



**MEDIA RELEASE: FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER, 2017**

**Council responds to over \$5 million worth of damage to essential assets**

Assessments made by Council have determined over \$5 million worth of damage to essential community assets as a result of the recent major flood event.

221 millimetres of rain fell in the Strathbogie Shire region between Friday 1 and Sunday 3 December.

Euroa was the hit hardest in the shire, receiving a total of 160 millimetres, with 146 millimetres falling on Saturday; the highest daily rainfall in 132 years.

The water level in the Seven Creeks reached 5.1 metres, significantly exceeding the major flood level of 4.7 metres.

Since the event, Council staff have been on the ground undertaking emergency works to protect the public from hazards created by the floods, including putting up barricades, as well removal of tree debris and partial road closures.

Council is now addressing the restoration of essential community assets, which include infrastructure such as roads, bridges, footpaths and levies.

Council has made a Natural Disaster Funding Claim to State Treasury for the damage to essential assets, projecting costs to exceed \$5 million.

Staff will proceed as quickly as possible on priority works, with the opening of bridges the highest on the list.

Council has also focused priority works on the Euroa Caravan Park, recognising its value to the community and the regional economy, with bookings already made heading into the Christmas and New Year period.

If you have identified essential infrastructure that needs immediate attention and you haven't yet contacted Council, please do so by calling 1800 065 993 or email the details to [info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au).

Seven people from the region were rescued from their homes and seven houses in Euroa and Longwood were inundated with water.

Council has been heavily involved in the relief and recovery of the wider community, and have been the liaison between the Department of Health and Human Services and personally impacted people in the community.

Staff will continue to work with agencies such as Department of Health and Human Services, Red Cross, Salvation Army and Victorian Council of Churches to ensure impacted residents are aware of available services and support.

If you have received damage to your property or are struggling in any way as a result of the recent flood event, please contact Council on 1800 065 993, and you will be advised of the possible services available to you.

Mayor Amanda McClaren said she was blown away with the continued support from volunteers and agencies and the resilience of the community during the event.

“The volunteers that assisted during and after the flood were truly invaluable and the agencies that have assisted our community members have been amazing. The whole community has rallied at this difficult time,” Cr McClaren said.

“On behalf of Council, I’d like to thank all of those who have assisted during and after the event,” she said.

“We recognise there has been significant damage to residents’ homes and properties, as well as community facilities and our roads and bridges. We will do our utmost to obtain funding from State and Federal Government to begin the process of repairing essential shire assets,” she said.

**-ENDS-**

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