

Kirwans Bridge: Local Emergency Action Plan (LEAP)



Kirwans Bridge's local risks are:

Fires, Floods and Storms

The Kirwans Bridge community have identified the impacts of these events as resulting in loss of power and communications infrastructure and impacting the community's general wellbeing through threats to life, mental health, and access to essential supplies.

The aim of this local emergency action plan (LEAP) is to build greater community resilience in emergencies by increasing the awareness of local emergency risks and the steps that community and individuals can take to prepare, respond and recover from these emergencies.

Strathbogie Shire Council acknowledges the Taungurung peoples as Traditional Custodians of the Kirwans Bridge area. We recognise and respect the enduring relationship they have with their lands and waters, and we pay respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.



Issued October 2025

Emergency Preparedness

Preparation is key

Share this LEAP with your local connections.

For more information scan the QR code below or visit www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/services/emergency-preparedness



In extreme weather and emergency events, essential services such as power, water, telecommunications and transport networks may be impacted, leaving households and communities isolated.

During emergency events, demand on CFA, VICSES, Police, and Ambulance may exceed capacity, meaning help may not be immediately available.

Households should prepare an emergency plan and kit allowing for up to 72 hours of potential isolation and self-sufficiency.

*Emergency management is a **shared responsibility** between individuals, communities, councils, and agencies. Local CFA and VICSES units are run by volunteers – they need your support. Being prepared reduces impacts and helps emergency services.*

Prepare your household emergency plan and kit:

Your emergency kit should include: A battery-powered torch and AM/FM radio. Key documents (passport/birth certificate etc.) and important contact numbers.

***Download apps on Apple App Store or Google Play**



All hazards: RediPlan – www.redcross.org.au/prepare

Get Prepared app – www.redcross.org.au/emergencies/prepare/get-prepared-app/

Flood and Storm: www.ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe

First 72 Hours: Strathbogie Council – www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/services/emergency-preparedness/the-first-72-hours

***VicEmergency app:** Set up a user profile and watch zones to ensure you receive official warnings alerts and emergency information.

Know your location



***Emergency+ app:** This app uses GPS in smart phones to help you provide critical location details required to mobilise emergency services.

Check the risk in your location:

Scan the QR codes or visit the listed web addresses.

Note: your closest CFA Brigade is Bailieston: 5 McLeod Street, Kirwans Bridge.

And your closest SES Unit is Murchison: 10A Watson Street, Murchison



Fire: CFA – www.cfa.vic.gov.au
In the top lefthand corner, add your location on the banner then 'View Local Information'



Flood: Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority – www.gbcma.vic.gov.au
Under Floodplains and Waterways, click on Community Flood Intelligence Portal



Flood and Storms: SES – www.ses.vic.gov.au
Power Outages – www.theenergycharter.com.au

In an Emergency

Life threatening emergency:	Fire, Ambulance, Police:	000
Non-life threatening emergency:	Floods and Storms (SES):	132 500
Non urgent Police assistance	Non Urgent Police Assistance Line & Online Reporting:	131 444 www.onlinereporting.police.vic.gov.au <i>Report non-urgent crimes or events, 24/7</i>
Warnings and updates:	VicEmergency:	1800 226 226 www.emergency.vic.gov.au
	Radio:	ABC Local 97.7 FM or 774 AM www.abc.net.au/listen/live/shepparton
Bushfire Place Of Last Resort:	Nagambie Regatta Centre	66 Loddings Lane (off Vickers Rd), Nagambie. <i>See map on page 6.</i>
<i>A Bushfire Place of Last Resort does not guarantee your safety. It is not an Emergency Relief Centre and will not be staffed or 'activated'; do not expect anyone to be there to assist you. It should only be used if all your bushfire plans have failed.</i>		
Stock, trees or obstructions on roads:	Strathbogie Shire Council	1800 065 993 (24 hrs)
Road closures:	Vic Traffic	www.traffic.transport.vic.gov.au <i>Enter 'Kirwans Bridge'</i>
Medical advice	Nurse On Call:	1300 60 60 24 <i>Speak with a registered Nurse for health advice, 24/7</i>
<i>Non-life threatening medical advice</i>	Victorian Virtual Emergency Department:	Register at: www.vved.org.au <i>For non-life-threatening emergencies via video consultation</i>
	AED Locations:	www.registermyaed.ambulance.vic.gov.au/find-an-aed <i>See map on page 6</i>

LEAP Overview

This LEAP will be updated as required.

To ensure you have the latest version scan the QR code or visit www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/services/emergency-preparedness/local-emergency-action-plans-leaps/



A LEAP is a community-specific strategy that helps residents prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies such as bushfires and floods. By identifying local risks, resources, and roles, LEAPs take a grassroots approach that complements broader emergency plans, empowering communities to build resilience and reduce impacts.

This LEAP was developed through the LEAPing into Safe Communities project, a partnership between Strathbogie Shire Council and Greater Shepparton City Council. Supported by the Victorian Government's Safer Together program and its Strengthening Local Government Partnerships Grants, the project focuses on community-centred collaboration to identify and reduce local risk, build resilience, and strengthen agency partnerships.

In January 2025, the Kirwans Bridge Steering Group held its first meeting to guide the LEAP process. Following this, community members came together to explore ways to strengthen local emergency preparedness, with their ideas shaping the LEAP actions. The project acknowledges and thanks the Kirwans Bridge community and partner agencies for their valuable contributions.

The 3 Phases of an Emergency Event

1. Preparedness: planning and preparation before the event

KIRWANS BRIDGE LOCAL RISKS ARE:

Fires – potential risks due to surrounding heavily treed bushland and restricted egress (one road in and out) due to closure of bridge.

Floods – risk of isolation for some residents due to road inundation, notably along Goulburn Weir - Murchison Road.

Storms – falling trees can block roadways causing access issues

Power outages were also identified as a concern for local residents; when Nagambie loses power, Kirwans Bridge are also affected. This can then cause communication outages, depending on how long the power is out for – Mobile Phone towers have battery backup capability for approx. 3-5 hours

2. Response: during the event, largely the responsibility of control agencies e.g. CFA, VICSES, Vic Police

3. Recovery: after the event

LEAP Priority Actions

1. Preparedness

Description	Lead	Timeframe
1.1 Skill bank – keep list of community trades/skills and resources up to date	Kirwans Bridge Community / Bailieston CFA	Annually: Sept – Oct
1.2 First Aid and AED training session	Kirwans Bridge Community / Ambulance Victoria	Annually: June – July

1. Preparedness continued

Description	Lead	Timeframe
1.3 First 72 Hour workshop / RediPlan workshop / set up Vic Emergency App	VICSES / Red Cross / CFA / Council / Kirwans Bridge Community	Annually: Sept–Oct
1.4 Grant Application – Emergency Information Board	Kirwans Bridge Community / Bailieston CFA	* When grant is available
1.5 Implement Community Group / Facebook Community Group (would require someone to be driver – commence group)	Kirwans Bridge Community Group	ASAP – ongoing
1.6 Community Get Togethers / Monthly meetings / Get to know your neighbour	Kirwans Bridge Community / Bailieston CFA	Monthly and Annual gatherings
1.7 Obtain Flood Guide for Kirwans Bridge Community	VICSES / Council / Kirwans Bridge Community	ASAP – ongoing
1.8 Communications: Develop UHF Channel and What's App Group	Kirwans Bridge Community / Bailieston CFA	Ongoing

2. Response

Description	Lead	Timeframe
2.1 Advocacy to set up / develop Community Hub model – hub at Angling Club	Kirwans Bridge Community / Bailieston CFA / Angling Club	Ongoing
2.2 Advocacy for installation of public boat ramp on accessible site (possibly paddock on Kettles Rd) – work in consultation with Goulburn Murray Water; grants available via Fisheries Victoria	Council / Community / GMW / Victorian Fisheries Authority	* When Grants are available
2.3 Advocacy for power supply – backup generator	Kirwans Bridge Community / Council	* As grants become available (Ausnet)
2.4 Door Knocking / Food Drops to isolated residents	Kirwans Bridge Community / Bailieston CFA	As required

3. Recovery

Description	Lead	Timeframe
3.1 Advocacy to set up / develop Community Hub model – hub at Angling Club	President Angling Club / Kirwans Bridge Community	Ongoing / As required
3.2 Welfare checks on community members, in particular those who are isolated or live on their own	Kirwans Bridge Community / Bailieston CFA	Ongoing / As required
3.3 Hold a community debrief after any incidents	Kirwans Bridge Community / Council / Agencies	ASAP after event / As required



Kirwans Bridge

Legend:

Main Infrastructure:

- Caravan Park
- Council depot
- Medical Centre
- Public Toilets
- Train Station

Emergency Infrastructure:

- AED 24/7
- AED - Operational Hours Access
- Bushfire Place of Last Resort
- Fire Station
- Police Station
- Roads Prone to Flooding Following Heavy Rainfall

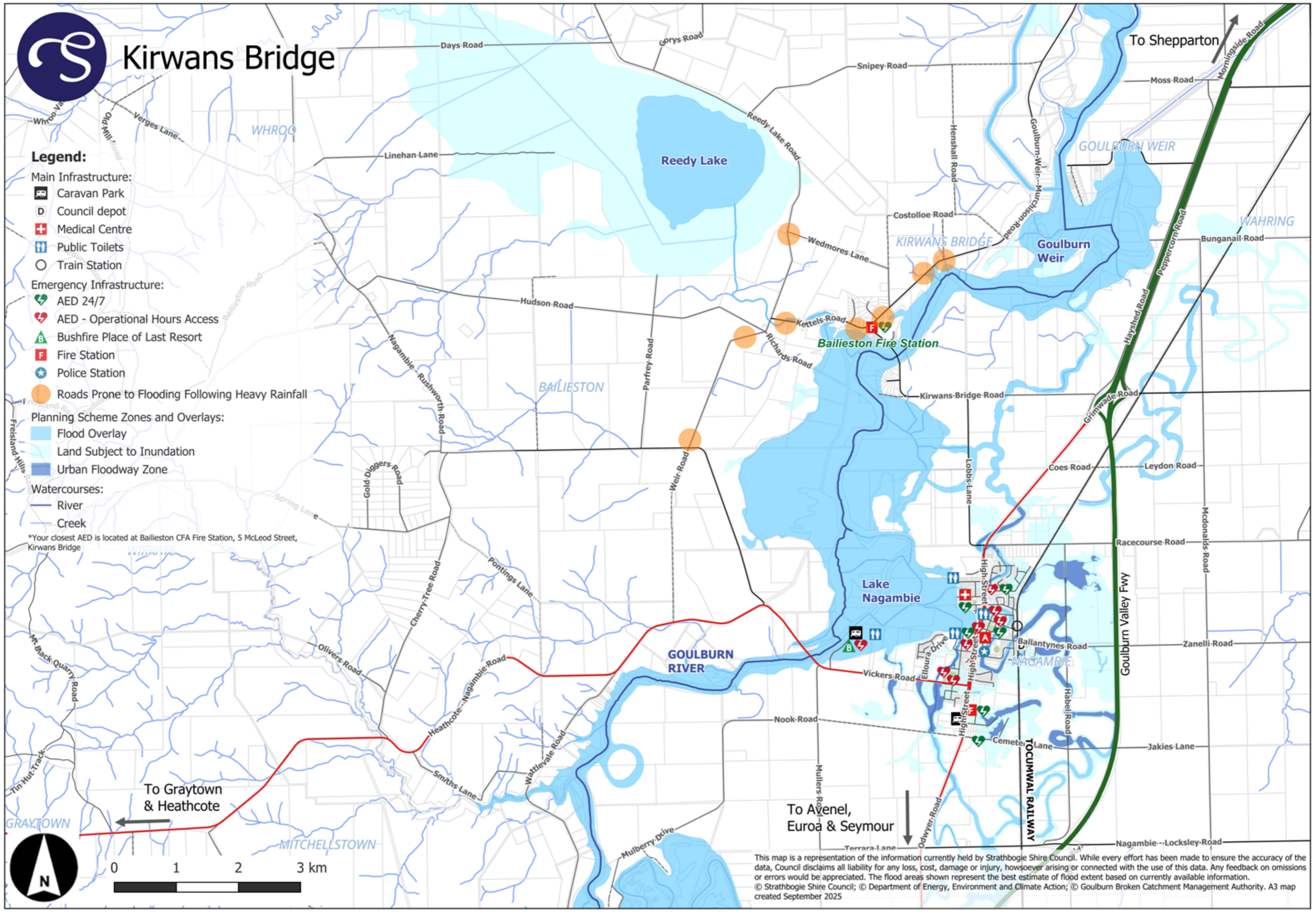
Planning Scheme Zones and Overlays:

- Flood Overlay
- Land Subject to Inundation
- Urban Floodway Zone

Watercourses:

- River
- Creek

*Your closest AED is located at Ballieston CFA Fire Station, 5 McLeod Street, Kirwans Bridge



This map is a representation of the information currently held by Strathbogie Shire Council. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the data, Council disclaims all liability for any loss, cost, damage or injury, howsoever arising or connected with the use of this data. Any feedback on omissions or errors would be appreciated. The flood areas shown represent the best estimate of flood extent based on currently available information.
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