



# Media Release

## Strathbogie Shire Council

[www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au](http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au)

### Strathbogie Shire Council offers support to its neighbours

Strathbogie Shire Council has extended an offer of support and assistance to its neighbouring municipality Murrindindi Shire Council.

Strathbogie Shire Council has been inundated with calls from residents wanting to know what they can do to help the victims of the bushfires.

Mayor of Strathbogie Shire Council, Howard Myers said, "Strathbogie Shire Council is working hard to coordinate information, donated goods and resources. Wesley Hall in Euroa is open each week day from 12pm – 2pm and in the evening from 5pm – 7pm to accept donated goods. The Nagambie Mechanics Institute will also be accepting goods Monday to Thursday 10am – 2pm and Friday and Saturday 10am -12pm. Please phone 5794 1754 to register. The Nagambie CFA will also take goods 7 days a week from 9.30 am to 6pm. In Violet Town contact Fran or Ken Byrne on 5798 1632 for donations of linen or Manchester only. In Avenel the newsagency/Post Office is collecting donations (both financial and goods) during business hours.

At the Shire please direct any enquiries to Judi Hanlon (Assistant Recovery Officer) on 5795 0000.

CEO of Strathbogie Shire Council, Kevin Hannagan said, "Council is coordinating the administration and support staff for Murrindindi Shire Council on behalf of Greater Shepparton, Benalla Rural City and Strathbogie Shire Council. Receptionists, engineering administration and emergency recovery officers have so far assisted. From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February the Municipal Association of Victoria's (MAV) statewide resource response will begin that will see additional support provided."

Council staff may also be called upon to provide relief staffing in the Municipal Emergency Coordination Centres.

Strathbogie Shire Council is working with a variety of aid agencies and will accept items of:

- Clothing and manchester. Clean bedding – sheets and blankets, pillow cases, bath towels.
- Donations of sturdy footwear, jeans, jumpers, shirts, skirts, socks, for adults and children but no underwear.
- Mattresses must be stain free, pillows, blankets and doonas must be clean and in good condition. Crockery and cutlery will be accepted but no "bric a brac" such as ornaments paintings can be left etc.
- Large items such as furniture and fridges are welcome but rather than transport these goods to the collection point, it is preferred that the donation is registered with the Shire and collection will be arranged once the item can be placed with a family or organisation such as Red Cross or St Vincent de Paul.

Please note: Electrical goods with an element cannot be accepted. Fridges and fans and other electrical goods are welcome.

A register of accommodation is also being kept at the Shire office and information will be provided to appropriate services.

Please visit [www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au](http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au) for the latest information.

ENDS

For more information: Marli Kelly 0409 410 178

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**Strathbogie Shire Council: PO Box 177, Euroa VIC 3666 Telephone (03) 5795 0000**

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This is available in alternative formats on request

[www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au](http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au)

## Bushfire Contacts

At Strathbogie Shire Council please direct any enquiries to Judi Hanlon (Assistant Recovery Officer) on 5795 0000

<p><b>Bushfire Information</b></p> <p>Anyone ringing looking for information directly related to the fires or fire safety advice should be directed to the CFA website, <a href="http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au">www.cfa.vic.gov.au</a> or the CFA information line on 1800 240 667.</p> <p><b>Emergency Accommodation</b></p> <p>For advice or information on accommodation please contact Judi Hanlon on 5795 0000.</p>	<p><b>Financial Donations</b></p> <p>Donations can be made at any NAB, ANZ, Westpac or Commonwealth or Bendigo Bank or at any Bunnings store.</p> <p>Direct deposit to the Victorian Bushfire Relief Fund - BSB 082-001, Account number 860-046-797</p> <p>Donations of money can also be made by ringing the Bushfire Appeal Hotline on 1800 811 700 or <a href="http://www.redcross.org.au">www.redcross.org.au</a></p> <p>Donations to the Salvation Army can be made by phoning 137 258</p>
<p><b>Livestock</b></p> <p>Donations of fodder can be made through the Murrindindi Shire on 5772 0366 please ask for Sharon.</p> <p>Or the VFF Hotline 1300 882 833.</p> <p>Department of Primary Industries Customer Service Centre (Phone 136186) for animal health and welfare</p>	<p><b>Donations for pet care</b></p> <p>Donations of pet food, blankets, bowls, cat cages, leads, collars and any other pet supplies that you may have can be given to the following: Benalla Vet Clinic Euroa Vet Clinic and Strathbogie Vet Clinic.</p> <p>Animal Aid 0418 982 070 who are looking after animals that are abandoned in the fire.</p>
<p><b>Missing Persons</b></p> <p>Anyone attempting to track down relatives or friends from fire affected areas should contact the Red Cross on 1800 727 077.</p>	<p><b>Counselling Services</b></p> <p>Please direct any calls from people who are suffering grief or loss due to the bushfires (either directly or even by the images they may have seen in the media) to Community Services on 5795 0001 for referral or to Goulburn Valley Community Health Service on 5823 3200. Immediate phone counselling is also available by contacting LifeLine on 13 11 14.</p>
<p><b>Volunteers</b></p> <p>Volunteers Australia is coordinating a central database of volunteers interested in giving their time in a variety of ways. To register your interest with them please go to <a href="http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/volunteer">http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/volunteer</a></p> <p>or call the Information Victoria Bushfire Volunteer Hotline on 1300 366</p>	<p><b>Blood Donations</b></p> <p>The blood bank has confirmed that urgent supplies for bushfire affected patients are not required but everyone is encouraged to either commence or continue giving blood on a regular basis to maintain supplies. Please contact the blood bank on 13 14 95 to make an appointment.</p>