrief complete and lessons learnt are recorded and implemented	Planned

Appendix C Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee – Terms of Reference

Emergency event: October Floods 2022

1. Purpose

The Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee is responsible for:

- Collaboration and coordination of the local recovery for the Goulburn-Broken October 2022 Floods for Murrindindi Shire.
- Providing clarity and making decisions to issues that require multi-agency collaboration.
- To monitor progress of local recovery issues and provide pathways or authorising environment for resolution.
- Developing and implementing the Municipal Recovery Plan.
- Oversee and supervise the creation and ongoing support of Murrindindi based Community Recovery Committees (CRCs).
- Support the engagement and support to impacted communities.

2. Roles and responsibilities

The Committee roles and responsibilities include:

1. Provide clarity (where required) on recovery issues within the municipality.
2. Advocating for services and resources to enhance recovery implementation.
3. Provide clarity on local risks or issues escalated to the Committee and development of mitigation actions.
4. Ensure effective coordination across local tiers.
5. Support the transition from Relief to Recovery.

3. Authority and escalation

The Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee has the authority to make decisions within the Terms of Reference and will escalate issues to the Hume Regional Recovery Committee (HRRC) as required.

The Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee is a subcommittee of the Murrindindi Shire Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC). As per the MEMPC, the chair of the Flood Recovery Committee will be determined by the MEMPC Chair (Council's CEO).

4. Membership

The Murrindindi Shire Recovery Committee will comprise the following members:

Agency	Name	Role	Email
Municipal Council (Chair)	Ilona Gerencser	Chair	igerencser@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Municipal Council	Kate Siebert	Director Community Engagement	ksiebert@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Municipal Council	Livia Bonazzi	CEO	lbonazzi@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Municipal Council	Stuart Coller	MRM	mrm@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Municipal Council	Stuart Russell	MEMO	memo@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Municipal Council	Chris Price	MEMPC Executive Officer	mempc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
Victoria Police	Mick Mannix	MERC	michael.mannix@police.vic.gov.au
Country Fire Authority	Paul Brislin	Catchment Officer	paul.brislin@cfa.vic.gov.au
GBCMA	Simon Cowan	Riparian and River Channel Manager	simon.cowan@gbcma.vic.gov.au
RDV	Sheree McKenzie	Economic Development Coordinator Hume Region	sheree.mckenzie@rdv.vic.gov.au
Ambulance Victoria	Mick Degroot	Alexandra Team Manager	Murrindindi.STM@ambulance.vic.gov.au
Victoria State Emergency Service	John Newlands	Operations Officer Emergency Management	John.Newlands@ses.vic.gov.au
Red Cross	Josiah Park	Project Officer - Partnerships	jpark@redcross.org.au
Department of Families, Fairness and Housing	Darren Deeble	Emergency Management Coordinator (Hume Region) East Division	darren.deeble@dffh.vic.gov.au

Community representative	Anne Leadbeater	Community Member	anne@leadbeatergroup.com.au
Community House Representative	Fiona Leadbeater	Toolangi Community House	fiona.leadbeater@bigpond.com
DEECA (Ag Vic)	Michael Bretherton	Regional Leader, Hume	Michael.Bretherton@ecodev.vic.gov.au
DEECA	Laura Johnston	Acting Senior Forest Fire Officer – Emergency Preparedness, Murrindindi District	laura.m.johnston@delwp.vic.gov.au
Parks Victoria	Matt Evans	Team Leader – Fire and Emergency, Kinglake, Upper Goulburn, Norther Rivers District	mathew.evans@parks.vic.gov.au
VCC Emergency Ministries	Michael Downing	Workforce Manager	michael.downing@vccem.org.au
Goulburn Murray Water	Steve Hall	Storage Manager Eildon, Dams Operations South, Water Storage Services	Steven.Hall@gmwater.com.au
Alexandra District Health	Andrew Brown	CEO	Andrew.Brown@adh.org.au
Yea and District Memorial Hospital	Miffy Sinclair	CEO	elizabeth.sinclair@ydmh.org.au
UGFM	Peter Weeks	President	pweeks@ugfm.org
Emergency Recovery Victoria	Bronwyn Parker	Community Recovery Facilitator	Bronwyn.parker@erv.vic.gov.au
Menzies	Naomi McNamara	CEO	CEO@menziessupport.org.au
Nexus	Amanda Mullins	CEO	amandam@nexusprimaryhealth.org.au
Family Care	Angela Armstrong	Director of Service Development	aarmstrong@familycare.net.au

Department of Health	Christy Jackson	Senior Operations Officer, Emergency Management – East Region	Christy.jackson@health.vic.gov.au
Goulburn Valley Water	Luke Haines	Manager – Risk and Integrated Systems	lukeh@gvwater.vic.gov.au
FamilyCare	Amy Jones	Manager Child Wellbeing and Family Violence	ajones@familycare.net.au
DJCS	Eilidh Grigg	Senior Regional Recovery Officer (Hume)	eilidh.grigg@erv.vic.gov.au
TLaWC	Voytek Lapinski	Water Program Manager	vlapinski@tlawc.com.au
TLaWC	Anne Burns	LUAA Manager	anneburns@tlawc.com.au
National Emergency Management Agency	Lana Young	Recovery Support Officer	Lana.Young@nema.gov.au

Membership of the Committee will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure it meets the needs of the community for recovery.

The Committee may invite various parties to attend all or part of the meeting, as required to achieve the objectives of the meeting.

5. Membership responsibilities

All members are responsible for:

1. Delivery of the Committee's roles and responsibilities outlined in this Terms of Reference.
2. Actively preparing, reviewing and presenting materials to the Committee.
3. Consider and resolve escalated issues from Community Recovery Committees.
4. Declaring any General or Material conflicts of interest and complying with the actions determined to manage this conflict (Attachment 1).
5. Ensuring all information created, acquired, stored or destroyed is done so for the purposes of delivering on their committee duties and in accordance with ERV's information security guidelines.

6. Frequency and duration of meetings

Meetings will occur at the proposed frequency below:

1. Once a fortnight for 90 minutes
2. A reduced frequency as decided by the group.

7. Agenda

The standing agenda includes:

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
2. Membership and Attendance
3. Conflict of Interest Declaration
4. Minutes from the previous meeting (noting key amendments as required)
5. Actions arising from the previous meeting
6. Standing items (for discussion each meeting)
7. Issues – papers are expected in most cases when presenting a new issue for decision
8. Formal and informal lessons learnt/evaluations affecting operations
9. Deep dives of high risk or complex issues – only when required
10. General business
11. Close

8. Reporting

The committee will report once a month to the MEMPC and the HRRC or as required

9. Quorum

A quorum of the Committee shall consist of 50% of the members plus one

Secretariat support will be provided by the Murrindindi Shire Council, as designated by the Chair. Support includes circulating the agenda and materials prior to the meeting, taking and circulating the minutes and resulting actions.

10. Proxy

Members of the Committee shall nominate a proxy to attend a meeting if the member is unable to attend. The Chair will be informed of the substitution at least two working days prior to the scheduled nominated meeting. The nominated proxy shall provide relevant comments/feedback on behalf of the member they are representing.

11. Review

These Terms of Reference shall be reviewed quarterly to support recovery adaptation. The review shall be itemised on the Agenda at the appropriate meeting.

12. Dissolution of the Municipal Recovery Committee

Dissolution of the Committee will be determined by the Committee. The decision will be guided by the recovery progress.

13. Version control

Version history	Date	Responsible	Change made
1.0	10 November 2022	Chris Price – Coordinator Emergency Management, Murrindindi Shire Council	First Version
2.0	14 November 2022	Stu Coller – Manager Community Wellbeing	Conflict of Interest attachment added
3.0	17 November 2022	Stu Coller – Manager Community Wellbeing	Changes following committee activation and review

Attachment 1: Conflict of Interest Declaration

I understand that under the Murrindindi Shire Council Governance Rules 2020 section 6.1, I am required to:

- (a) avoid - all situations which may give rise to conflicts of interest
- (b) identify - any conflicts of interest, and
- (c) disclose – or declare all conflicts of interest.

The Act defines conflicts of interest as:

General	Material
<i>Where the person's private interests could result in that person acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty.</i>	<i>Where an affected person would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter.</i>

Section 129 of the Act also provides exemptions, including but not limited to, where the conflict is so remote or insignificant that it could not be reasonably regarded as capable of influencing the actions or decisions of the relevant person in relation to the matter.

With this understanding, I declare that to the best of my knowledge, I do not have any:

- General or Material (whether it is actual, potential and/or perceived) conflict of interest that might reasonably be thought to be in conflict with my role in the decision-making process
- Financial interest
- Immediate relatives or close friends with a financial interest
- Personal bias or inclination which would in any way affect my decisions
- Personal obligation, allegiance or loyalty which would in any way affect my decisions

except as set out below (if any):

1.
2.
3.

I declare that I have no strong allegiance or loyalty which would affect my objective decision in relation to these matters.

I undertake to make a further declaration detailing any conflict I may have if such a conflict arises during my involvement in this committee. I agree to abstain from any decision where such a conflict arises.

Signed:	Print Name:
	Date: